

Cambridge International AS & A Level

Paper 1 Reading
Maximum Mark: 50

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 May/June 2024 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

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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 descriptions 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).

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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English & Media subject specific general marking principles

(To be read in conjunction with the Generic Marking Principles (and requiring further guidance on how to place marks within levels))

Components using level descriptors:

- We use level descriptors as a guide to broad understanding of the qualities normally expected of, or typical of, work in a level.
- Level descriptors are a means of general guidance, and should not be interpreted as hurdle statements.
- Where indicative content notes are supplied for a question, these are *not* a prescription of required content, and must not be treated as such. Alternative correct points and unexpected answers in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the knowledge and skills demonstrated.
- While we may have legitimate expectations as to the ground most answers may occupy, we must at all times be prepared to meet candidates on their chosen ground, provided it is relevant ground (e.g. clearly related to and derived from a relevant passage/text and meeting the mark scheme requirements for the question).

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English Language specific marking instructions:

AO1 Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts. (Understanding)

- Marks should be awarded for the accuracy of the candidate's understanding of the text and its features, not for any analysis of them which is recognised under AO3.
- Where comparison is required, marks should be awarded for the candidate's recognition of similarities and differences between the texts and their features, **not** for any consequent analysis.
- When awarding a 'best-fit' mark within a Level for each AO, consider each bullet point equally.

AO2 Write effectively, creatively, accurately and appropriately, for a range of audiences and purposes. (Writing)

- Marks should be awarded equally on the basis of the level of the candidate's written expression (range of features used and accuracy) and the
 development of their writing (its organisation and relevance to task and audience).
- When awarding a 'best-fit' mark within a Level for each AO, consider each bullet point equally.

AO3: Analyse the ways in which writers' and speakers' choices of form, structure and language produce meaning and style. (Analysis)

- Marks should be awarded equally on the basis of the level of the candidate's analysis of the text's elements (form, structure and language) and of the writer's stylistic choices (including how style relates to audience and shapes meaning).
- When awarding a 'best-fit' mark within a Level for each AO, consider each bullet point equally.

In response to **Question 1(a)**, candidates are required to write between 150 and 200 words. While there is no direct penalty for failing to adhere to this requirement, examiners should consider this an aspect of the response's 'relevance to purpose'. As such, adherence to the word limit is assessed as part of the second bullet point of AO2.

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Section A: Directed response

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Read the following text, which is an article about bird conservation from a newspaper website.	10
	Your teacher has asked you to give a speech to your classmates about the action that your community can take to help protect the local population of wild bird species. Write the text for the opening of your speech. Use 150–200 words.	
	Mark according to the levels of response marking criteria in Table A.	
	Additional guidance:	
	The comments below are illustrative and are not intended to be exhaustive. Candidates may make other valid comments that should be credited.	
	Responses might feature the following:	
	 form, audience, purpose, style, conventions, language and structure will be appropriately adapted to suit the task content may include key factual information about the wild birds, as expressed in the passage, as well as other relevant ideas 	
	• tone will be used to have an impact on the reader and to create an effect.	

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Section A: Directed response

Question	Answer	Marks
1(b)	Compare your speech opening with the article, analysing form, structure and language.	15
	Mark according to the levels of response marking criteria in Table B.	
	Additional guidance:	
	The comments below are illustrative and are not intended to be exhaustive. Candidates may make other valid comments that should be credited.	
	Candidates may organise their response in any appropriate way. They are not required to focus on form, structure and language in separate sections.	
	Responses might compare and analyse the following:	
	 Form the typical text conventions used in the original article and the candidate's speech opening the ways in which the different purposes affect the content and style of the two texts the ways in which the article and the speech opening appeal to the respective intended audiences, e.g. through the tone and register used in each text any other relevant aspect of the form of the two texts 	
	 Structure beginning the extract with a reference to a poet gives the writing a lyrical sense the use of a personal narrative to enhance the structure the way in which paragraphs are sequenced to present the personal viewpoint alongside facts the way in which the text shifts focus from the poet's views to facts and statistics, and between those and the narrator's viewpoint the effect of including quotations from activists and concerned individuals varying paragraph length and how this enables the writer to place greater emphasis on short, one-sentence, paragraphs the way in which the final paragraph is used to prompt action in the reader and emphasise the positive impact of birds on human lives any other relevant structural features in the text 	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(b)	 Language the use of first-person pronouns enables the reader to see things from the writer's perspective the personal views and emotions expressed enable the reader to connect with the writer – I love birds – how they bring me joy and give me wings the list of positive effects that birds have on the writer – how they enlarge my world, slow me down, make me listen the use of the interrogative to urge action – can we, the human race, in all our commerce and carbon-burning, somehow save our winged cousins? – further aided by the reference to birds as family members the use of formal vocabulary and sentence structures to highlight the importance of saving bird species the use of imperatives to convey suggestions for safeguarding – Keep domestic cats indoors, and affix silhouetted hawk decals to windows the use of a lexical field associated with loss – decline, extinction, at risk, die each year the effect of the positive language used in the final paragraph – a backyard full of birds creates greater human satisfaction than a modest pay raise, bring happiness and improved health any other relevant language features in the text. 	

