



Cambridge Assessment International Education
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

MANDARIN CHINESE

0547/41

Paper 4 Writing

May/June 2019

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 45

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 May/June 2019 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 1/Level 2 Certificate.

This document consists of **20** printed pages.

PUBLISHED**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.

Both traditional and simplified characters are accepted and should be marked in the same way.

SECTION 1

Question	Answer	Mark
Question 1	<p>Candidates are required to list 5 items in Chinese. Read all the items the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select the most correct items up to a maximum of 5 • Award 1 mark for each correct item up to a maximum of 5 • Stop ticking once 5 items have been rewarded • On Question 1 award marks for items wherever the candidate has written them • If the candidate offers more than one word per line, award a mark for each acceptable item <p>Generic mark scheme for Question 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Mark for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear</u> • Do not award marks to words written in pinyin and English • Miswritten characters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Look-alike test: award the mark when the character the candidate has written looks like the correct answer e.g. strokes missing or added, but character still recognisable. However, when the miswritten character creates a new character with a different meaning, the mark cannot be awarded. (b) If a prefix or suffix is missing, or a modifier word is miswritten, award a mark if meaning is still communicated, e.g. 面条: if a candidate has only written 条, it does not mean anything and a mark shouldn't be awarded. If a candidate has written 面 which contains the main meaning of the word <i>noodle</i>, the mark should be awarded. (c) If the mis-formed characters create a different meaning, e.g. 工豆、咖啡, no mark will be awarded 	

Question	Answer	Marks																																
1	<p>Session specific instructions for Question 1: 请用中文写出你在厨房可能看到的五种东西。 Make a list in Chinese of 5 things you might see in a kitchen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are five acceptable items, e.g. food & drink, daily used items, electronic appliance, etc. • If candidates list a single item with <i>different descriptive word/adjectives</i>, a maximum of 2 marks can be awarded, e.g. 蓝衣服、大衣服、小衣服 award 2 marks • Ignore measure words • If more than 5 words have been written, award the 5 correct ones even outside of the space provided • If words are directly copied from the question e.g. 东西, no mark will be awarded <p><u>The following are examples. Accept anything the candidate might see in a kitchen</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="322 643 1951 1198"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="322 643 1173 708">ACCEPT</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="1173 643 1951 708">REFUSE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 708 759 778">食物</td> <td data-bbox="759 708 1173 778">书</td> <td data-bbox="1173 708 1552 778">人</td> <td data-bbox="1552 708 1951 778">报纸</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 778 759 849">鸟肉</td> <td data-bbox="759 778 1173 849">桌子</td> <td data-bbox="1173 778 1552 849">哥哥</td> <td data-bbox="1552 778 1951 849">平果</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 849 759 919">书包</td> <td data-bbox="759 849 1173 919">笔</td> <td data-bbox="1173 849 1552 919">爸爸</td> <td data-bbox="1552 849 1951 919">象 (any other wild animal)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 919 759 989">门</td> <td data-bbox="759 919 1173 989">篮球</td> <td data-bbox="1173 919 1552 989">朋友</td> <td data-bbox="1552 919 1951 989"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 989 759 1059">狗</td> <td data-bbox="759 989 1173 1059"></td> <td data-bbox="1173 989 1552 1059">面子</td> <td data-bbox="1552 989 1951 1059"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 1059 759 1129">猫</td> <td data-bbox="759 1059 1173 1129"></td> <td data-bbox="1173 1059 1552 1129">咖啡</td> <td data-bbox="1552 1059 1951 1129"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="322 1129 759 1198">水</td> <td data-bbox="759 1129 1173 1198"></td> <td data-bbox="1173 1129 1552 1198">东西</td> <td data-bbox="1552 1129 1951 1198"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="1525 1235 1951 1267" style="text-align: right;">[Total for Question 1: 5 marks]</p>	ACCEPT		REFUSE		食物	书	人	报纸	鸟肉	桌子	哥哥	平果	书包	笔	爸爸	象 (any other wild animal)	门	篮球	朋友		狗		面子		猫		咖啡		水		东西		5
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Question	Answer	Marks
Question 2	Candidates are required to answer the question. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication: award a mark out of 10 according to the instructions in 2.1• Language: award a mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 2.2	

