

**MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2009 question paper**  
**for the guidance of teachers**

**0544 FOREIGN LANGUAGE ARABIC**

**0544/04**

Paper 4 (Continuous Writing), maximum raw mark 50

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 must be read in conjunction with the question papers and the report on the examination.

- CIE will not enter into discussions or correspondence in connection with these mark schemes.

CIE is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2009 question papers for most IGCSE, GCE Advanced Level and Advanced Subsidiary Level syllabuses and some Ordinary Level syllabuses.

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**Total marks for paper: 50**

25 marks per question. Each question is marked over a maximum of 140 words.

**1 Communication: 5 marks**

Put a stroke in the left hand margin for each of the 5 relevant points.  
Record 0 for a failure to score a point.

**2 Language: 15 marks**

The approach to marking is positive, candidates are rewarded for accuracy and quality of language. Errors are not penalised. The total number of ticks should be recorded at the foot of the page and converted to a mark out of 15 using the conversion table at the end of the mark scheme.

**3 General Impression: 5 marks**

The pro rata mark based on the language mark should serve as the first guide. This mark should be adjusted up or down by one mark where this is justified by positive or negative qualities of the candidate's work.

- 0–1 Does not rise above the requirements for the Directed Writing Task in Paper 2.
- 2 Fairly good use of idiom, vocabulary, structures and appropriate tenses.
- 3 Good use of the above.
- 4 Very good use of the above.
- 5 Excellent use of the above.

**Recording of marks**

Marks should be recorded at the end of the answer as follows:

Communication	+	Language	+	General Impression	=	Total
e.g. 4/5	+	10/15	+	3/5	=	17/25

Enter each of the two marks on the front of the Script and record the total out of 50.

Please ensure that these marks are checked carefully, especially the conversion of ticks to marks for language.

**Counting words**

- (a) In letters ignore any address or date. Ignore also any title which the candidate has invented. No marks may be gained for the above.
- (b) Count up to exactly 140 words. Award no more marks thereafter, either for Communication or Language. But see note (e).
- (c) A word is defined as a group of letters surrounded by a space. Conjunctions and prepositions that combine with the following word (e.g. ل، و، ف) are not counted as separate words.
- (d) All numbers count as one word each whether written as figures or as words.
- (e) Indicate the 140th word by | |.

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### Repetition of material printed in the rubric

Such sections of the rubric which might score no marks for language are discussed at the Examiners' Coordination Meeting.

### Irrelevant material

In the case of a deliberately evasive answer which consists almost entirely of irrelevant material exploited in defiance of the rubric, a score of 0/25 is given. These are rare in IGCSE. 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 Accuracy and Impression. Examiners in doubt should contact the Principal Examiner during the marking period. When part of an answer is clearly irrelevant, include such material in the word count, but bracket it and award no Accuracy marks.

## MARKS FOR RELEVANT COMMUNICATION

### General principles

- (a) Do not award communication marks when the required elements are expressed in inappropriate tenses.
- (b) Bracket and exclude from the word count any letter etiquette in Question 2 when a letter is not asked for.

A maximum of 5 marks is available for each of the two questions.

## LANGUAGE MARKS

### General Comments

This positive marking scheme is intended to reward both accuracy and ambition. No marks are deducted for errors. There is no 'impression marking'

### Marking Units

Ticks are awarded for correct Marking Units of which each element is correct. The tick is recorded over the scoring word.

A Marking unit may consist of the correct use of any of the following items:

- A verb, with or without an expressed subject (noun or pronoun) and with or without a suffixed object pronoun. Extra marks are available for the use of negative expressions and the interrogative
- A compound verbal expression (e.g. كان يشرب)
- An independent noun
- A noun with suffixed possessive pronoun
- A noun + adjective phrase
- An independent adjective or adjectival phrase
- Two or more nouns in an *iDaafa* relationship, with or without associated adjective(s)
- Any pronoun, including relative pronouns
- All adverbs
- All conjunctions (except و)

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See below for details

Inaccuracies in the writing of *hamza* (ء) are ignored.

