

MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2013 series

8004 GENERAL PAPER

8004/11

Paper 1, maximum raw mark 100

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 will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2013 series for most IGCSE, GCE Advanced Level and Advanced Subsidiary Level components and some Ordinary Level components.

Page 2	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

USE OF ENGLISH CRITERIA TABLE

	Marks	
<p>Band 1</p> <p>‘excellent’: fully operational command</p>	18–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very few slips/errors • highly fluent • very effective use of expressions and idioms • excellent use of vocabulary; (near) faultless grammar • excellent sentence structure and organisation of paragraphs • excellent spelling/punctuation.
<p>Band 2</p> <p>‘good-very good’: effective command</p>	14–17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • few slips/errors • fluent • effective use of expressions/idioms • good use of vocabulary; sound grammar • good sentence structure/well-organised paragraphs • good spelling/punctuation.
<p>Band 3</p> <p>‘average’: reasonable command</p>	10–13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some slips/basic errors but acceptable standard overall • reasonably fluent/not difficult to read • generally appropriate use of expressions/idioms • fair range and apt use of basic vocabulary; acceptable grammar • simple/unambitious sentence structure/paragraphing • reasonable spelling/punctuation.
<p>Band 4</p> <p>‘flawed but not weak’: inconsistent command</p>	6–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regular and frequent slips/errors • hesitant fluency/not easy to follow at times • some inappropriate expressions/idioms • limited range of vocabulary; faulty grammar • some flawed sentence structure/paragraphing • regular spelling/punctuation errors.
<p>Band 5</p> <p>‘weak-very weak’: little/(no) effective communication</p>	0–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • almost every line contains (many) slips/errors of all kinds • little/(no) fluency/difficult (almost impossible) to follow • (very) poor use of expression/idiom • (very) poor range of vocabulary: (very) poor grammar • (very) poor sentence structure/paragraphing • (very) poor spelling/punctuation. <p>bracketed descriptors denote 0–2 range of marks.</p>

Page 3	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

CONTENT CRITERIA TABLE

<p>Band 1</p> <p>‘excellent’:</p> <p>very good and comprehensive knowledge/understanding of topic</p>	26–30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> comprehensive coverage, totally relevant material, perceptive, analytical thoughtful, enlightening illustration using local, national and international examples where applicable coherent and engaging discussion, displaying sensitivity, sophistication, awareness and maturity (very) well structured.
<p>Band 2</p> <p>‘good-very good’:</p> <p>good knowledge/understanding of topic</p>	20–25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> totally (near totally) relevant, well focused but less analytical and perceptive than Band 1 major points well developed (very) good range of examples/illustration logical and systematic discussion effectively structured.
<p>Band 3 UPPER</p> <p>‘average’:</p> <p>sound knowledge/understanding of topic</p>	16–19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> competent: major points adequately developed largely relevant and remains focused on the question reasonable range of examples/illustration to support key points reasonably structured.
<p>Band 3 LOWER</p> <p>fair knowledge/understanding of topic</p>	13–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more obvious points mentioned rather than adequately developed some digression, but generally sticks to the question does not always support major points with apt illustration tendency to assert/generalise rather than argue/discuss in detail may lack focus.
<p>Band 4</p> <p>‘flawed but not weak: limited knowledge/understanding of topic’</p>	7–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> restricted material/scope: rather pedestrian some relevance but may be implicit/tangential at times prone to unsubstantiated, sweeping statements: ideas vague and/or lacking sustained development: can be digressive and wander off topic limited illustration and/or factual inaccuracy insufficient focus; essay offloads everything known about the particular topic with inadequate reference to the key words in the question.

Page 4	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

<p style="text-align: center;">Band 5</p> <p>‘weak-very weak’: poor/very poor knowledge/understanding of topic</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">0–6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (totally) inadequate content with little/no substance: (very) vague and confused ideas • question largely (completely) misinterpreted/misunderstood • very limited (total) irrelevance • very limited/(no) appropriate illustration. <p>bracketed descriptors denote 0–2 range.</p>
--	---	---

Page 5	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

Introduction

No question is seeking a 'right' answer. Any view relevant to the set question may receive marks for Content. Well-argued support for points will be rewarded. Answers should be focused on/around 'key' words.

N.B. For all questions

- Various views will be acceptable, but must be argued logically and supported by illustrations/examples for a mark in the top two bands.
- Examples given below of areas for discussion and exploration per question are indicative only. They are not an exhaustive list.

Section 1

1 Why do all Empires decline in the end? Is there evidence for this in today's world?

Key words: 'Why ...?', 'all', 'Empires', 'decline', 'Is ...?', 'evidence', 'today'.

Possible arguments for decline

- Complacency
- Corruption
- Failure to adapt
- External force
- Inadequate resources
- Internal dissension

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible evidence for present-day decline

- America
- British
- European Empires
- Globalisation
- Arab spring
- 'Evil Empire'

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 6	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

2 With the move to text entry on computer, some states no longer require handwriting to be taught. Is this a desirable development?

Key words: 'text entry', require handwriting ... 'taught', 'desirable ...?'

Possible arguments in favour of desirability

- Who handwrites today?
- Ubiquity of keyboard entry
- Communication by smart phones
- Speed & cost of communication

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments against decline of handwriting

- Aesthetic considerations
- Personal expression
- Some employers still expect it
- More flexible in use

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

3 Is sex education the responsibility of school or parents?

Key words: 'Is ...?', 'sex education', 'responsibility', 'school/parents'.

