



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1123/11

Paper 1 Writing

October/November 2019

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 60

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2019 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **13** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Question	Answer	Marks
The assessment objectives for Sections 1 and 2 are:		
Assessment Objectives for Writing (AO1)		
W1	Articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined	
W2	Sequence facts, ideas and opinions	
W3	Use a range of appropriate vocabulary	
W4	Use register appropriate to audience and context	
W5	Make accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar	
Assessment Objectives for Reading (AO2)		
R1	Demonstrate understanding of explicit meanings	
R2	Demonstrate understanding of implicit meanings and attitudes	
Detailed Marking Instructions for Section 1: Directed Writing		
<p>Candidates are expected to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 write a letter which communicates information clearly, accurately and economically; 2 write between 200 and 300 words; 3 carry out the instructions as detailed on the question paper regarding the particular information required. Candidates will be awarded up to 15 marks for following the task instructions and up to 15 marks for the language used. <p>Total marks for Section 1: 30.</p> <p>In order to fulfil these assessment objectives in Section 1, a 'best fit' principle is applied using the Task Fulfilment and Language band descriptors.</p>		

Question	Answer	Marks
Section 1		
1	<p>Recently, two of your relatives who live abroad came to stay with your family for a week. This was a very happy event for everyone. You decide to write to your aunt, who lives in another city, to tell her about this visit.</p> <p>Write your <u>letter</u>. You must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who the relatives are <u>and</u> when they came to visit • details about what you and your relatives did together during the visit • what your relatives enjoyed most about their visit and why. <p>Cover all three points above <u>in detail</u>. You should make your letter interesting and informative. Start your letter ‘Dear Aunt.....,’ and remember to supply a suitable ending.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
Task Fulfilment 15 marks		
Band 5	13–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very good understanding of purpose. • Clear awareness of the specified situation and audience. • Text type entirely appropriate. • All required points developed in detail, fully amplified and well organised. • Given information well used to justify personal opinion and interpretation. • Tone and register entirely appropriate.
Band 4	10–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good understanding of purpose. • An awareness of the specified situation and audience. • Text type appropriate. • All required points addressed not always developed in detail. • Given information organised to support personal opinion. • Tone and register appropriate.
Band 3	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some understanding of purpose. • Some awareness of the specified situation and audience. • Text type generally appropriate. • At least two required points addressed (both partially/fully developed). • Given information may not be logically organised to support opinion. • Tone usually appropriate although there may be slips of register.
Band 2	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only partial understanding of purpose. • Some confusion as to the specified situation and audience. • Text type may be inappropriate. • At least one required point addressed (partially/fully developed). • Given information may be used irrelevantly. • Tone and register may be uneven.
Band 1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misunderstanding of purpose. • Confusion as to the specified situation and audience. • Little evidence of the specified text type. • None of the required points addressed. • Given information misunderstood or irrelevant. • Tone may be inappropriate.
Band 0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient to meet the criteria for Band 1.

Question	Answer	Marks
Language 15 marks		
Band 8	14–15	<p>Highly accurate writing, apart from very occasional slips.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentence structures varied for particular effects. • Verb forms largely correct and appropriate tenses consistently used. • Vocabulary wide and precise. • Punctuation accurate and helpful. • Spelling accurate, apart from very occasional slips. • Paragraphs have unity, are linked, and show evidence of planning.
Band 7	12–13	<p>Accurate writing; occasional errors are either slips or caused by ambition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentence structures show some variation to create some natural fluency. • Occasional slips in verb forms or tense formation, but sequence consistent and clear throughout. • Vocabulary precise enough to convey intended shades of meaning. • Punctuation accurate and generally helpful. • Spelling nearly always accurate. • Paragraphs have unity, are usually linked, and show some evidence of planning.
Band 6	10–11	<p>Mostly accurate writing; errors from ambition do not mar clarity of communication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some variety of sentence structures, but a tendency to repeat sentence types may produce a monotonous effect. • Errors may occur in irregular verb forms, but control of tense sequence sufficient to sustain clear progression of events or ideas. • Simple vocabulary mainly correct; errors may occur with more ambitious words. • Punctuation generally accurate and sentence separation correctly marked, but errors may occur, e.g. with direct speech. • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; some errors in more ambitious words. • Paragraphs may show some unity, although links may be absent or inappropriate.

