

Mark Scheme for June 2010

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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 marks were awarded by Examiners. It does not indicate the details of the discussions which took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking commenced.

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.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and the Report on the Examination.

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Information about and understanding of topics,
texts and issues

40 marks for each essay (AO4)
[Grid 6A]

Quality of Language

20 marks for each essay (AO3)[Grid 6B]

The following general principles apply to the marking of the Culture and Society paper in all languages.

- 1 **Assessment criteria:** All scripts are to be marked in accordance with the assessment criteria below (Grids 6A and 6B).
- 2 **Marking:** Examiners are asked:
 - (a) to single underline all language errors
 - (b) to indicate omissions by a caret sign (^)
 - (c) to indicate superfluous or unclear material by a wavy line.
- 3 **Comments:** Examiners are asked to write **no comments** at all on the scripts. However, in certain cases it may be helpful to attach comments on a separate sheet when an explanation of the allocation of marks may be deemed necessary.
- 4 **Length:** There is no limit on the number of words to be written per essay, no penalties, therefore, are to be imposed.

Essays which are too short should be assessed as normal; the shortness will usually be self-penalising.

5 **Rubric infringements:**

Where candidates write their essays based on the same text or topic, only the better of the two should be marked.

In such cases the action taken by the examiner must be clearly shown at the foot of the essay, and the words **RUBRIC INFRINGEMENT** written on the front cover. There is no need to mark such scripts for the attention of the Team Leader.

Any other cases of rubric infringements should be drawn to the attention of the Team Leader.

- 6 **Reference to the country:** Both the Aims and the Assessment Objectives of the specification indicate that essays in Section C must relate to "**a country where the language studied is spoken**". It is acknowledged that some of the topic titles have international application, but each title in the specification specifically refers to the country/countries in question. There is, therefore, no excuse for essays which do not refer to the country/countries studied. It should be noted in this respect that, with the exception of those topic areas asterisked in the specification, **any** country where the language is spoken is acceptable for the purposes of this paper (eg Francophone Africa, Austria, Latin America).

Essays which make no or little reference to the country/countries in question may be awarded no more than 7 marks on both grids.

- 7 **Indication of marks:** At the end of each essay, the examiner must show the mark awarded under each separate grid, and the resulting total, which should be ringed.

eg

6A	15	17	32
6B	6	7	13
			45

Add the two totals out of 60 together to get an overall mark out of 120. Divide this by two (rounding up any $\frac{1}{2}$ marks) to get a final total out of 60. Indicate this on the front cover of the answer script.

eg



$$45 + 38 = 83 = \mathbf{42}$$

Grid 6A (1) Information about topics, texts, relevance and appropriateness of response **40 marks**

0-3 Very Poor

Extremely brief and/or very inadequate answer. Little or no knowledge of the text/topic. Frequent irrelevance. A very superficial treatment of the task.

4-7 Poor

The candidate has a limited grasp of the text/topic. Some material but little attempt to organise it or answer the question. There are omissions and some irrelevancy in completing the task.

8-11 Adequate

Evidence that the candidate has understood the text/topic presented. The essay has a preponderance of content but there is evidence of ability to recognise the central issues. Rather dull treatment of the task.

12-15 Good

Evidence of thought and preparation showing a sound knowledge of the text/topic, supported by factual knowledge. Mainly relevant to the task and demonstrating some imagination and/or originality (where appropriate).

16-18 Very Good

The text/topic is used and pointed to the question, the general issues pertinent to the text/topic have been taken into account in response to the question. There is evidence of an ability to produce an imaginative and/or original response to the task (where appropriate).

19-20 Excellent

Intelligent use of factual information, clarity, sense of control. Clear evidence of thoughtful evaluation of texts/topics. A precise and thorough response to the task showing insight into the text/topic.

Grid 6A (2) Understanding of topics, texts and issues, structure and development of ideas. 20 marks

0-3 Very Poor

May have great difficulty communicating at this level in the foreign language. Ideas presented at random. Sequence illogical with no development of an argument and no ability to draw conclusions.

4-7 Poor

Little attempt to structure the work. Some sequence in facts presented, but a weakness in paragraphing and no real build-up of an argument to a conclusion. Rambling and disjointed.

8-11 Adequate

Ideas generally organise in a structured way and some ability to organise into paragraphs and sequence the argument, although somewhat superficial.

12-15 Good

Some ability to develop ideas and opinions even if without much sophistication. Clear line of thought with competent development of argument. Ideas mostly well-linked and some ability to draw conclusions.

16-18 Very Good

The essay has an argument and develops a case but there may be some limitations in scope. There is a clear line of thought and/or evidence of an ability to draw conclusions.

19-20 Excellent

Well-balanced and coherent piece with an excellent introduction and good organisation with clarity and a sense of control. Ideas clearly linked and well-developed. Thoughtful work.

Grid 6B Quality of language**10 marks****Grammatical accuracy****10 marks****1-2 Very Poor**

Little evidence of grammatical awareness. Persistent serious and elementary errors in endings, tenses, genders.

3-4 Poor

Evidence of gaps in basic grammar. Frequent errors of an elementary kind, eg irregular verbs frequently not known; adjectival agreements and common genders faulty.

5-6 Adequate

Shows evidence of fair understanding of grammatical usage but performance is likely to be patchy and inconsistent. Attempts more complex language but work is characterised by being inconsistent and with variable accuracy. Expression rather forced and problems with correct word order.

7-8 Good

Accuracy generally consistent. Shows sound grasp of A2 structures list. Tenses and agreements sound although there may be some inconsistency and errors in more complex areas.

9-10 Very Good

High and quite consistent level of accuracy. Confident and correct use of the full range of structures contained within the specification. Only minor errors of spelling which do not affect the morphology.

Range, variety and appropriateness**10 marks****1-2 Very Poor**

Very limited vocabulary. Frequent anglicisms. Very limited range of structures. Only simplest sentence patterns.

3-4 Poor

Narrow range of vocabulary. Frequent repetition of common words. Some attempt at more complex sentence patterns, but errors still even in common structures.

5-6 Adequate

Some attempt to extend range of vocabulary, but still rather repetitive. Shows some ability to produce syntax and structures appropriate to the task.

7-8 Good

Good range of vocabulary, with little repetition. A positive attempt to introduce variety. Ambitious in use of a variety of complex sentence patterns, but not always able to maintain correct usage.

9-10 Very Good

Apt use of a wide range of vocabulary. Able to use idiom appropriately. Confident use of a wide range of complex sentence patterns and structures.

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