Possible arguments in favour of school

- Parent and child embarrassment
- Parental objections
- Objectivity
- Knowledge

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments for parents

- Parental rights
- Parental responsibility
- Religious differences
- Cultural differences

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 7	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

4 Assess the arguments, applicable to your country, for encouraging or discouraging immigration.

Key words: 'Assess', 'arguments', 'your country', 'encouraging/discouraging', 'immigration'.

Possible arguments in favour of

- Political asylum
- Labour scarcity
- New ideas/innovation/culture
- New skills

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments against

- Job scarcity
- Infrastructural problems
- Volatile communities
- Health considerations

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

5 Who is winning the gender wars? Give reasons to support your answer.

Key words: 'Who', 'winning', 'gender wars', 'reasons', 'your'.

Possible arguments in favour of MALES

- Men still dominant in politics
- Men still dominant in business
- Men usually paid more
- Masculine sexist culture
- Dominant in some cultures

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments in favour of FEMALES

- More working women
- More country/world leaders
- Less 'glass ceiling'
- Feminism now mainstream
- Male acceptance

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 8	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

Section 2

6 Is living longer necessarily a good thing?

Key words: 'Is ...?', 'living longer', 'good'.

Possible arguments in favour of living longer

- Chance to broaden experience
- Transmission of values through the generations
- Adding stability to society
- Possibilities of fulfilment

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments against living longer

- Health issues & costs
- What to do?
- Economic considerations
- Denial of mortality

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

7 'Mathematics is more feared than respected.' How far do you agree with this view?

Key words: 'Mathematics', 'more feared than', 'How far ...?', 'you'.

Possible arguments in favour of fear

- Difficult subject at school
- Danger that arcane knowledge prevails
- Practical application often not forthcoming
- Fear of the unknown for many/most

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments in favour of respect

- Appreciation of talent of mathematicians
- Association with celebrated past people
- Underpins the laws of the universe
- Problem solving

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 9	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

8 Various writers have envisaged a bleak future world. To what extent do you share their pessimistic vision?

Key words: 'bleak future ... pessimistic vision', 'To what extent ...?', 'you'.

Possible PESSIMISTIC arguments

- Technology out of control
 - Earth covered with buildings
 - Remote government
 - Populations manipulated
- Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible OPTIMISTIC arguments

- Escape from poverty
 - New challenges (e.g. space exploration)
 - Medical advances
 - Focus on pleasurable activities
- Specific example(s) and illustration are required

9 Is the world becoming too reliant on Information Technology?

Key words: 'Is ...?', 'the world', 'too reliant', 'Information Technology'.

Possible arguments in favour of over-reliance

- Acceptance of automated figures
 - Lack of knowledge of how calculations are made
 - Belief in the inherent value of statistical information
 - Loss of knowledge of alternative technologies
- Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments against over-reliance

- Programmes are devised/controlled by humans
 - Basic skills are still taught in school
 - The usefulness of ready access to information
 - Pleasurable/convenience aspects of IT
- Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 10	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

10 Ought there to be any limits to genetic research?

Key words: 'Ought ...?', 'any limits', 'genetic research'.

Possible arguments in favour of limitation

- Playing God
- Eugenic planning
- Death of the 'soul'
- Genetics are not the 'be all and end all'
- Dangers of cloning & GM

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments against limitation

- Power to cure
- Part of Man's quest to advance frontier of knowledge
- Forensic science
- Archaeology

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 11	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

Section 3

11 To what extent can photography arouse our political and social awareness?

Key words: 'To what extent ...?', 'photography', 'arouse', 'political awareness', 'social awareness'.

Answers might refer to some of the following: immediacy, focus, emotional appeal, etc. Whatever is discussed, the answer must link the chosen qualities with 'political and social awareness'.

Specific example(s) and illustration are required.

12 Can celebrity culture ever provide worthwhile role models?

[You will need to consider their contributions, not just list their life stories.]

Key words: 'Can ...?:', 'celebrity culture', 'worthwhile', 'role models', 'consider', 'contributions'.

Possible arguments in favour of CC being worthy

- May provide good role models
- Can provide genuine, if vicarious, pleasure
- Fronting charity campaigns
- Stimulates aspiration
- Raise political awareness

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments against its worthiness

- Excess
- Distraction from more worthwhile activities
- Encourages prurience & schadenfreude
- Cheapens popular culture
- Economic distortion

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Page 12	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	GCE AS LEVEL – May/June 2013	8004	11

13 'It is often easier to communicate through speaking than writing.' Consider this view.

Key words: 'easier', 'communicate', 'speaking than writing', 'consider'.

Possible arguments in favour of speaking

- Face to Face
- Chance to respond immediately
- Power of oratory
- Formal/informal debate
- Negotiations

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

Possible arguments in favour of writing

- Chance to reflect
- Opportunity for clarity
- More than a 'sound bite'
- Variety of genres in which written word is crucial
- Residual records

Specific example(s) and illustration are required

14 You are the judge of a literature competition. Indicate which novel would win the top prize. Give reasons for your choice.

Key words: 'judge', 'literature', 'which novel', 'reasons'.

Answers in the top two bands will have to make the reasoning for the choice of novel very clear, whereas weaker answers will be discursive or narrative. It will not be enough for a choice to be supported by a simple verdict on the lines that the writer merely 'liked the book'.

Specific example(s) and illustration are required.

15 What do you consider to be the serious purpose behind television cartoon shows?

Key words: 'What ...?', 'serious', 'behind', 'television cartoon'.

Candidates might discuss this question through consideration of, for example:

- Art
- Technology
- Narrative
- Social/Political aspects
- Amusement as a serious purpose

Specific example(s) and illustration are required