

Cambridge IGCSE™

PHYSICS
Paper 3 Core Theory
MARK SCHEME
Maximum Mark: 80

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 2021 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level 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 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).

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.

Science-Specific Marking Principles

- 1 Examiners should consider the context and scientific use of any keywords when awarding marks. Although keywords may be present, marks should not be awarded if the keywords are used incorrectly.
- 2 The examiner should not choose between contradictory statements given in the same question part, and credit should not be awarded for any correct statement that is contradicted within the same question part. Wrong science that is irrelevant to the question should be ignored.
- Although spellings do not have to be correct, spellings of syllabus terms must allow for clear and unambiguous separation from other syllabus terms with which they may be confused (e.g. ethane / ethene, glucagon / glycogen, refraction / reflection).
- 4 The error carried forward (ecf) principle should be applied, where appropriate. If an incorrect answer is subsequently used in a scientifically correct way, the candidate should be awarded these subsequent marking points. Further guidance will be included in the mark scheme where necessary and any exceptions to this general principle will be noted.

5 'List rule' guidance

For questions that require *n* responses (e.g. State **two** reasons ...):

- The response should be read as continuous prose, even when numbered answer spaces are provided.
- Any response marked *ignore* in the mark scheme should not count towards *n*.
- Incorrect responses should not be awarded credit but will still count towards *n*.
- Read the entire response to check for any responses that contradict those that would otherwise be credited. Credit should **not** be awarded for any responses that are contradicted within the rest of the response. Where two responses contradict one another, this should be treated as a single incorrect response.
- Non-contradictory responses after the first *n* responses may be ignored even if they include incorrect science.

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6 Calculation specific guidance

Correct answers to calculations should be given full credit even if there is no working or incorrect working, **unless** the question states 'show your working'.

For questions in which the number of significant figures required is not stated, credit should be awarded for correct answers when rounded by the examiner to the number of significant figures given in the mark scheme. This may not apply to measured values.

For answers given in standard form (e.g. $a \times 10^n$) in which the convention of restricting the value of the coefficient (a) to a value between 1 and 10 is not followed, credit may still be awarded if the answer can be converted to the answer given in the mark scheme.

Unless a separate mark is given for a unit, a missing or incorrect unit will normally mean that the final calculation mark is not awarded. Exceptions to this general principle will be noted in the mark scheme.

7 Guidance for chemical equations

Multiples / fractions of coefficients used in chemical equations are acceptable unless stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

State symbols given in an equation should be ignored unless asked for in the question or stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

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Α	1. Correct	✓		F	1. Correct	✓	
	2. Correct	✓	2	(4 responses)	2. Correct	✓	2
	3. Wrong	×			3. Correct	*	_
					CON (of 3.)	(discount 3)	
В	1. Correct, Correct	✓, ✓					
(4 responses)	2. Correct	✓	3	G	1. Correct	✓	
	3. Wrong	ignore		(5 responses)	2. Correct	✓	
					3. Correct	✓	3
					Correct	ignore	
C	1. Correct	✓			CON (of 4.)	ignore	
(4 responses)	2. Correct, Wrong	√, x	2				
	3. Correct	ignore					
				H	1. Correct	✓	
				(4 responses)	2. Correct	*	2
D	1. Correct	✓			3. CON (of 2.)	(discount 2)	_
(4 responses)	2. Correct, CON (of 2.)	x, (discount 2)	2		Correct	✓	
	3. Correct	✓					
				ı	1. Correct	✓	
E	1. Correct	✓		(4 responses)	2. Correct	×	1 .
(4 responses)	2. Correct	✓	3	, , ,	3. Correct	✓	2
,	3. Correct, Wrong	√	⊣		CON (of 2.)	(discount 2)	

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RM Assessor3 annotations:

annotation	suggested use
tick	mark awarded (note the ticks are added up next to the tick annotation, check the total you enter agrees)
cross	no mark awarded
SEEN	indicates page seen
BOD	benefit of doubt given
NBOD	no benefit of doubt given
on page comment	gives a text box to write comment –much easier to use than in the previous version of RM assessor
ECF	error carried forward
^	omission mark
?	unclear
U UU	unit penalty applied unit penalty not applied because already applied earlier in same question

annotation	suggested use
wavy line (horizontal or vertical)	used to highlight a particular point
CON	contradiction
NAQ	not answered question
PD	poor diagram
SF	error in number of significant figures significant figure error not penalized.
SFSF	significant figure error flot perfalized.
POT	power-of-ten error
TV	too vague
I	ignore
SC	special case

