



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

Assessment Report

Scholarship, 2006

German

German, Scholarship, 2006

Commentary

The listening and writing texts were intended to encourage candidates to put forward opinions that reflected their knowledge and command of the German language. In order to accomplish this, a thorough understanding of structures, grammar and vocabulary was essential. The reading and listening information presented intended to act as a stimulus, rather than to test their knowledge on the topic.

The typical scholarship candidate was able to show an understanding of the use of complex lexical and syntax structures. This, together with the implementation of a varied vocabulary, allowed them to express their opinions and present critical points of view on the topics.

Texts for the listening and reading were topical, interesting and related well to candidates. Many were able to identify with problems presented and to use their personal experiences and knowledge to produce their answers with an easy flow of ideas. Those who relied mainly on the expressions and language patterns given in the texts as a basis for their responses did not perform as well as those who were able to express their own ideas throughout their written and spoken tasks.

The best-performing candidates most commonly demonstrated the following skills and / or knowledge:

- the ability to capture the ironic tone of the listening text in their writing, and the use of their own language in response to the stimulus texts, showing an individual style of writing - candidates became Susanne the narrator of the listening text, and a detailed comprehension of the stimulus text was evident
- the ability to distill the main ideas from the written text and use their own spoken language to express these ideas. Whether candidates understood that "*Frieden, Freude, Eierkuchen*" was the motto for the first Love Parade was usually telling of the quality of their response. Equally important, their essays offered a logical sequence of facts as well as personal ideas and / or experiences that contributed to support their statements
- in question 2 of the writing and the speaking: The ability to capture and hold the reader's/ listener's attention and a clearly structured written / spoken text. The scholarship candidates were able to organize their answers related to the topic in a logical manner using accurate vocabulary related to the topic together with the inclusion of idiomatic expressions.

Candidates who did NOT achieve scholarship lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge above and in addition they:

- copied substantial sections of the stimulus text (this was especially evident in the speaking)
- expressed a very limited range of ideas, often without explanation or elaboration
- had difficulties with accuracy when speaking and writing.