Qu	Pt	Marking Guidance	Marks
1	1	**Marks are for AO1 (understanding)**	6

Level of response question

Level	Description	Mark Range
3	Responses demonstrate a clear understanding of the differences between high and low-level programming languages by discussing a broad range of advantages and disadvantages of high-level programming languages when compared with low-level ones. There will be explicit comparison of the two types of languages throughout the response. Answers in this band are likely to offer clear examples of when each type of language would be beneficial but this is not necessary to gain the highest marks.	5–6
2	Responses demonstrate some understanding of the differences between high and low-level programming languages by discussing a small number of advantages and disadvantages of high-level programming languages when compared with low-level ones. In order to gain marks at the top of this band, there should be some direct comparison of the two types of languages present in the response but this may not be throughout.	3–4
1	Responses demonstrate some awareness of the differences between high and low-level programming languages by stating a small number of features of high level or low-level programming languages. These may not be presented as advantages or disadvantages. There is unlikely to be any clear comparison of the two types of languages but there is evidence of a limited understanding of the concept.	1–2
0	Nothing creditworthy is written	0

Indicative Content

Advantages of high-level languages / Disadvantages of low-level languages
- High-level languages may be processor agnostic // low-level languages are processor (family) specific.
- High-level languages are written in a form designed to be easier for humans to interpret // High-level languages are more abstracted from how the processor operates.
- High-level languages often have extra features such as abstract data types and built-in functions.
- High-level languages may have a wider range of programming structures (eg loops) available.
- High-level languages are easier to understand/write/debug/maintain than low-level languages // uses English-like kewords.

- Programs written in high-level language are quicker to write/develop.
- More tools for developing high-level languages are likely to exist // low-level languages might have fewer tools available to aid development.
- Some high-level languages (eg SQL) are designed for solving specific types of problem (as they provide domain specific features).

Advantages of low-level languages / Disadvantages of high-level languages
- Not all low-level languages need to be translated, all high-level languages do.
- Low-level language programs are likely to use less memory when executing.
- Low-level language programs may execute faster than (equivalent) high-level language programs.
- Low-level language programs can directly interact with / control hardware.

A. Examples, eg *"a program written in Python can be interpreted and executed on many types of processor".*
A. Points expressed the other way around.