Question	Answer	Marks
Band 5	<p data-bbox="467 266 1337 333">8–9 Writing is sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning, with patches of clear, accurate language.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 367 1422 748" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some variety of sentence length and structure, not always for particular purpose. • Errors in verb forms and tense consistency may cause uncertainty in sequence of events or disturb ease of communication. • Vocabulary usually adequate to convey intended meaning; idiom may be uncertain. • Punctuation used but not always helpful; occasional sentence separation errors. • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; errors in more difficult words. • Paragraphs used but may lack unity or coherence. 	
Band 4	<p data-bbox="467 786 1422 853">6–7 Overall meaning never in doubt, but errors sufficiently frequent and serious to hamper precision and distract reader from content.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 887 1426 1267" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some simple sentence structures accurate, but unlikely to sustain accuracy for long. • Errors in verb forms and tenses will sometimes confuse sequence of events. • Vocabulary limited, either too simple or imperfectly understood; some idiomatic errors likely. • Simple punctuation usually accurate, but there may be frequent sentence separation errors. • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; frequent errors in more difficult words. • Paragraphs used haphazardly. 	
Band 3	<p data-bbox="467 1301 1369 1435">4–5 The writing has many serious errors of various kinds of ‘single-word’ type (i.e. they could be corrected without re-writing the sentence); communication established, although weight of error may cause some ‘blurring’.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 1469 1398 1715" style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences probably simple and repetitive in structure. • Frequent errors in verb forms and haphazard changes of tense confuse meaning. • Vocabulary conveys meaning but likely to be simple and imprecise; significant idiomatic errors. • Spelling may be inconsistent. • Punctuation and paragraphing may be haphazard or non-existent. 	

Question	Answer	Marks
Band 2	2–3 Sense usually decipherable but some errors will be ‘multiple’ (i.e. requiring the reader to re-read and re-organise); meaning may be partly hidden by density of linguistic error. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlikely to be more than a few accurate sentences, however simple, in the whole essay. 	
Band 1	1 Scripts almost entirely or entirely impossible to recognise as pieces of English writing; whole sections make no sense at all. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where occasional patches of relative clarity are evident, 1 mark should be given. 	
Band 0	0 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient to meet the criteria for Band 1. 	

Question	Answer	Marks
<p>Detailed Marking Instructions for Section 2: Composition</p> <p>The ‘best fit’ principle is applied, as in the following table.</p> <p>Total marks for Section 2: 30</p> <p>Candidates are advised to write between 350 and 500 words.</p>		
Description		
2	Describe the best meal you have ever eaten. (Remember you must describe the place, the atmosphere and the people you were with as well as the food itself.)	
Argument		
3	Which characteristic in people do you most like and which characteristic do you least like? Give reasons and examples to support your point of view.	
4	Is it better for people to live in the same place all their lives or to live in different places? Give reasons and examples to support your point of view.	
Narrative		
5	Write a story which includes the sentence: ‘When she tried to open the door, she was surprised that the key did not fit.’	
6	Write a story in which a science laboratory plays an important part.	

Question	Answer	Marks
Language 30 marks		
Band 8	27–30	<p>Highly accurate writing, apart from very occasional slips.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentence structures varied for particular effects. • Verb forms largely correct and appropriate tenses consistently used. • Vocabulary wide and precise. • Punctuation accurate and helpful. • Spelling accurate, apart from very occasional slips. • Paragraphs have unity, are linked, and show evidence of planning. <p>Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently relevant. Interest aroused and sustained. • Tone and register entirely appropriate. • Descriptions have well-developed images helping to create complex atmospheres. • Arguments are well developed, logical, even complex. • Narratives are complex, sophisticated, possibly tense, and may contain devices such as flashbacks.
Band 7	23–26	<p>Accurate writing; occasional errors are either slips or caused by ambition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentence structures show some variation to create some natural fluency. • Occasional slips in verb forms or tense formation, but sequence consistent and clear throughout. • Vocabulary precise enough to convey intended shades of meaning. • Punctuation accurate and generally helpful. • Spelling nearly always accurate. • Paragraphs have unity, are usually linked, and show some evidence of planning. <p>Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant. Interest aroused and mostly sustained. • Tone and register appropriate. • Descriptions have interesting images and a range of detail, helping to create effective atmospheres. • Arguments have clearly defined, cohesive, logical stages in their development • Narratives have effective detail creating character or setting, and may contain some sense of climax.

