

Cambridge IGCSE™

ARABIC		0544/41
Paper 4 Writing		May/June 2020
MARK SCHEME		
Maximum Mark: 50		
	Published	

Students did not sit exam papers in the June 2020 series due to the Covid-19 global pandemic.

This mark scheme is published to support teachers and students and should be read together with the question paper. It shows the requirements of the exam. The answer column of the mark scheme shows the proposed basis on which Examiners would award marks for this exam. Where appropriate, this column also provides the most likely acceptable alternative responses expected from students. Examiners usually review the mark scheme after they have seen student responses and update the mark scheme if appropriate. In the June series, Examiners were unable to consider the acceptability of alternative responses, as there were no student responses to consider.

Mark schemes should usually be read together with the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers. However, because students did not sit exam papers, there is no Principal Examiner Report for Teachers for the June 2020 series.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the June 2020 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™ and Cambridge International A & AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of 26 printed pages.

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Generic Marking Principles

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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.

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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).

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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.

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1 General Marking Principles

1.1 Crossing out:

- (a) If a candidate changes his/her mind over an answer and crosses out an attempt, award a mark if the **final** attempt is correct.
- **(b)** If a candidate crosses out an answer to a whole question but makes no second attempt at it, mark the crossed out work.
- **1.2** For Questions 2 and 3, if the candidate has written an answer in the space provided for that purpose, you should ignore anything written anywhere else, unless:
 - (i) there is an indication from the candidate that other material should be considered
 - (ii) the candidate has continued their answer outside the space provided
 - (iii) there is no answer in the space provided
- **1.3** Annotation used in the Mark Scheme and/or Marking:
 - (a) tc = 'tout court' and means that on its own the material is not sufficient to score the mark.
 - **(b)** BOD = Benefit of the Doubt and is used to indicate material considered by the Examiner and judged to be more correct than incorrect: the benefit of the doubt is given to the candidate and the mark is awarded.

1.4 No response and '0' marks

Award NR (No Response):

- If there is nothing written at all in the answer space or
- If there is only a comment which does not in any way relate to the question being asked (e.g. 'can't do' or 'don't know') or
- If there is only a mark which isn't an attempt at the question (e.g. a dash, a question mark).

Award 0:

- If there is any attempt that earns no credit. This could, for example, include the candidate copying all or some of the question, or any working that does not earn any marks, whether crossed out or not.
- **1.5 Optional questions:** you must mark all questions attempted by the candidate. Where a question has not been attempted then a NR must be entered. (For Question 3 only, after marking the question(s) the candidate has answered, NR is populated automatically when you click on 'Complete'.) Where the candidate attempts more than one of the alternatives in Question 3, scoris will automatically only aggregate the candidate's best result.

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Question Answer	Marks
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Question 1

Candidates are required to list 8 items in Arabic. Read all of the items that the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:

- 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

NB the pictures provided on the question paper are only suggestions. Accept any item the candidate could find in a neighbourhood or a town.

Generic mark scheme for Question 1

- Answers should be marked for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies provided the message is clear:
 - (a) 'If in doubt, sound it out': if you read what the candidate has written, does it sound like the correct answer?
 - (b) Look-alike test: does what the candidate has written look like the correct answer?
 - (c) Ignore any article.

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Question		Answer	Marks
1	What are the things th	at you see at the sports shop?	5
		أنت الآن في دكان الرياضة. ماذا يمكنك أن ترى؟ اكتب قائمة ب 8 أشياء باللغة العربية.	
	The following are exam	ples. Accept any item the candidate could see in the sport shop.	
	جوارب		
	حذاء رياضة		
	كرة قدم		
	قبعة		
	كرة سلة		
	مضرب		
	خيمة		
	شورت		
	منشفة		
		Total for Question 1: 5 marks	