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NOTES ABOUT MARK SCHEME SYMBOLS & OTHER MATTERS

M marks	are method marks upon which further marks depend. For an M mark to be scored, the point to which it refers must be seen in a candidate's answer. If a candidate fails to score a particular M mark, then none of the dependent marks can be scored.
B marks	are independent marks, which do not depend on other marks. For a B mark to scored, the point to which it refers must be seen specifically in the candidate's answers.
A marks	In general, A marks are awarded for final answers to numerical questions. If a final numerical answer, eligible for A marks, is correct, with the correct unit and an acceptable number of significant figures, all the marks for that question are normally awarded.
C marks	are compensatory marks in general applicable to numerical questions. These can be scored even if the point to which they refer are not written down by the candidate, provided subsequent working gives evidence that they must have known it. For example, if an equation carries a C mark and the candidate does not write down the actual equation but does correct substitution or working which shows that they knew the equation, then the C mark is scored. A C mark is not awarded if a candidate makes two points which contradict each other. Points which are wrong but irrelevant are ignored.
Brackets ()	around words or units in the mark scheme are intended to indicate wording used to clarify the mark scheme, but the marks do not depend on seeing the words or units in brackets e.g. 10 (J) means that the mark is scored for 10, regardless of the unit given.
<u>Underlining</u>	indicates that this must be seen in the answer offered, or something very similar.
OR / or	indicates alternative answers, any one of which is satisfactory for scoring the marks.
e.e.o.o.	means 'each error or omission'.
o.w.t.t.e.	means 'or words to that effect'.
Ignore	indicates that something which is not correct or irrelevant is to be disregarded and does not cause a right plus wrong penalty.
Spelling	Be generous about spelling and use of English. If an answer can be understood to mean what we want, give credit. However, beware of and do not allow ambiguities: e.g. spelling which suggests confusion between reflection / refraction / diffraction or thermistor / transistor / transformer.
Not/NOT	indicates that an incorrect answer is not to be disregarded, but cancels another otherwise correct alternative offered by the candidate i.e. right plus wrong penalty applies.
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e.c.f. means 'error carried forward'. This is mainly applicable to numerical questions, but may occasionally be applied in non-

numerical questions if specified in the mark scheme.

This indicates that if a candidate has made an earlier mistake and has carried an incorrect value forward to subsequent stages

of working, marks indicated by e.c.f. may be awarded, provided the subsequent working is correct.

Significant Figures

Answers are normally acceptable to any number of significant figures ≥ 2 . Any exceptions to this general rule

will be specified in the mark scheme.

Units Deduct one mark for each incorrect or missing unit from an answer that would otherwise gain all the marks available for

that answer: maximum 1 per question. No deduction is incurred if the unit is missing from the final answer but is shown correctly in the working. Condone wrong use of upper and lower case symbols, e.g. pA for Pa. Use the annotation U to

signify where a unit penalty has been applied.

Arithmetic errors Deduct only one mark if the **only** error in arriving at a final answer is clearly an arithmetic one. Regard a power-of-ten error as

an arithmetic one.

Transcription errors

Deduct only one mark if the only error in arriving at a final answer is because given or previously calculated

data has clearly been misread but used correctly.

Fractions Only accept these where specified in the mark scheme.

Crossed out work Work which has been crossed out and not replaced but can easily be read, should be marked as if it had not been crossed

out.

Use of **NR** (# key on the keyboard) Use this if the answer space for a question is completely blank or contains no readable words, figures

or symbols.

Annotation

To increase marking transparency, reduce the number of enquiries about results and assist team leaders, the following is <u>mandatory</u>:

• For **all** questions with two or more marks, examiners should tick to indicate where each credit is awarded.

• For questions with one mark, examiners do not need to annotate the script to indicate that credit is awarded.

• Any text annotation or annotation in a comment box should never contain -1 or allow a possible misinterpretation that negative marking was applied.

Normally place the ticks close to where the mark is scored.

