

Cambridge IGCSE™

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Paper 6 Alternative to Practical

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 40

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 2020 series for most Cambridge IGCSE[™], Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

© UCLES 2020 [Turn over

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.

© UCLES 2020 Page 2 of 8

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.

Science-Specific Marking Principles

- 1 Examiners should consider the context and scientific use of any keywords when awarding marks. Although keywords may be present, marks should not be awarded if the keywords are used incorrectly.
- 2 The examiner should not choose between contradictory statements given in the same question part, and credit should not be awarded for any correct statement that is contradicted within the same question part. Wrong science that is irrelevant to the question should be ignored.
- Although spellings do not have to be correct, spellings of syllabus terms must allow for clear and unambiguous separation from other syllabus terms with which they may be confused (e.g. ethane / ethene, glucagon / glycogen, refraction / reflection).
- The error carried forward (ecf) principle should be applied, where appropriate. If an incorrect answer is subsequently used in a scientifically correct way, the candidate should be awarded these subsequent marking points. Further guidance will be included in the mark scheme where necessary and any exceptions to this general principle will be noted.

5 'List rule' guidance

For questions that require *n* responses (e.g. State **two** reasons ...):

- The response should be read as continuous prose, even when numbered answer spaces are provided.
- Any response marked *ignore* in the mark scheme should not count towards *n*.
- Incorrect responses should not be awarded credit but will still count towards n.
- Read the entire response to check for any responses that contradict those that would otherwise be credited. Credit should **not** be awarded for any responses that are contradicted within the rest of the response. Where two responses contradict one another, this should be treated as a single incorrect response.
- Non-contradictory responses after the first *n* responses may be ignored even if they include incorrect science.

© UCLES 2020 Page 3 of 8

6 Calculation specific guidance

Correct answers to calculations should be given full credit even if there is no working or incorrect working, **unless** the question states 'show your working'.

For questions in which the number of significant figures required is not stated, credit should be awarded for correct answers when rounded by the examiner to the number of significant figures given in the mark scheme. This may not apply to measured values.

For answers given in standard form (e.g. $a \times 10^n$) in which the convention of restricting the value of the coefficient (a) to a value between 1 and 10 is not followed, credit may still be awarded if the answer can be converted to the answer given in the mark scheme.

Unless a separate mark is given for a unit, a missing or incorrect unit will normally mean that the final calculation mark is not awarded. Exceptions to this general principle will be noted in the mark scheme.

7 Guidance for chemical equations

Multiples / fractions of coefficients used in chemical equations are acceptable unless stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

State symbols given in an equation should be ignored unless asked for in the question or stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

© UCLES 2020 Page 4 of 8

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	33. <u>0</u> ; 49.5;	2
1(a)(ii)	11.(0) and 26.5	1
1(b)	1 from: magnesium disappears / is dissolved / no bubbles / temperature stops rising / changing / temperature remains constant;;	1
1(c)	as (number of) magnesium (pieces) increases so temperature rise / change increases ;	1
1(d)	concentration of acid / volume of acid ;	1
1(e)	pipette / burette / insulate boiling tube ;	1
1(f)	50–55 ; INDEPENDENT	1
1(g)	same	1
1(h)(i)	it is used up / its pH increases / it gets less acidic / weaker / it is neutralised ;	1
1(h)(ii)	lighted splint and pops ;	1
1(i)	flask and delivery tube ; syringe / upturned measuring cylinder / burette in water ;	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(i)	$h_{\rm l} = 4.7 ({\rm cm})$	1
2(a)(ii)	J = 0.32	1

© UCLES 2020 Page 5 of 8

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)(i)	graph:	
	axes labelled correct orientation, with quantity and unit	1
	appropriate linear scales and plots occupying at least ½ grid	1
	plots all correct to ½ small square on scales which are linear for plotted points section	1
2(b)(ii)	Well-judged and ruler drawn straight line	1
2(c)	G in range 20.0 to 24.0 ONLY	1
	triangle method seen on graph occupying at least half line	1
2(d)	any one from: repeat and average; use of a darkened room / brighter lamp; mark position of centre of lens on holder; place metre rule on bench / clamp in position; ensure object and (centre of) lens are same height (from the bench); All / object and lens and screen perpendicular to bench; move screen slowly / back and forth (to obtain best image)	1
2(e)	any suitable improvement: use translucent screen / see-through paper and view from behind; fix ruler / grid to screen	1

Question	Answer	Marks	
3(a)	$l_0 = 1.6 \text{ (cm) ONLY};$	1	
3(b)	use a set square / ruler to line up with scale / use a fiducial aid / perpendicular viewing of ruler;	1	

© UCLES 2020 Page 6 of 8

Question	Answer	Marks
3(c)	all values correct (2.9, 6.4, 10.0)	1
	consistent to 1dp INDEPENDENT	1
3(d)	value within the range 16 to 18 (cm) INDEPENDENT	1
3(e)	0.30	1
	2 or 3 significant figures INDEPENDENT	1
3(f)(i)	0.12 (N / cm) ONLY	1
3(f)(ii)	Expect (implication of) NO matching justification e.g. difference is (too) large	1
3(g)	any one from: repeat and take an average; construct a graph; calculate (a spring constant from) the gradient of the graph line; use a greater range of / more loads / use another load;	1

Question	Answer	Marks
4	At least one mark must be awarded from each section. The remaining three marks can be awarded from any section.	7
	apparatus (can be scored from a labelled diagram) juice in container (test-tube / beaker / conical flask / evaporating basin); use of (dropping) pipette / burette; measuring cylinder;	
	method add indicator; add NaOH (slowly); until indicator (just) changes colour; repeat (with same juice) / repeat with the other juice; safety: goggles / gloves as substance(s) corrosive control: same amount of juice / indicator;	
	measure amount / volume of juice ; measure volume sodium hydroxide / take burette readings at start and end OR measure amount of NaOH / number of drops needed to change colour of indicator OR measure volume of juice at start and juice + NaOH at end ;	
	processing and use of results larger volume / more drops of NaOH means larger amount of acid;	
	volume NaOH used = amount NaOH initially – amount NaOH left at end/difference between burette readings OR	
	volume NaOH used = amount NaOH and juice at end – amount of juice ;	

© UCLES 2020 Page 8 of 8