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Question	Answer	Marks			
Question 2	uestion 2				
Candidates	are required to answer the question. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows:				
	unication: award a mark out of 10, according to the instructions in 2.1. age: award a mark out of 5, according to the instructions in 2.2.				
2	2.1: Award a mark out of 10 for Communication	15			
	1 mark per item communicated (covering the 3–5 tasks) up to a maximum of 10				
	(i) Place the appropriate 'numbered' tick as close as possible to each relevant communication point.				
	 (ii) Award ticks flexibly across the tasks for each piece of relevant information conveyed, up to a maximum of 10. HOWEVER, each of the tasks must be covered to get the 10 communication marks: If 1 of the tasks is missing, the maximum communication mark is 9. If 2 of the tasks are missing, the maximum communication mark is 8 (and so on). 				
	(iii) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 10 for Communication.				
	(iv) For COMMUNICATION be tolerant of verbs/tenses/spelling (for spelling, use 'rules' in Question 1: look alike, sound alike, etc.).				
	(v) <u>LISTS</u> = a maximum of 3 marks for communication: lists of 1–3 items = 1 mark; lists of 4 items = 2 marks; lists of 5–6 items = 3 marks				
	(vi) Only reward each piece of information once.				
	(vii) Do not penalise factual errors.				

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Question	stion Answer					
2	Write a I	letter to your friend about work experience.				
		أنت تقوم بخبرة العمل لمدّة أسبوع. اكتب رسالة قصيرة (80–90 كلمة) إلى صديقك عن أسبوع خبرة العمل.				
	Task	Accept				
	1	متى تقوم بخبرة العمل؟				
		في إجازة المدرسة/في الصيف				
	When do you do the work experience? (1 mark) Reward: The Identification of any suitable time, e.g. the summer, half term, Christmas. Accept: specific dates.					
	2	أين تقوم بخبرة العمل؟ ولماذا؟ في مستشفى لأني أريد أن أكون طبيباً Where do you work and why? (1 + 1 marks) Reward: the identification of the place, e.g. hospital, a hotel, at your grandparent's shop. Reason: it is near the centre of town, near my house. Accept any reasonable answer.				
	3	ما الأنشطة التي تقوم بها خلال أسبوع خبرة العمل؟				
		في اليوم الأول أزور المكان وأتدرب، وأيضاً أتكلم مع المرضى وأجيب على المكالمات الهاتفية.				
		What activities do you do during the week of work experience? (1 + 1 + 1 marks) Reward: The identification of at least three activities e.g. in the first day, I visit the place and get training, then talk to patients and answer phone calls etc.				

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Question	Answer		Marks
2	4	كيف ستذهب إلى مكان العمل؟ ولماذا؟ سأذهب بالدراجة لأنه قريب من بيتي/ بالسيارة لأنه بعيد. How will you go? Why? (1 + 1 + 1 marks) Reward: I will go by bike as it is close to my house/ by car as it is far 1 mark for how he will get there, 1 mark for future, 1 mark for the reason) (1 floating mark to be awarded for elaboration in points 1 or 2)	

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Question		Answer	Marks		
2	2.2: Award a mark out of 5 for Language				
	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> (Appendix 1)).				
	Grade descriptors for Language (Question 2)				
	5	Straightforward vocabulary and structure. The style of writing is basic, but reasonably coherent. Confident use of a varied range of verbs, generally successful. The majority of the response is accurate.			
	4	Basic vocabulary and structure. Some awareness of verb usage, but inconsistent. The writing is sufficiently accurate for meaning to be conveyed.			
	3	Very basic vocabulary and structure. Little awareness of verb usage (e.g. verbs that are incorrectly used: verb-subject agreement). Despite regular errors, the writing often conveys diverse meaning (e.g. not repeated adjectives)			
	2	A few phrases or short sentences are accurate enough to be comprehensible. Very simple sentence structure.			
	1	Disjointed words or short phrases, two or more of them accurate enough to be comprehensible.			
	0	One or two disjointed words or short phrases may be recognisable.			
	*Co	nsider the whole answer when awarding mark for language			
		Total for Communication: 10 marks Total for Language: 5 marks Total for Question 2: 15 marks	\$		

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)	Answer	Marks
1	Answer	Mark

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Question 3

Question

Candidates answer 1 question from a choice of 3. Read the whole answer and award marks as follows:

• Communication: award a mark out of 10, according to the instructions in 3.1.

Language: award a mark out of 8 for Verbs, according to the instructions in 3.2.

award a mark out of 12 for Other linguistic features, according to the instructions in 3.3.

For question-specific guidance, see later in this mark scheme.

3.1: Award a mark out of 10 for Communication

Place up to 2 'numbered' ticks as close as possible to each relevant communication point (see tables below for details):

When two 'reactions' are required in Question 3:

- If the reaction carries same meaning, consider it one reaction, e.g.: سعيد ومسرور is considered one reaction.
- If it carries two different meaning consider it two reactions even if it was listed. e.g.: سعيد ومتُعب could be considered two reactions.
- (i) The mark scheme will identify 5 tasks for each Question 3 (please note 'tasks; may not correspond to bullet points' on the question paper). In accordance with the mark scheme, award up to a maximum of 2 ticks for each of these 5 tasks.
- (ii) For each relevant communication point, use the appropriate numbered tick and place up to 2 of these ticks as close as possible to each relevant communication point (see session-specific tables for further guidance).

2 ticks	ticks Message clearly communicated. Minor errors (adjective endings, use of prepositions etc.) are tolerated	
1 tick	Communication of some meaning is achieved, but the message may be ambiguous or incomplete.	
0 ticks	Nothing of worth communicated.	

(iii) Add up the ticks to give a mark out of 10 for Communication. Where communication of the task is not achieved, do not annotate script.

For each task identified in the mark scheme, reward the best attempt, **but only** reward a single attempt.

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Question

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Answer	N	/larks

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Guidance on awarding marks for Communication

كيف تغضي أيام العطلة عادة؟ Example 1:

Candidate's response	Ticks for Communication	Reason for mark
نعم قضيت العطلة.	0	Nothing of worth communicated.
أَنَا نَعَمَلُ في مكتب أبي،	1	Some meaning conveyed – use of تعملُ makes message ambiguous.
عملتُ في مكتب أبي.	2	Message clearly communicated.

أين تذهب للتسوق ومع من؟ :Example 2:

Candidate's response	Ticks for Communication	Reason for mark
مع من ذهبت للشبوق.	0	Nothing of worth communicated.
دهبت للتسوق في المدينة.	1	Some meaning is conveyed but the task is incomplete.
ذهبت للسوق مع صديقي في المدينة.	2	Message clearly communicated.

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Question	Answer	Marks
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Session-specific instructions for Communication marks (Question 3):

3 steps to award Communication marks:

- (1) Check against Communication task (table) Has the task been attempted? (no attempt → no Comm. tick)
- (2) Find the best attempt at the task
- (3) In that task, is the message clear (2 ticks) or unclear (1 tick) or absent (0 ticks)? (see example table above)

Place up to 2 'numbered' ticks as close as possible to each relevant communication point:

2 ticks	Message clearly communicated. Minor errors (adjective endings use of prepositions etc.) are tolerated.			
1 tick	Communication of some meaning is achieved but the message may be ambiguous or incomplete.			
0 ticks	Nothing of worth communicated.			

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Question		Answer		Marks
3(a)		It some toothache and did not go to school for two days. ا letter to your cousin about your visit to the dentist. م في أسنانك ولم تذهب إلى المدرسة لمدّة يومين. للة إلى ابن عمّك مستعيناً بالنقاط التالية:		30
	Task	Accept	Mark	
	1	صف عيادة طبيب الأسنان. (شرح) Describe the dentist's clinic. Reward : It is a big, crowded, clean and modern clinic. Accept any sensible description.	2	
	2	ماذا كان رأي طبيب الأسنان؟ (رأي) What was the dentist's opinion? Reward : Any opinion expressed in the past tense; he said I eat too many sweets and the tooth has to be taken out. Insist on opinion.	2	
	3	ما الأطعمة الصحية التي يجب أن تتناولها؟ (شرح) What is the healthy food you should eat? Reward : I have to eat vegetables and fruits and stay away from sugary meals. Accept any sensible suggestions.	2	

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Question		Answer		Marks
3(a)	4	كيف ستتعلم الدروس التي لم تحضرها؟ (مستقبل) How will you make up for the lessons you missed? Reward: I will ask my friends and teachers, and I will revise the lessons. Insist on future tense.	2	
	5	ماذا كان شعور أصدقائك عندما رجعت إلى المدرسة؟ (ماضي) How did your friends feel when you returned to school? Reward: they were very happy and excited to see me back at school. Insist on past tense.	2	