Question	Answer	Marks
<p><u>2.1: award a mark out of 10 for Communication</u></p> <p><i>Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 2)</i></p> <p>(i) Place the appropriate ‘numbered’ tick as close as possible to each relevant communication point</p> <p>(ii) Award ticks flexibly across the tasks for each piece of relevant information conveyed up to a maximum of 10 ticks. HOWEVER, each of the 5 tasks must be covered to get the 10 communication marks:</p> <p>(iii) <u>If 1 of the tasks</u> is missing, the maximum communication mark is 9</p> <p>(iv) <u>If 2 of the tasks</u> are missing, the maximum communication mark is 8 (and so on)</p> <p>(v) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 10 for Communication</p> <p>(vi) For COMMUNICATION be tolerant of time-frames and minor character errors, provided the characters written are clear enough to be understood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for language, use ‘rules’ in Question 1: miswritten characters, etc. • incorrect word order will not usually compromise communication <p>(vii) <u>LISTS</u> = a maximum of 3 marks for communication. LISTS 最多给三分。</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 他的宠物有猫、狗、鱼和鸟。(3 marks)。 • 咖啡馆很大，很好，有很多吃的，我喜欢那里。 <p>(viii) Up to 5 further marks available for additional details</p> <p>(ix) 我喜欢我的邻居为唱歌很好。 Award 1 mark since it is one sentence without a comma.</p> <p>(x) Do not penalise factual errors</p> <p>(xi) What the candidate writes may not follow the order of the tasks on the question paper – this is fine</p> <p>(xii) Candidates are allowed to use English name in sentences.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[Total marks for Communication: 10]</p>		

Question	Answer	Marks
	<p>Use of pinyin If a candidate uses pinyin in their answer, you should read the work as if the pinyin words were not there – they do not count towards the Communication mark. If the Communication requirements are still fulfilled, discounting the pinyin, the mark can be awarded. See 2.2 page 12 for language marks.</p> <p>e.g. Question: 你喜欢吃什么</p> <p>Answer 1: 我喜欢吃 jiao子. (pinyin is used for the word ‘jiao’. This is a key word in the sentence, and relates directly to the question. Therefore, no Communication mark can be awarded.) Answer 2: 我喜欢吃面bao. (pinyin is used for the word ‘bao’. Ignoring this word in the sentence would not affect comprehension – it is not a key word in the sentence. The Communication mark can be awarded here.)</p> <p><u>How to award marks for extra details:</u></p> <p>An extra detail is defined as any extra detail which is related in some way to any one of the five tasks.</p> <p>Example: 咖啡馆很大, 很好, 有很多吃的, 我喜欢那里。</p> <p>(4 Communication marks are awarded for this response)</p> <p>In the above example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award 1 tick for 咖啡馆很大 as this is a generic statement which addresses the requirements of task 4 • Award 1 tick for 很好 as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task 4 • Award 1 tick for 有很多吃的 as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task 4 • Award 1 tick for 我喜欢那里 as this is an extra detail which is relevant to task 4 <p>However, if the extra piece of information is not directly answering any of the bullet points, we only award 1 mark even if it is a list, e.g. 我早上八点跟家人去(1 mark), 我的家人有爸爸、妈妈、哥哥、弟弟 (1 mark).</p>	

Question	Answer		Marks
2	<p>Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 2): 写一写你的邻居。</p> <p>Write about your neighbour.</p>		
	Accept	Refuse	
1	你的邻居是哪国人 Which country does your neighbour come from? REWARD: any nationality		
2	他/她做什么工作 What is his/her job? REWARD: any job	他的爸爸是医生。 他做工作。	
3	他/她有什么宠物 What pet does he/she have? REWARD: any kind of animal or no pet	他喜欢羊、马、大象。 他有一个宠物。	
4	他/她下个周末会做什么 What will he /she do next weekend? REWARD: any activities Candidates must refer to a future timeframe		
5	他/她是一个好邻居吗；为什么 Is he/she a good neighbour; why? REWARD: yes/no/any reason		

Question	Answer	Marks												
<p><u>2.2: award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Language</u></p> <p>Generic mark scheme for Language (Question 2): If some characters are written incorrectly without hindering communication, candidates should not be penalised in the Language mark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award a mark out of 5 for Language*, according to the Grade descriptors in the table below (see <i>Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors</i> (last page of mark scheme)): <p>Grade descriptors for Language (Question 2)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="327 555 1910 951"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 555 454 622">5</td> <td data-bbox="454 555 1910 622">Highly accurate in the use of simpler structures, with occasional minor slips.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 622 454 689">4</td> <td data-bbox="454 622 1910 689">Accurate in the use of simpler structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 689 454 756">3</td> <td data-bbox="454 689 1910 756">Generally accurate, but with increased incidence of more serious errors.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 756 454 823">2</td> <td data-bbox="454 756 1910 823">Substantially inaccurate, despite several examples of accurate usage.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 823 454 890">1</td> <td data-bbox="454 823 1910 890">Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 890 454 951">0</td> <td data-bbox="454 890 1910 951">No examples of accurate usage</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Consider the whole answer when awarding mark for language</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total marks for Language: 5 Total for Question 2: 15 marks</p>			5	Highly accurate in the use of simpler structures, with occasional minor slips.	4	Accurate in the use of simpler structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.	3	Generally accurate, but with increased incidence of more serious errors.	2	Substantially inaccurate, despite several examples of accurate usage.	1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.	0	No examples of accurate usage
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1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.													
0	No examples of accurate usage													

Question	Answer	Marks
	<p><u>Very short answers</u> If a response is under 40 characters long, a maximum of 4 marks for Language can be awarded.</p> <p><u>Pinyin</u> The volume of pinyin in the answer should be considered when awarding the Language mark. If pinyin is used extensively, it is no longer genuinely a piece of Chinese writing.</p> <p>Occasional use of pinyin will not affect marking for Language, but for essays written predominantly in pinyin (i.e. more pinyin than characters) this must be taken into account in the Language mark.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
<p>Question 3</p>	<p>Candidates answer 1 question from a choice of 3. Read the whole answer and award marks, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication: award a mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 3.1 • Language: award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters according to the instructions in 3.2 award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures according to the instructions in 3.3 award an Impression mark out of 5 according to the instructions in 3.4 <p><u>3.1 – award a mark out of 5 for Communication</u></p> <p><i>Generic mark scheme for Communication (Question 3):</i></p> <p>(i) There are 5 relevant communication points per question, each worth a maximum of 1 mark.</p> <p>(ii) For each relevant communication point, use the appropriate numbered tick and place 1 of these ticks as close as possible to each relevant communication point</p> <p>(iii) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 5 for Communication</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks																		
3(a)	<p>Session specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 3):</p> <p>你住的城市开了一家新的商场。请给奶奶写一封信。信里说说。 A shopping mall has just opened in the city where you live. Please write a letter to your grandmother, saying :</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="324 391 1951 1377"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="324 391 443 458">Tick</th> <th data-bbox="443 391 1839 458">Accept</th> <th data-bbox="1839 391 1951 458">Mark</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 458 443 639">1</td> <td data-bbox="443 458 1839 639"> 为什么开了新的商场 Why did they open this new shopping mall? REWARD: any opinion or justification </td> <td data-bbox="1839 458 1951 639">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 639 443 821">2</td> <td data-bbox="443 639 1839 821"> 你和谁一起去了这个商场 Who did you go to this mall with? REWARD: any relevant information with a past timeframe </td> <td data-bbox="1839 639 1951 821">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 821 443 1003">3</td> <td data-bbox="443 821 1839 1003"> 你买了什么东西 What did you buy? REWARD: any description in a past time frame </td> <td data-bbox="1839 821 1951 1003">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1003 443 1185">4</td> <td data-bbox="443 1003 1839 1185"> 你觉得这个商场怎么样 What do you think of this mall? REWARD: any opinion or justification </td> <td data-bbox="1839 1003 1951 1185">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1185 443 1377">5</td> <td data-bbox="443 1185 1839 1377"> 你下次打算什么时候去。 When are you going next time? REWARD: any action with a future timeframe </td> <td data-bbox="1839 1185 1951 1377">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tick	Accept	Mark	1	为什么开了新的商场 Why did they open this new shopping mall? REWARD: any opinion or justification	1	2	你和谁一起去了这个商场 Who did you go to this mall with? REWARD: any relevant information with a past timeframe	1	3	你买了什么东西 What did you buy? REWARD: any description in a past time frame	1	4	你觉得这个商场怎么样 What do you think of this mall? REWARD: any opinion or justification	1	5	你下次打算什么时候去。 When are you going next time? REWARD: any action with a future timeframe	1	5
Tick	Accept	Mark																		
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3	你买了什么东西 What did you buy? REWARD: any description in a past time frame	1																		
4	你觉得这个商场怎么样 What do you think of this mall? REWARD: any opinion or justification	1																		
5	你下次打算什么时候去。 When are you going next time? REWARD: any action with a future timeframe	1																		

