



Cambridge Assessment International Education
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

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Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition

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MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

Published

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Note: All Examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated. Nonetheless, the content must be clearly related to and derived from the passage.

Section 1: Directed Writing

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>This question tests writing assessment objectives W1 to W5 (15 marks)</p> <p>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</p> <p><i>and</i> reading assessment objectives R1 to R3 (10 marks)</p> <p>R1 demonstrate understanding of explicit meanings R2 demonstrate understanding of implicit meanings and attitudes R3 analyse, evaluate and develop facts, ideas and opinions</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>There has been a proposal for an area to be designated for street art and for street art workshops to be run for young people where you live.</p> <p><u>Write a letter to the local newspaper giving your views.</u></p> <p><u>In your letter</u> you should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• explain and evaluate the different opinions about graffiti or street art in the article• give your own views on how far you think the proposal will benefit the local area. <p>Base your letter on what you have read in the article, but be careful to use your own words. Address each of the bullet points.</p> <p>Begin your letter, ‘Dear Editor...’.</p> <p>Write about 250 to 350 words.</p> <p><u>Up to 10 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 15 marks for the quality of your writing.</u></p>	25

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>Responses might use the following ideas:</p> <p>A1 explain and evaluate the differing opinions about graffiti or street art in the article</p> <p>Opinions considered might include reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • terms used for it/to describe it – graffiti is negative, street art suggests some value/admiration for it, ‘attacks’ or ‘exhibitions’ • legality – custodial sentences for those involved (evaluation: mixed message to prosecute for vandalism yet actively and openly promote in museums, makes a mockery of the law/shows the law is outdated) • quality issues – (evaluation: subjective judgment e.g. tags viewed by some as attractive/desirable) • frequency/scale of it – e.g. 120 night time attacks becomes invasive/a nuisance to others e.g. if having to clean off all the time (evaluation: might be tolerated if less wide spread/sustained) • location – on a van/wall or in an art gallery (evaluation: issue around rights/permission of owner as compared to right of the artist) • monetary considerations +/- effect on property including prices • legitimacy as an art form – role models/famous street artists e.g. Banksy (evaluation: leads others astray/has changed social attitudes/brought art to the young) • galleries/exhibitions – bringing in a new audience who wouldn’t go to galleries otherwise/expanding cultural horizons <p>Examples of some of the possible evaluation are given in brackets.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
1	<p>A2 give your own views on how far you think the proposal will benefit the local area</p> <p>Ideas considered might include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • siting of designated area might be an issue – still local/can still see it so may still be a problem for those who consider it unsightly, anyone close to it may object • changes nature of the art form – spontaneous graffiti – artists may not want to use an ‘official area’ seeing unofficial nature of it part of the attraction of street art • workshops encouraging more to take part/practice more could make the issue worse/raise awareness of need to consider rights and quality issues • designated area might attract more artists/vandals to the area could be seen as a tourist attraction/add value (cf. Banksy/vans in Melbourne) or seen to exacerbate the problem by those who object • how monitored/cleaned – practical issues will need resolving e.g. will the designs be cleaned off after a while. What if they are considered good/valuable etc? How about offensive material? • emotive issue – legality of it a concern/people’s views on art differ – will it encourage illegal activity to legitimise it? • workshops – funded by whom and run by whom – employing criminals? 	
	<p>The discriminator is the evaluation of the likely and differing reactions to the proposal based on the differing attitudes and opinions suggested in the article. This requires candidates to draw inferences and make judgments. Perceptive responses may choose to argue from a definite perspective e.g. that of a street artist involved/resident affected by graffiti. Choosing a balanced perspective and weighing up the arguments could prove equally effective. Ideas and opinions must be derived from the passage, developing its claims and supporting opinion with clear and persuasive arguments.</p>	

Marking criteria for Section 1, Question 1.

Table A, Writing:

Use the following table to give a mark out of 15 for Writing.

Band 1	13–15	Consistent sense of audience; authoritative and appropriate style. Fluent, varied sentences; wide range of vocabulary. Strong sense of structure, paragraphing and sequence. Spelling, punctuation and grammar almost always accurate.
Band 2	10–12	Sense of audience mostly secure; there is evidence of style and fluency; sentences and vocabulary are effective. Secure overall structure; mostly well sequenced. Spelling, punctuation and grammar generally accurate.
Band 3	7–9	Occasional sense of audience; mostly written in correctly structured sentences; vocabulary may be plain but adequate for the task; mostly quite well structured. Minor, but more frequent, errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
Band 4	5–6	Inconsistent style; simple or faultily constructed sentences; vocabulary simple; basic structure. Frequent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
Band 5	3–4	Inappropriate expression; the response is not always well sequenced. Errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar impair communication.
Band 6	1–2	Expression unclear; flawed sentence construction and order. Persistent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar impede communication.
Band 7	0	The response cannot be understood.

Table B, Reading:

Use the following table to give a mark out of 10 for Reading.

Band 1	9–10	Gives a thorough, perceptive, convincing response. Reads effectively between the lines. Shows understanding by developing much of the reading material and assimilating it into a response to the task.
Band 2	7–8	Some evidence of evaluation, engaging with a few of the main points with success. Uses reading material to support the argument. Occasionally effective development of ideas from the passages.
Band 3	5–6	Reproduces a number of points to make a satisfactory response. The response covers the material adequately, but may miss opportunities to develop it relevantly or at length.
Band 4	3–4	Selects points from the passages rather literally and/or uses the material thinly. Points should be connected.
Band 5	1–2	Parts of the response are relevant, though the material may be repeated or used inappropriately.
Band 6	0	There is very little or no relevance to the question or to the passages, or the response copies unselectively or directly from the passages.