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Question	II	Answer		Marks
3(b)		lass has won a school competition last year. In article to the Youth magazine. في مسابقة مدرسية السنة الماضية. آ لجريدة الشباب موضّحاً فيها:	فاز صفّك ا	30
	Task	Accept	Mark	
	1	اذكر نوع المسابقة. (شرح) State the type of competition. Reward: Any kind of competition held in schools. Accept any sensible type.	2	
	2	ماذا فعلتَ ليفوز صفك في المسابقة؟ (ماضي) What did you do to help your class win the competition? Reward: Allow any sensible act, such as; decorated the class, practised daily, scored top marks in general knowledge competition. Insist on past tense.	2	
	3	صف المدرسة يوم المسابقة. (شرح)	2	
		Describe the school on the day of the competition. Reward: Any good description of the school on the day; The school was full of action, head teacher was going from one class to another, and the teams were getting ready. Accept any sensible description.		

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Question		Answer	Marks
3(b)	4	2 (ماضي) (ماضي) كالجائزة التي فاز بها صفك؟ (ماضي) كالمائزة التي فاز بها كالمائزة التي فاز بهائزة التي ف	
	5	2 كيف ستحتفل مع عائلتك بالفوز؟ (مستقبل) How will you celebrate your success with your family? Reward: I will go to a restaurant, theatre, or have a party etc. Insist on future tense.	

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Question		Answer		Marks
3(c)	Write a	story starting with 'suddenly, I met my friend Omar who left town five years ago…'		30
		، صديقي عمر الذي ترك المدينة منذ خمس سنوات القصة مستعيناً بالنقاط الآتية:		
	Task	Accept	Mark	
	1	(شعور) (شعور) المعور المعور) How did you feel when you saw Omar? Reward: I was very excited; I did not recognise him at the beginning. Accept any sensible feeling.	2	
	2	كيف تعرفت على عمر في الماضي؟ (ماضي) How did you meet Omar in the past? Reward: We used to go to the same school, we were neighbours, we were in the same basketball team. Insist on past tense .	2	
	3	ما سبب سفر عمر إلى مدينة أخرى؟ (شرح) What is the reason for Omar's travelling to another city? Reward: he had to move with his parents as his dad had a new job. Accept any sensible reason.	2	
	4	صف شكل عمر الآن. (شرح) Describe how Omar looks like nowadays. Reward: he is much taller with a moustache and he wears glasses now. Accept any sensible description.	2	

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Question		Answer		Marks
3(c)	5	ماذا ستفعل مع عمر خلال زیارته؟ (مستقبل) What will you do with Omar during his visit? Reward: We will go to visit our old school, go to lunch together, or play a game of basketball. Insist on future tense.	2	

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Question	Answer	Marks
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3.2: Award a mark out of 8 for accurate use of Verbs

Generic mark scheme for accurate use of verbs (Question 3):

- Place a tick above the first occurrence of each correct verb, up to a maximum of 18 ticks (details of how to award ticks are provided below).
- (ii) Convert the total number of ticks to a mark out of 8 using the Conversion table below.

Conversion table for accurate use of Verbs (Question 3)

Number of ticks	Mark
18+	8
16, 17	7
14, 15	6
12, 13	5
10, 11	4
8, 9	3
6, 7	2
4, 5	1
0, 1, 2, 3	0

© UCLES 2020 Page 20 of 26 Question

Answer	Marks
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How to award ticks for accurate use of Verbs (Question 3):

- (a) Subject (noun or pronoun) + any finite verb
 - both subject and verb must be correct for the verb to score a tick
 - verb must be in the appropriate tense to score a tick
 - inaccuracies in the writing of hamza (*)
 - do not tick verbs contained in the 'letter etiquette': appropriate beginnings and endings to letters are considered for reward under Other linguistic features
 - verb must be in the appropriate tense to score a tick (see session-specific tables on tenses).