Question	Answer	Marks																		
3(b)	<p>《中学生杂志》想了解一下中学生对去外国做交换学生的看法。请给这家杂志写一篇文章，谈一谈： The Secondary School Student Magazine' wants to know secondary school students' opinions on being an exchange student abroad. Please write an article for the magazine saying:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="324 355 1951 1283"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="324 355 439 422">Tick</th> <th data-bbox="439 355 1834 422">Accept</th> <th data-bbox="1834 355 1951 422">Mark</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 422 439 596">1</td> <td data-bbox="439 422 1834 596"> 你在哪个国家做过交换学生 In which country have you done a student exchange? REWARD: any country </td> <td data-bbox="1834 422 1951 596">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 596 439 770">2</td> <td data-bbox="439 596 1834 770"> 你的交换家庭怎么样 How was your exchange family? REWARD: any opinion or description </td> <td data-bbox="1834 596 1951 770">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 770 439 944">3</td> <td data-bbox="439 770 1834 944"> 你最喜欢的活动是什么 What was your favourite activity? REWARD: any activity </td> <td data-bbox="1834 770 1951 944">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 944 439 1118">4</td> <td data-bbox="439 944 1834 1118"> 你觉得做交换学生有什么好处/坏处 What are the advantages/disadvantages of being an exchange student? REWARD: any opinion or justification </td> <td data-bbox="1834 944 1951 1118">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="324 1118 439 1283">5</td> <td data-bbox="439 1118 1834 1283"> 你明年还想去那个国家吗；为什么。 Do you want to return to that country again? Why? REWARD: any reason </td> <td data-bbox="1834 1118 1951 1283">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tick	Accept	Mark	1	你在哪个国家做过交换学生 In which country have you done a student exchange? REWARD: any country	1	2	你的交换家庭怎么样 How was your exchange family? REWARD: any opinion or description	1	3	你最喜欢的活动是什么 What was your favourite activity? REWARD: any activity	1	4	你觉得做交换学生有什么好处/坏处 What are the advantages/disadvantages of being an exchange student? REWARD: any opinion or justification	1	5	你明年还想去那个国家吗；为什么。 Do you want to return to that country again? Why? REWARD: any reason	1	5
Tick	Accept	Mark																		
1	你在哪个国家做过交换学生 In which country have you done a student exchange? REWARD: any country	1																		
2	你的交换家庭怎么样 How was your exchange family? REWARD: any opinion or description	1																		
3	你最喜欢的活动是什么 What was your favourite activity? REWARD: any activity	1																		
4	你觉得做交换学生有什么好处/坏处 What are the advantages/disadvantages of being an exchange student? REWARD: any opinion or justification	1																		
5	你明年还想去那个国家吗；为什么。 Do you want to return to that country again? Why? REWARD: any reason	1																		

Question	Answer		Marks	
3(c)	上个周末, 你和朋友在公园里散步, 有人问你问题: Last weekend, you and your friend were walking in the park when someone asked you some questions.		5	
	Tick	Accept		Mark
	1	这个人是谁 Who was this person? REWARD: anyone		1
	2	他/她为什么问你问题 Why did he/she ask you questions? REWARD: any reason		1
	3	你跟他/她说了什么 What did you say to him/her? REWARD: anything relevant expressed in past time-frame		1
	4	你觉得他/她怎么样 What did you think of this person? REWARD: any opinion or description		1
5	后来发生了什么事。 What happened next? REWARD: any sequence of events expressed in past timeframe	1		