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Α1

B1

2(.0)

m/s

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Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	1000 – 400	C1
	600 (m)	A1
1(b)	stationary / not moving / zero speed / at rest, etc.	B1
1(c)	CD	B1
	steep(est (gradient) OR larger distance in smaller time idea	B1
1(d)	(average speed =)(total) distance ÷ (total) time in any form	C1
	1000 ÷ 500	C1

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	any three from: (put some coins) on top of each other OR in a stack idea measure the (total) thickness (of stack) 10 or more coins thickness (of one coin) = total thickness / 'length' ÷ number of coins	В3
2(b)(i)	(D) = M \div V in any form	C1
	52.5 ÷ 5.4	C1
	9.7(2) (g / cm ³)	A1
2(b)(ii)	floats AND coin is less dense (than mercury) ora	B1

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Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	70 – 15	C1
	55 (N)	A 1
3(b)	streamline / friction / drag / air resistance	M1
	reduce (owtte) friction / drag / air resistance	A 1

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)(i)	balance	B1
4(a)(ii)	ruler	B1
4(b)	mass = 5(.0) kg	B1
	$(W =) m \times g OR 5(.0) \times 10$	C1
	50 (N)	A1
4(c)(i)	240 (cm ²)	B1
4(c)(ii)	$(P =) F \div A \text{ in any form}$	C1
	60 ÷ (20 × 12) OR 60 ÷ 240	C1
	0.25 (N / cm ²)	A1

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M1

A1

Question

5(a)

5(b)

5(c)

Α

any three from:

suspend from different hole

lower centre of mass owtte

repeat step 1 owtte centre of mass is where lines cross

mark 2 x's behind string AND join x's with a line

marked on line of symmetry approximately where navel located

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Answer

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Marks
В3
B1

Question		Answer	Marks
6(a)	property	object	
	conductor	copper wire OR aluminium foil OR iron nail	B1
	insulator	cotton cloth OR wooden block OR plastic strip OR paper bag OR glass rod	B1
	non-magnetic	a wooden block	B1
	magnetic material	iron nail	B1
	can be charged by rubbing with a cloth	plastic strip OR glass rod	
6(b)	(liquid-in-glass) thermometer		B1
	manometer		B1
	measuring cylinder		B1

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Question	Answer	Marks
7(a)	any three from: convection (currents) (candle) heats air (warm) air less dense (warm) air rises (rising / moving) air pushes on fan	В3
7(b)(i)	strip curved downwards	B1
7(b)(ii)	bimetallic strip curves upwards	B1
	bell rings OR switches circuit on owtte	B1

Question	Answe	Marks
8(a)(i)	hot/molten rocks	B1
8(a)(ii)	kinetic (to)	B1
	electrical	B1
8(b)(i)	Any two from: no sulphur dioxide OR acid rain produced no carbon dioxide / greenhouse gases produced OR no (contribution to) global warming no need to transport coal renewable (energy source) no fuel costs	B2
8(b)(ii)	locations limited / land instability / distribution costs high / water pollution / smaller energy output / rocks may cool (over time)	B1

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Question	Answer	Marks
9(a)(i)	b	B1
9(a)(ii)	С	B1
9(b)	ray from lamp extended to mirror as straight line (by eye)	M1
	ray reflected to car B	A1

Question	Answer	Marks
10(a)(i)	(electric) current	B1
10(a)(ii)	tick in third box A ₁ is equal to A ₃	B1
10(b)(i)	resistors in parallel	B1
	connected to battery AND correct circuit symbol for battery	B1
10(b)(ii)	same brightness / if one fails the rest are still lit / lamps can be switched off independently / same p.d. across owtte	B1
10(c)(i)	potential divider / potentiometer	B1
10(c)(ii)	dimmer / change light output / intensity	B1
10(c)(iii)	move the slider	B1
	varies p.d. (across lamp)	B1

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1 ODEIONED				
Question	Answer	Marks		
11(a)	strong(er) magnet	B1		
	move (magnet) more quickly / faster movement	B1		
	more turns / coils (per unit length)	B1		
11(b)(i)	(soft) iron	B1		
11(b)(ii)	$V_p / V_s = N_p / N_s$ in any form	C1		
	$(V_s =) 240 \times 50 / 1000$	C1		
	12 (V)	A1		

Question	Answer	Marks
12(a)(i)	gamma OR	B1
12(a)(ii)	alpha OR	B1
12(b)	same atomic number / Z / number of protons	B1
	different nucleon number / A / number of neutrons	B1
12(c)	idea of 2 half-lives	C1
	1/4	A 1

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