Question	Answer	Marks
Band 6	<p data-bbox="331 264 427 297">19–22</p> <p data-bbox="467 264 1401 331">Mostly accurate writing; errors from ambition do not mar clarity of communication.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 365 1422 779" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some variety of sentence structures, but a tendency to repeat sentence types may produce a monotonous effect. • Errors may occur in irregular verb forms, but control of tense sequence sufficient to sustain clear progression of events or ideas. • Simple vocabulary mainly correct; errors may occur with more ambitious words. • Punctuation generally accurate and sentence separation correctly marked, but errors may occur, e.g. with direct speech. • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; some errors in more ambitious words. • Paragraphs may show some unity, although links may be absent or inappropriate. <p data-bbox="467 813 887 846">Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul data-bbox="467 853 1417 1126" style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant. Some interest aroused, although there may be some lack of originality and/or planning. • Tone usually appropriate, although there may be slips of register. • Descriptions have satisfactory images, ideas and details which help to create atmosphere. • Arguments make a series of relevant points, with some being developed; linking of ideas may be insecure. • Narratives are straightforward with proper sequencing of sentences. 	
Band 5	<p data-bbox="331 1160 427 1193">15–18</p> <p data-bbox="467 1160 1337 1227">Writing is sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning, with patches of clear, accurate language.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 1261 1422 1641" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some variety of sentence length and structure, not always for particular purpose. • Errors in verb forms and tense consistency may cause uncertainty in sequence of events or disturb ease of communication. • Vocabulary usually adequate to convey intended meaning; idiom may be uncertain. • Punctuation used but not always helpful; occasional sentence separation errors. • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; errors in more difficult words. • Paragraphs used but may lack unity or coherence. <p data-bbox="467 1675 887 1709">Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul data-bbox="467 1715 1417 1989" style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempt to address topic but there may be digressions or failures of logic. May lack liveliness and interest. • Tone may be uneven. • Descriptions have some detail but may rely too much on narrative. • Arguments have mainly relevant points but may be only partially developed, with some repetition. • Narratives are largely a series of events with only occasional details of character and setting. 	

Question	Answer	Marks
Band 4	<p data-bbox="467 266 1422 333">Overall meaning never in doubt, but errors sufficiently frequent and serious to hamper precision and distract reader from content.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 367 1426 748" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some simple sentence structures accurate, but unlikely to sustain accuracy for long. • Errors in verb forms and tenses will sometimes confuse sequence of events. • Vocabulary limited, either too simple or imperfectly understood; some idiomatic errors likely. • Simple punctuation usually accurate, but there may be frequent sentence separation errors. • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; frequent errors in more difficult words. • Paragraphs used haphazardly. <p data-bbox="467 786 887 815">Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul data-bbox="467 819 1374 1025" style="list-style-type: none"> • Some relevance. Some interest. • Tone may be inconsistent. • Descriptions are relevant but lack scope or variety. • Arguments make a few points but development is simple and not always logical; some obvious repetition of ideas. • Narratives are simple, everyday or immature. 	
Band 3	<p data-bbox="467 1061 1374 1227">The writing has many serious errors of various kinds of ‘single-word’ type (i.e. they could be corrected without re-writing the sentence); communication established, although weight of error may cause some ‘blurring’.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 1263 1401 1509" style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences probably simple and repetitive in structure. • Frequent errors in verb forms and haphazard changes of tense confuse meaning. • Vocabulary conveys meaning but likely to be simple and imprecise; significant idiomatic errors. • Spelling may be inconsistent. • Punctuation and paragraphing may be haphazard or non-existent. <p data-bbox="467 1545 887 1574">Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul data-bbox="467 1579 1406 1785" style="list-style-type: none"> • A little relevance. A little interest. • Some recognition of appropriate tone. • In Descriptions the overall picture is unclear. • In Arguments only a few points are discernible and the argument progresses only here and there. • Narratives are very simple and may narrate events indiscriminately. 	

Question	Answer	Marks
Band 2	<p data-bbox="467 266 1385 367">Sense usually decipherable but some errors will be ‘multiple’ (i.e. requiring the reader to re-read and re-organise); meaning may be partly hidden by density of linguistic error.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 405 1337 472" style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlikely to be more than a few accurate sentences, however simple, in the whole essay. <p data-bbox="467 506 887 539">Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul data-bbox="467 544 1302 786" style="list-style-type: none"> • Little relevance or interest. • Tone may be inappropriate. • In Descriptions the overall picture is very unclear. • In Arguments only a very few points are discernible and the argument barely progresses. • Narratives are extremely simple and may narrate events indiscriminately. 	
Band 1	<p data-bbox="467 819 1426 887">Scripts almost entirely or entirely impossible to recognise as pieces of English writing; whole sections make no sense at all.</p> <ul data-bbox="467 920 1401 987" style="list-style-type: none"> • Where occasional patches of relative clarity are evident, 1 mark should be given. <p data-bbox="467 1021 887 1055">Appropriateness and Content</p> <ul data-bbox="467 1059 1382 1126" style="list-style-type: none"> • Arguments are rarely relevant and may well be disordered, as are Descriptions and Narratives. 	
Band 0	<ul data-bbox="467 1160 1070 1193" style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient to meet the criteria for Band 1. 	