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Marking criteria for Section A Question 1(a)

Table A

Level	AO1: Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts. 5 marks	AO2: Write effectively, creatively, accurately and appropriately, for a range of audiences and purposes. 5 marks
5	 Sophisticated understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Insightful reference to characteristic features 5 marks 	 Sophisticated expression, with a high level of accuracy Content is fully relevant to audience and purpose; ideas are developed throughout in a sophisticated manner 5 marks
4	 Detailed understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Effective reference to characteristic features 4 marks 	 Effective expression, with a few minor errors which do not impedecommunication Content is relevant to audience and purpose; ideas are developedin an effective manner 4 marks
3	 Clear understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Clear reference to characteristic features 3 marks 	 Clear expression, with occasional errors which do not impede communication Content is relevant to audience and purpose; ideas are developed clearly 3 marks
2	 Limited understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Limited reference to characteristic features 2 marks 	 Expression is clear but may not flow easily, with frequent errors which generally do not impede communication Content is mostly relevant to audience and purpose; ideas are developed in a limited manner 2 marks
1	 Basic understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Minimal reference to characteristic features 1 mark 	 Basic expression, with frequent errors which impede communication Content may lack relevance to audience and purpose; minimal development of ideas 1 mark

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0	No creditable response	•	No creditable response	
	0 marks		0 marks	,

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Marking criteria for Section A Question 1(b)

Table B

Level	AO1: Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts. 5 marks	AO3: Analyse the ways in which writers' and speakers' choicesof form, structure and language produce meaning and style. 10 marks
5	 Sophisticated comparative understanding of texts (meaning/context/audience) Insightful reference to characteristic features 5 marks 	 Sophisticated comparative analysis of elements of form, structure and language Sophisticated analysis of how the writers' stylistic choices relate to audience and shape meaning 9–10 marks
4	 Detailed comparative understanding of texts (meaning/context/ audience) Effective reference to characteristic features 4 marks 	 Detailed comparative analysis of elements of form, structure and language Detailed analysis of how the writers' stylistic choices relate to audience and shape meaning 7–8 marks
3	 Clear comparative understanding of texts (meaning/context/audience) Clear reference to characteristic features 3 marks 	 Clear comparative analysis of elements of form, structure and/or language Clear analysis of how the writers' stylistic choices relate to audience and shape meaning 5–6 marks
2	 Limited understanding of texts (meaning/context/audience), with limited comparison Limited reference to characteristic features 2 marks 	 Limited analysis of form, structure and/or language, with limited comparison Limited analysis of how the writers' stylistic choices relate to audience and shape meaning 3–4 marks

Level	AO1: Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts. 5 marks	AO3: Analyse the ways in which writers' and speakers' choicesof form, structure and language produce meaning and style. 10 marks
1	 Basic understanding of texts (meaning/context/audience), with minimal comparison Minimal reference to characteristic features 1 mark 	 Minimal analysis of form, structure and/or language, with minimal comparison Minimal analysis of how the writers' stylistic choices relate to audience and shape meaning 1–2 marks
0	No creditable response 0 marks	No creditable response 0 marks