Tick	No tick	Note
(√)، ألعبُ (√)، تلعبُ (√)يلعبُ		
لعبتُ (٧)، لعبتَ (٧)، لعبَ (٧)		
سوف أسافر (√)، سأكتب (√)، قد أرحل (√)		

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Question		Answer		Marks	
Singular ve	Singular verb used correctly with the following plural noun subject				
Tick		No tick	Note		
	يلعب (√) الأولاد	يلعبوا (no tick) الأولاد			
	يأكل (√) الأولاد ويلعبوا (√)				
Feminine s	Feminine singular verb with non-human plural				
Tick		No tick	Note		
	سبحت (٧) الأسماك	سبحوا (no tick) الأسماك			
Compound verbal expression					
Tick		No tick	Note		
	کان یشرب (2√)				
With negative					
Tick		No tick	Note		
	لم يكتب (√) الوظيفة	يكتب لم (no tick) الوظيفة			

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Question		Answer		Marks
Verb with a	appropriate possessive pro	noun suffix		
Tick		No tick	Note	
	أكلها (٧) / قرأه (٧)			
Correct ve	rb within meaningless state	ement		
Tick		No tick	Note	
	أكل (٧) الولد التقّاحة	أكل (no tick) الولد البيت	do not reward correct verb in a meaningless statement	
(b) Imperat	tive			
Tick]	No tick	Note	
	تعال (√)، لاتلمس (√)			
(c) Infinitiv	/e			
Tick		No tick	Note	
	أريد (√) أن أذهب (√)			
	أريد (√) أن تذهب (no tick)			

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Question	Answer	Marks
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(d) Reward only the first occurrence of a verb if verb appears to be in the same form with the same subject, e.g.

- أحب (√) السّباحة. و أحب (no tick) التنس أيضاً.
- أحب (\checkmark) السّباحة. \checkmark أحب (no tick) التنس. أحب (\checkmark) السّباحة. وأخي يحب (\checkmark) السّباحة. وأخي يحب (\checkmark)

3.3: Award a mark out of 12 for Other linguistic features

- Award a mark out of 12 for Other linguistic features, according to the Grade descriptors in the table below (please see Note on using mark schemes with Grade descriptors (Appendix I)).
- (ii) Consider the extent to which the following are used correctly and appropriately when assessing the candidate's control of structures:
 - Adjectives, including possessives and demonstratives. Also comparatives and superlatives
 - اهذا / هذه) and demonstrative pronouns (قال لي / قال لي) and demonstrative pronouns
 - Negatives
 - Interrogatives
 - Use of correct iDaafa construction
 - Linking of nouns with $\frac{1}{2}$ in quasi-possessive construction
 - (ان / ین) Case endings for dual
 - Case endings for sound masculine plural (ون / ين)
 - Use of broken plural
 - Use of accusative alif (1)
 - A variety of prepositions and adverbs (except اجدا
 - Expressions of quantity time and numbers
 - و etc.) and conjunctions other than لسوء الحظ، على كل حال) Linking words
 - Subordinate clauses, including التي، الذي، لأن (relative pronouns). Indirect or reported speech (قال ذلك). Time clauses إذا etc. and بينما، عندما with
 - Appropriate writing style (e.g. letter, article, narrative/descriptive)
 - Inaccuracies in the writing of hamza (\$\varphi\$) are ignored.
 - Misspelling of proper nouns in the case of a person's name or a town or place other than a country should be tolerated.

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Question	tion Answer	
Grade de	scriptors for Other linguistic features (Question 3)	
11–12	 Uses a wide range of structures effectively; produces longer, fluent sentences with ease. Highly accurate at this level, though not necessarily faultless. Makes effective use of a wide range of vocabulary fully appropriate to the task. 	
9–10	 Attempts a range of structures with a good degree of success. More complex language usually error-free^^. Uses a variety of relevant vocabulary at this level. 	
7–8	 In control of simple structures. Varied success with more complex structures. Accuracy is fairly consistent throughout*. Errors may occur when more ambitious language is attempted. Has sufficient vocabulary to add some interest to the writing. 	
5–6	 Attempts more than basic structures. On balance, the work is more accurate than inaccurate. Straightforward vocabulary relevant to the task. 	
3–4	 Reliant on basic structures. Some examples of correct language. Meaning usually conveyed. Basic vocabulary. 	
1–2	A few phrases or short sentences are accurate enough to be comprehensible. Very simple sentence structure.	
0	One or two disjointed words or short phrases may be recognisable.	
	Total for Communication (0

Total for Communication: 10 marks

Total for Verbs: 8 marks

Total for Other linguistic features: 12 marks
Total for Question 3: 30 marks

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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, use the following guidance:

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

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