

Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge Ordinary Level

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1123/12

Paper 1 Writing

October/November 2018

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 2018 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

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.

© UCLES 2018 Page 2 of 14

Question	Answer	Marks
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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

Candidates are expected to:

- 1 write a speech 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.

Total marks for Section 1: 30.

In order to fulfil these assessment objectives in Section 1, a 'best fit' principle is applied using the Task Fulfilment and Language band descriptors.

© UCLES 2018 Page 3 of 14

Question	Answer	Marks
	Section 1	
1	It is your final week in school. Your teacher asks you to make a speech to the school assembly about the event from your school life which you will always remember. (It might be an academic memory, a social event or any other event you wish.)	
	Write your <u>speech</u> . You must include the following:	
	when <u>and</u> where the event took place	
	details of what happened	
	how the event affected you <u>and</u> other people	
	Cover all three points above in detail. You should make your speech interesting and informative. Start your speech 'Good morning, everyone.'	

© UCLES 2018 Page 4 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks
Task Fulf	ilment 15	marks	
Band 5	13–15	 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	 Good understanding of purpose An awareness of the specified situation and audience Text type appropriate All required points addressed but not always developed in det Given information organised to support personal opinion Tone and register appropriate 	ail.
Band 3	7–9	 Some understanding of purpose; may lack some focus Some awareness of the specified situation and audience Text type generally appropriate At least two required points addressed (and both are partially/developed) Given information may not be logically used to support opinion Tone usually appropriate, although there may be slips of regis 	า
Band 2	4–6	 Only partial understanding of purpose Some confusion as to the specified situation and audience Text type may be inappropriate At least one of the required points addressed (partially/fully developed) Given information may be used irrelevantly Tone may be uneven 	
Band 1	1–3	 Misunderstanding of purpose Confusion as to the specified situation and audience Little evidence of a specific text type None of the required points addressed Given information misunderstood or irrelevant Tone may be inappropriate 	
Band 0	0	Insufficient to meet the criteria for Band 1	

© UCLES 2018 Page 5 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks		
Language 15 marks					
Band 8	14–15	 Highly accurate writing, apart from very occasional slips Sentence structures varied for particular effects Verb forms largely correct and appropriate tenses consistently Vocabulary wide and precise Punctuation accurate and helpful Spelling accurate, apart from very occasional slips Paragraphs have unity are linked, and show evidence of plan 			
Band 7	12–13	 Paragraphs have unity, are linked, and show evidence of plane. Accurate writing; occasional errors are either slips or caused ambition Sentence structures show some variation to create some natural fluency. Occasional slips in verb forms or tense formation, but sequenconsistent and clear throughout. Vocabulary precise enough to convey intended shades of meaning. Spelling nearly always accurate. Paragraphs have unity, are usually linked, and show some evof planning. 	by ural ce aning.		
Band 6	10–11	 Mostly accurate writing; errors from ambition do not mar clar communication 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 ic Simple vocabulary mainly correct; errors may occur with more ambitious words Punctuation generally accurate and sentence separation corremarked, 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 abs inappropriate 	deas e ectly		

© UCLES 2018 Page 6 of 14

Question		Answer Marks
Band 5	8–9	 Writing is sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning, with patches of clear, accurate language 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	6–7	 Overall meaning never in doubt, but errors sufficiently frequent and serious to hamper precision and distract reader from content 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	4–5	The writing has many serious errors of various kinds of 'singleword' type (i.e. they could be corrected without re-writing the sentence); communication established, although weight of error may cause some 'blurring' • 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
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 • Unlikely to be more than a few accurate sentences, however simple, in the whole essay

© UCLES 2018 Page 7 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks
Band 1	1	Scripts almost entirely or entirely impossible to recognise as of English writing; whole sections make no sense at all	pieces
		Where occasional patches of relative clarity are evident, 1 ma should be given	rk
Band 0	0	Insufficient to meet the criteria for Band 1	

© UCLES 2018 Page 8 of 14

Question	Answer	Marks				
	Detailed Marking Instructions for Section 2: Composition					
	' principle is applied, as in the following table. Please note, the primary emphas of Language; descriptors for appropriateness and content are then used to adjust					
Total marks	for Section 2: 30					
Candidates	are advised to write between 350 and 500 words.					
Description						
2	Describe a relative's house which you enjoy visiting. (Remember you can describe the atmosphere and the surroundings, as well as the house itself.)					
Argument						
3	'The future is about science and technology. There is no place for arts and music on the school timetable.' Do you agree? Give reasons and examples to support your view.					
4	To have a happy life, it is more important to have time to do what you want rather than to have a lot of money to spend. Do you agree? Give reasons and examples to support your view.					
Narrative						
5	Write a story which includes the words: 'The house they lived in as children now looked very different.'					
6	Write a story about a time when you wanted to do something adventurous but you had to change your plans.					