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Section B: Text analysis

Question	Answer	Marks
2	Read the following text, which is a piece of travel writing about a journey through the Himalayas.	25
	Analyse the text, focusing on form, structure and language.	
	Mark according to the levels of response marking criteria in Table C.	
	Additional guidance:	
	The analysis should address the style, form, genre, structure and languageof the text (including specific and relevant references), explaining how they create meaning in relation to audience and purpose. The comments below are illustrative and are not intended to be exhaustive. Candidates may make other valid comments that should be credited. Candidates may organise their response in any appropriate way. They are not required to focus on form, structure and language in separate sections.	
	Responses might analyse the following:	
	 Form the typical text conventions used in this piece of travel writing the ways in which the purpose affects the content and style of the text the ways in which the article appeals to its intended audience, e.g. through the tone and register used in the text any other relevant aspects of the text's form 	
	 Structure the use of a heading to introduce the extract - date, places on the journey - and set it in context the way in which the opening paragraph clearly establishes the setting and humorous tone of the passage the way in which the text is structured to interlace personal anecdote and cultural details the use of a chronological structure, as the writer describes his day emerging the way in which the concluding paragraph is structured to suggest the true marvels of the Himalayas are yet to come any other relevant structural features in the text 	

Question	Answer	Marks
2	 the way in which facts and details about the area and surroundings are used by the writer the effect of the metaphoric language - personification of the slopes as red and angry; the simile to describe the peaks of the Central Himalayas as like white-topped waves in a frozen ocean the effect of the description of Buddhist artwork as rich tradition of imaginative painting the use of a lexical field concerned with the harshness of life for people living in this environment – etched on the faces, Skin is weathered and faces prematurely aged, noses running and cheeks red and rough from the sun the effect of listing such as the qualities of the rock formations and the items of clothing worn by the locals the use of reported speech that enables the writer to involve the guide, Migmar, in telling this travel story the use of amusing details to keep the reader engaged - an energy-consuming nocturnal strip, a yak calf helping itself to a bowl of water which has been put outside my room the connotations of the phrase The full majestic spread in the final paragraph the effects of contrasting the harsh life of the people with the beauty of their clothing and dance, and the decoration on buildings any other relevant language features in the text. 	

Marking criteria for Section B Question 2

Table C

Level	AO1: Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts. 5 marks	AO3: Analyse the ways in which writers' and speakers' choices of form, structure and language produce meaning and style. 20 marks
5	 Sophisticated understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Insightful reference to characteristic features 5 marks 	 Analysis is sophisticated, coherent and very effectively structured Insightful selection of elements of form, structure and language for analysis Sophisticated awareness of writer's stylistic choices, including how style relates to audience and shapes meaning Uses precise and fully appropriate language to link evidence with explanatory comments 17–20 marks
4	 Detailed understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Effective reference to characteristic features 4 marks 	 Analysis is detailed, coherent and effectively structured Effective selection of elements of form, structure and language for analysis Detailed awareness of writer's stylistic choices, including how style relates to audience and shapes meaning Uses effective and appropriate language to link evidence with explanatory comments 13–16 marks
3	 Clear understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Clear reference to characteristic features 3 marks 	 Analysis is clear, coherent and well structured Appropriate selection of elements of form, structure and language for analysis Clear awareness of writer's stylistic choices, including how style relates to audience and shapes meaning Uses clear and appropriate language to link evidence with explanatory comments 9–12 marks
2	 Limited understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Limited reference to characteristic features 2 marks 	 Limited analysis, with some structure and limited coherence Some appropriate selection of elements of form, structure and/or language for analysis Limited awareness of writer's stylistic choices Attempts to use appropriate language to link evidence with explanatory comments 5–8 marks

Level	AO1: Read and demonstrate understanding of a wide variety of texts. 5 marks	AO3: Analyse the ways in which writers' and speakers' choices of form, structure and language produce meaning and style. 20 marks
1	 Basic understanding of text (meaning/context/audience) Minimal reference to characteristic features 1 mark 	 Basic analysis, with minimal structure or coherence Minimal selection of elements of form, structure and language for analysis Minimal awareness of writer's stylistic choices Minimal use of appropriate language to link evidence with explanatory comments 1-4 marks
0	No creditable response 0 marks	No creditable response 0 marks