

IM SYLLABUS (2014)

RUSSIAN

IM 29

SYLLABUS

**Russian IM29
Syllabus**

(Available in September)

Oral (15 min) + 1 Paper (3 hrs)

Aims

This syllabus assumes knowledge of the subject at SEC level. Its aim is to consolidate this knowledge and to extend it to include more advanced concepts, which are dealt with in a broad manner. Most of these new concepts are included to provide a general and coherent view of the subject, and they will not be treated with the same rigour and at the same depth as in the Advanced level course in the subject.

Assessment Objectives

1. *oral expression* – the candidate's ability to articulate the Russian linguistic sounds and Russian prosody in a context; as well as use Russian effectively to seek and provide information and to take part in a conversational interchange;
2. *production of the language in writing* – the candidate's ability to produce written material in the target language in response to a variety of stimuli;
3. *understanding of the written language* – the candidate's ability to understand information contained in a short passage and to summarise the set passage to about a third of its length;

Scheme of Assessment

The examination will consist of two parts:

Part I – The Oral Examination (20% of the global mark) is a of 15 minutes duration. It will divided into two parts: a reading passage in Russian and a dialogue/conversation entirely in Russian.

Reading passage: Each candidate will be allowed a short time to prepare the reading passage (120-150 words) which will be taken from modern Russian. The objective of this exercise is to test the candidate's articulation of Russian linguistic sounds and Russian prosody in a context.

Dialogue/conversation: The conversation is intended to test the candidate's ability to communicate in good spoken Russian. The reading passage may provide material for conversation.

This paper carries a total of 20 marks: 10 marks for the reading passage in Russian and 10 marks for the conversation.

Part II – The Written Examination (80% of the global mark) is of 3 hours duration. This paper will consist of:

1. *Free composition* of about 150-200 words (30 marks). Topics will be of the narrative, descriptive, argumentative types, and /or dialogue.
2. *Summary* (15 marks) – a passage of modern Russian of about 250-300 words will be set. Candidates have to summarise the set passage to about a third of its length. The passage will be non-literary in style and non-specialised in content. The passage will be descriptive or narrative, or argumentative, or any combination of these types.
3. *Reading Comprehension* (15 marks) – a passage of modern Russian of about 150-200 words.
4. *Prescribed texts* (20 marks): candidates have to choose between a prescribed literary text and two prescribed topics of civilisation. Answers may be given in Russian, English, or Maltese. Candidates have to choose:

either

the prescribed texts: A Gaydar – *Goryachi kamen* (The hot stone), Russky Yazyk Publishers Moscow 1989.

or

the prescribed topics of civilisation from: *Russia A to Z*. 1998. Topics: Women (pp. 62 – 65); Red Square and Kremlin (pp. 109 – 118); Folklore (pp. 247 – 249).