Section 2: Composition

Question	Answer	Marks
	<p>This question tests writing assessment objectives W1 to W5 (25 marks)</p> <p>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</p>	
2,3,4,5	<p>Write about 350 to 450 words on <u>one</u> of the following questions.</p> <p><u>Up to 13 marks are available for the content and structure of your answer, and up to 12 marks for the style and accuracy of your writing.</u></p> <p><u>Descriptive Writing</u></p> <p>2 Describe a cave in the first moments as you enter it.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>3 Describe a short journey you make often.</p> <p>OR</p> <p><u>Narrative Writing</u></p> <p>4 Write a story that begins, ‘It started late one night with a noise outside...’.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>5 Write a story with the title, ‘The Rescue’.</p>	25

Marking criteria for Section 2, Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5

Use table A to give a mark out of 13 for content and structure, and table B to give a mark out of 12 for style and accuracy.

Table A, Composition: Content and structure

		General criteria	Specific criteria	
			Descriptive Writing	Narrative Writing
Band 1	11–13	W1: Content is complex, sophisticated and realistic. W2: Overall structure is secure and the constituent parts well balanced and carefully managed.	Many well-defined and developed ideas and images create a convincing, original, overall picture with varieties of focus.	The plot is convincing with elements of fiction such as description, characterisation and climax, and with cogent detail.
Band 2	9–10	W1: Content develops some interesting and realistic features in parts of the writing. W2: Writing is orderly, and beginnings and endings are satisfactorily managed.	Frequent, well-chosen images and details give an impression of reality, although the overall picture is not consistent.	The plot incorporates some interesting features, but not consistently so: the reader may be aware of the creation of suspense and a sense of climax.
Band 3	7–8	W1: Content is straightforward with ideas, features and images that satisfactorily address the task; some opportunities for development are taken. W2: Overall structure is competent and some sentences are well sequenced.	A selection of relevant ideas, images and details addresses the task, even where there is a tendency to write a narrative.	The plot is straightforward and cohesive with some identification of features such as character and setting.
Band 4	5–6	W1: Content consists of relevant ideas that are briefly developed. W2: Overall structure is easily followed, though some constituent parts are too long or too short to be effective.	The task is addressed with a series of ordinary details, which may be more typical of a narrative.	Recording of relevant but sometimes unrealistic events outweighs other desirable elements of narrative fiction.

		General criteria	Specific criteria	
			Descriptive Writing	Narrative Writing
Band 5	3–4	W1: Content is simple, and the presentation of ideas and events may only be partially credible. W2: Overall structure is recognizable though paragraphing is inconsistent and sequences of sentences insecure.	Where a narrative is written, the recording of events may preclude the use of sufficient descriptive detail.	The plot is a simple narrative that may consist of events that are only partially credible or which are presented with partial clarity.
Band 6	1–2	W1: Content is inconsistent in relevance, interest and clarity. W2: Structure is frequently unclear, revealing a limited grasp of purpose.	Some relevant facts are identified, but the overall picture is unclear and lacks development.	The plot lacks coherence and narrates events indiscriminately.
Band 7	0	W1: Content is rarely relevant and there is little material. W2: The structure is disorderly.	Individual ideas are not properly communicated and the effect is one of incoherence.	The plot is hard to follow and is only partially relevant.

Table B, Composition: Style and accuracy

Band 1	11–12	Writing is consistent, stylistically fluent, linguistically strong and almost always accurate; has sense of audience. W3: Consistently wide range of appropriate vocabulary. W4: Subtle and effective sense of audience; appropriate use of varied sentence structures. W5: Spelling, punctuation and grammar almost always accurate.
Band 2	9–10	Writing is mostly fluent, sometimes linguistically effective and generally accurate; may have some sense of audience. W3: Obvious attempt to use range of vocabulary to interest the reader. W4: Partial or inferred sense of audience, with appropriate sentence structures. W5: Spelling, punctuation and grammar mainly accurate.
Band 3	7–8	Writing is clear, competent, if plain in vocabulary and grammatical structures; errors minor, but frequent. W3: Occasional precision and/or interest in choice of words. W4: Accurate if repetitive sentence structures W5: Minor but frequent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
Band 4	5–6	Writing is clear and accurate in places, and uses limited vocabulary and grammatical structures; errors occasionally serious. W3: Plain but mostly correct choice of words. W4: Correct use of simple sentence structures; some errors of sentence separation. W5: Frequent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.
Band 5	3–4	Writing is simple in vocabulary and grammar; overall meaning can be followed, but errors are distracting and sometimes impair communication. W3: Words may sometimes communicate meaning satisfactorily. W4: Frequent weakness in sentence structures. W5: Errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar impair communication.
Band 6	1–2	Writing is weak in vocabulary and grammar; persistent errors impede communication. W3: Insufficient language to carry intended meaning. W4: Faulty and/or rambling sentence structures. W5: Persistent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar impede communication.
Band 7	0	Writing is impossible to follow. Language proficiency is lacking; incorrect sentences; multiple errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar.