

MARK SCHEME for SPECIMEN PAPER 4

0544 Foreign Language Arabic

0544/04 Paper 4 (Continuous Writing), maximum mark 50

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and students, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners would initially be instructed to award marks, subject to further discussions (e.g. in light of script evidence) at examiner coordination meetings.

All Examiners are instructed that alternative correct answers and unexpected approaches in candidates' scripts must be given marks that fairly reflect the relevant knowledge and skills demonstrated.



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

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Each essay is marked out of 25, making a total of 50 marks awarded for the paper.

Marks for each essay are awarded under the following headings:

COMMUNICATION: 5 marks

- Q1 (a)** Ticks will be awarded in the right hand margin up to a maximum of 5. 1 tick available for each of the 4 guidelines in the question and then 1 left over to be awarded for an appropriate beginning and ending to the letter.
- (b)** Ticks will be awarded in the right hand margin up to a maximum of 5. 1 tick available for each of the 4 guidelines in the question and then 1 left over to be awarded for an appropriate beginning and ending to the letter.
- Q2** This composition allows candidates to use their imagination. Ticks will be awarded in the right hand margin, up to a maximum of 5, for each point relevant to the bullet points which the candidates are asked to write about.

LANGUAGE: 15 marks

The approach to marking is positive, candidates are rewarded for accuracy and quality of language. Errors are not penalised.

The 15 marks for accuracy will be divided into:

Vocabulary: 5 marks

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| 5 marks | Consistently accurate, with a wide range of vocabulary and expressions used, including some more difficult or unusual words correctly spelt, with occasional minor slips. Good and appropriate use of idioms. |
| 4 marks | Not as consistently accurate nor as wide a range as the highest level, but a good range of words and expressions attempted, with some idioms and mostly correctly used. |
| 3 marks | A more limited range with mostly easy words and expressions used. Or a wide range of expressions used with many errors, some inappropriately used. |
| 2 marks | Substantially limited and inaccurate words and expressions used despite several examples of correctly written words. |
| 1 mark | Substantially limited, with only isolated examples of correctly used words and expressions. |

Accuracy of grammar and structures: 10 marks

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| 9/10 marks | Highly accurate including use of more complex structures, but with occasional minor slips. |
| 7/8 marks | Accurate in use of simpler structures, except for occasional more serious errors/more frequent slips. |
| 5/6 marks | Generally accurate, but with increased incidence of more serious errors. |
| 3/4 marks | Substantially inaccurate, despite several examples of accurate usage. |
| ½ marks | Substantially inaccurate, with only isolated examples of accurate usage. |

GENERAL IMPRESSION: 5 MARKS

The good candidate will be further rewarded for the use of 'extended' language in making the points of relevant communication, ie by using a range of vocabulary and structure or idioms to clarify or define further the points made. 5 marks are available for impression.

The examiner has to decide whether the candidate has used vocabulary and structures which go beyond the minimum required to convey adequately the thought involved and has so given him/herself greater flexibility or self-expression.

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| 5 marks | Comprehensive range of vocabulary and idiom with more complex language predominant. |
| 4 marks | Considerable variety of vocabulary and idiom with more complex language clearly in evidence. |
| 3 marks | Some variety of vocabulary and idiom with several items of more complex language. |
| 2 marks | Limited variety of vocabulary and idiom with occasional more complex language. |
| 1 mark | Only isolated examples of variety of vocabulary and idiom and more complex language. |