Units containing consequential errors are not rewarded. However, if two marks or more are lost due to a minor error of spelling or a faulty gender, the Examiner should place + in the right hand margin and take it into account when awarding the Impression Mark.

Misspelling of proper nouns in the case of a person's name or a town or place other than a country should be tolerated.

### Letter Etiquette

Award ticks for Language up to a maximum of 5 for prelearnt stock phrases at the start of a letter, and up to 3 at the end of a letter.

Do not reward 'letter etiquette' for Language when a letter is not required.

### A VERBS

Verb used in appropriate tense and person, with or without expressed subject = 1

Singular verb used correctly with following plural noun subject = 1 + 1

Feminine singular verb used correctly for non-human plural = 1 + 1

Verb used appropriately with correct associated preposition (e.g. التحق ب ) = 1 + 1

Verb with appropriate use of سوف، س، قد، = 1 + 1

Compound verbal expression (e.g. كان يشرب ) = 1 + 1

Negative verb constructed with correct negative particle (لن، لم، لا،) = 1 + 1

Verb with appropriate pronoun suffix = 1 + 1

Feminine singular suffix used for non-human plural = 1 additional tick

### B NOUNS

Noun used with appropriate possessive pronoun suffix = 1

Feminine singular suffix used for non-human plural = 1 additional tick

Feminine noun without *taa' marbuuTa* treated as feminine (e.g. أرض) = 1

Correct broken plural used = 1

Correct use of accusative *alif ʾ* = 1

Correct case endings for sound masculine plural (ون، ين) = 1

Correct case endings for dual (ان، ين) = 1

2 nouns linked correctly in *iDaafa* construction = 2

Additional noun used in complex *iDaafa* = 2 + 1

*iDaafa* construction with 2 nouns + adjective = 2 + 1

Linking of nouns with *li-* in quasi-possessive construction = 2

N.B. No credit is given for a singular noun, or for a sound feminine plural noun, with or without the definite article, except as described above.

### C ADJECTIVES

Correct use of plural adjective, e.g. كبار = 1

Use of feminine adjective to refer to non-human plural = 1

Correct use of comparative construction (with من) = 2

Correct use of superlative construction = 2

Adjective used in correct position with correct agreement in noun + adjective phrase = 2

N.B. No credit is given for the independent use of singular adjectives, except as described above.

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## D PRONOUNS

All pronouns other than subject pronouns (e.g. أنا) are ticked when used correctly.  
هي, هو are ticked only when used as 'links' (e.g. هذا هو البيت = 1 [demonstrative] + 1)

Correct use of suffixed object pronoun = 1

Preposition + suffixed pronoun = 1

Relative pronoun used in correct form = 1

Omission of relative pronoun in indefinite relative clause = 1

Demonstrative pronoun used in correct form (e.g. هذا) = 1

Treatment of non-human plurals as feminine singular = 1 additional tick

## E PREPOSITIONS

All prepositions are ticked when used correctly

Preposition with noun = 1

Preposition + suffixed pronoun = 1

Preposition + suffixed feminine singular pronoun for non-human plural = 1 + 1

Verb with correct associated preposition = 1 + 1

## F ADVERBS

All adverbs and adverbial expressions used correctly (including adverbial expressions formed with ب) gain one tick, except جدًا

## G CONJUNCTIONS

Appropriate use of conjunction (except و) = 1

و correctly used in 'حال' construction = 1

## H NUMBERS AND TIME

Use of simple number (e.g. 3–10, 20) in correct form (masc/fem) = 1

Compound number (e.g. 15, 27) in correct form = 1 + 1

Number used with following noun in correct form (sing/plural) = 1 additional tick

Simple time expression (e.g. 'six o'clock') = 1

Complex time expression ('half past six', 'five to six' etc) = 1 + 1

## I INTERROGATIVES

Appropriate use of question word (including هل) = 1

Singular accusative used after كم = 1 + 1

Agreement of أي = 1 + 1