

IM SYLLABUS (2024)

**RUSSIAN
SYLLABUS**

IM 29

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| RUSSIAN IM29 SYLLABUS | Oral (15 minutes) + 1 paper (3 hours) |
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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.

Assessment Objectives

1. *Oral expression* – the candidate should be able to articulate Russian linguistic sounds and Russian prosody in a context; as well as to 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 should be able to produce written material in the target language in response to a variety of stimuli.
3. *Understanding of the written language* – the candidate should be able to understand information contained in a short passage and to summarise the set passage to 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 15 minutes long. It is divided into two parts: a reading passage in Russian and a dialogue/conversation entirely in Russian. Each candidate is allotted 15 minutes to prepare both tasks prior to entering the examination room.

Reading passage (10 minutes): The reading passage (200-250 words) 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 (5 minutes): 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 and 10 marks for the conversation.

Part II – The Written Examination (80% of the global mark) is a 3-hour paper and consists of:

1. *Free composition* of 150-200 words (30 marks). Topics may be narrative, descriptive, argumentative, and may also include a dialogue.

2. *Summary* (15 marks) – a passage of modern Russian of 250-300 words will be set. Candidates have to summarise the set passage to a third of its length (80-100 words). The passage will be non-literary in style, non-specialised in content, and will be descriptive, narrative, argumentative, or any combination of these types.
3. *Reading Comprehension* (15 marks) – a passage of modern Russian of 150-200 words will be set. Questions will be asked in Russian and have to be answered in Russian.
4. *Prescribed texts* (20 marks): Two essay questions on any of the five literary works prescribed below will be given and candidates will be required to choose one essay question. Answers may be given in Russian, English or Maltese. No extra marks will be given for answering in Russian.

Prescribed text:

Русский язык как иностранный - "Синяя звезда" Издательство Флинта - Наука, 2012:

- a) Александр Куприн "Тапёр", "Чудесный доктор",
- b) Антон Чехов "Орден", "Клевета",
- c) Михаил Лоскутов "Рассказ о говорящей собаке".