Question	Answer	Marks
3.2 – award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters		
Generic mark scheme for Accuracy of Characters (Question 3):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award a mark out of 5 for Accuracy of Characters according to the Grade descriptors in the table below: 		
Grade descriptors for Accuracy of Characters (Question 3)		
5	Highly accurate, with a wide range of characters including some more difficult or unusual ones correctly written, with occasional minor slips.	
4	A good range of characters attempted with easy and moderately easy characters correctly written.	
3	Limited range, but with most easy characters correctly written (or a wide range with a lot of errors).	
2	A number of examples of easy characters correctly written.	
1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of correctly written characters.	
0	No examples of correctly written characters.	
[Total marks for Accuracy of Characters: 5]		

Question	Answer	Marks
3.3 – award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures		
Generic mark scheme for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures (Question 3):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Award a mark out of 10 for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures according to the Grade descriptors in the table below: 		
Grade descriptors for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures (Question 3)		
10/9	Highly accurate including use of more complex structures, but with occasional minor slips.	
8/7	A little more ambitious than the 5/6 band. Accurate in the use of simple structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips.	
6/5	Limited in range, but displays some control of simple structures.	
4/3	Inconsistent, but a number of examples of accurate usage.	
2/1	Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage.	
0	No examples of accurate usage.	
[Total marks for Accuracy of Grammar and Structures: 10]		

Question	Answer	Marks
	<p><u>How to deal with short essays</u></p> <p>If the candidate has written less than half the suggested number of characters (75 or less), a maximum of 3 marks can be awarded for Accuracy of Characters and 5 marks for Grammar/Structures. An essay of 75–100 characters can be awarded a maximum of 4 marks for Accuracy of characters and 7 for Grammar/Structures.</p> <p>For a letter, the addressee and ending greeting are not included in the word count.</p> <p><u>Pinyin</u></p> <p>The volume of pinyin in the answer should be considered when awarding the Language mark. If pinyin is used extensively, it is no longer genuinely a piece of Chinese writing. Occasional use of pinyin will not affect marking for Language, but for essays written predominantly in pinyin (i.e. more pinyin than characters) this must be taken into account in the Language mark.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
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3.4 – award a mark out of 5 for Impression

Award a mark out of 5 for Impression according to the conversion table below.

Conversion Table for Impression (Question 3)

Mark out of 15 (for Accuracy of Language)	Pro rata (General Impression) Max 5
15	5
14	5
13	4
12	4
11	4
10	3
9	3
8	2
7	2
6	2
5	1
4	1
3	1
2	0
1	0
0	0

[Total mark for Impression: 5]
[Total for Question 3: 25 marks]

Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors

It is important that you award marks positively. In order to ensure that you reward achievement rather than penalise failure or omissions, you should start at the bottom of the mark scheme and work upwards through the descriptors when awarding marks.

You should adopt a ‘best fit’ approach. You must select the set of descriptors provided in the mark scheme that most closely describes the quality of the work being marked. As you work upwards through the mark scheme, you will eventually arrive at a set of descriptors that fits the candidate’s performance. When you reach this point, you should always then check the descriptors in the band above to confirm whether or not there is just enough evidence to award a mark in the higher band.

For example when marking Question 3, you may, find that a candidate uses a variety of relevant vocabulary but has varied success with more complex structures. In such cases, you will need to award a mark that takes into account both the strengths and weaknesses of the piece of work.

To select the most appropriate mark within each set of descriptors, you should use the following guidance:

- If most of the descriptors fit the piece (and after you have considered the band above), then you will award the top mark in the band.
- If there is just enough evidence (and you had perhaps been considering the band below), then you would award the lowest mark in the band.

Note on irrelevant material

In the case of a deliberately evasive answer which consists entirely of irrelevant material exploited in defiance of the rubric, a score of 0 is given. These are extremely rare.

A genuine attempt to answer the question which fails due to a misunderstanding of the rubric will normally lose Communication marks but will score for Language. You should consult your Team Leader.