© UCLES 2018 Page 9 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks			
Quality of	Quality of Language and Appropriateness and Content 30 marks					
Band 8	27–30	Highly accurate writing, apart from very occasional slips; highly appropriate to chosen task type Quality of Language Sentence structures varied for particular effects Verb forms largely correct and appropriate tenses consisused 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 Appropriateness and Content Consistently relevant. Interest aroused and sustained Tone and register entirely appropriate Descriptions have well-developed images helping to create coatmospheres Arguments are well developed, logical, even complex				
		Narratives are complex, sophisticated, possibly tense, and macontain devices such as flashbacks	ay			
Band 7	23–26	Accurate writing: occasional errors are either slips or caused ambition; appropriate to chosen task type Quality of Language • Sentence structures show some variation to create some natural fluency • Occasional slips in verb forms or tense formation, but seconsistent 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 som evidence of planning Appropriateness and Content • Relevant. Interest aroused and mostly sustained • Tone and register appropriate • Descriptions have interesting images and a range of detail, he to create effective atmospheres • Arguments have clearly defined, cohesive, logical stages in the development • Narratives have effective detail creating character or setting, a may contain some sense of climax	quence f elping eir			

© UCLES 2018 Page 10 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks
Band 6	19–22	Mostly accurate writing; errors from ambition do not mar clar communication; mostly appropriate to chosen task type	ity of
		Quality of Language	
		 Some variety of sentence structures, but a tendency to resentence types may produce a monotonous effect 	peat
		Errors may occur in irregular verb forms, but control of te sequence sufficient to sustain clear progression of event ideas	
		 Simple vocabulary mainly correct; errors may occur with ambitious words 	more
		 Punctuation generally accurate and sentence separation correctly marked, but errors may occur, e.g. with direct spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; some errors in m 	
		ambitious words	ore
		 Paragraphs may show some unity, although links may be absent or inappropriate 	
		Appropriateness and Content	
		Relevant. Some interest aroused, although there may be som of originality and/or planning	e lack
		 Tone usually appropriate, although there may be slips of regis Descriptions have satisfactory images, ideas and details whic 	
		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 sent 	ences

© UCLES 2018 Page 11 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks
Band 5	15–18	 Writing is sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning, with patches of clear, accurate language; sufficiently appropriate for chosen task type Quality of Language Some variety of sentence length and structure, not always 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 sent 	or s for
		 Punctuation used but not always helpful; occasional sent separation errors Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; errors in more dif words Paragraphs used but may lack unity or coherence 	
		 Appropriateness and Content Attempt to address topic but there may be digressions or failur logic; may lack liveliness and interest Tone may be uneven Descriptions have some detail but may rely too much on narra Arguments have mainly relevant points but may be only partial developed, with some repetition Narratives are largely a series of events with only occasional of character and setting 	ative Ily
Band 4	11–14	Overall meaning never in doubt, but errors sufficiently freque serious to hamper precision and distract reader from content Quality of Language • 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 under some idiomatic errors likely • Simple punctuation usually accurate, but there may be fresentence separation errors • Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate, frequent errors in difficult words • Paragraphs used haphazardly	rstood; equent
		 Appropriateness and Content 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 always logical; some obvious repetition of ideas Narratives are simple, everyday or immature 	not

© UCLES 2018 Page 12 of 14

Question		Answer	Marks
Band 3	7–10	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'	
		 Quality of Language Sentences probably simple and repetitive in structure Frequent errors in verb forms and haphazard changes of confuse meaning 	tense
		 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 	
		 Appropriateness and Content 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 argum progresses only here and there Narratives are very simple and may narrate events indiscriming 	
Band 2	3–6	Sense usually decipherable but some errors will be 'multiple' requiring the reader to re-read and re-organise); meaning may partly hidden by density of linguistic error	
		 Quality of Language Unlikely to be more than a few accurate sentences, hower simple, in the whole essay 	ver
		Appropriateness and Content	
		 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 	

© UCLES 2018 Page 13 of 14

Question	Answer		Marks	
Band 1	1–2	Scripts almost entirely or entirely impossible to recognise as pieces of English writing; whole sections make no sense at all		
		 Quality of Language Where occasional patches of relative clarity are evident, 2 mark(s) should be given 	2 or 1	
		 Appropriateness and Content Arguments are rarely relevant and may well be disordered, as Descriptions and Narratives 	are	
Band 0	0	Insufficient to meet the criteria for Band 1		

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