

GCSE

English (Northern Ireland)

Unit **A633/01**: Information and Ideas (Foundation Tier)

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Mark Scheme for June 2016

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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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SECTION A READING



Question 1 *Polar bear invasion*

CRITERIA

Candidates should demonstrate that they can:

- Read and understand texts, selecting material appropriate to purpose, collating from different sources (AO2 i).

Question		Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
1	(a)	<p>Award one mark for each of the following, up to a maximum of two:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bears gather annually / the gathering is an annual event • at Churchill River / Hudson Bay [Do not credit 'Canada' on its own] • chance to study bears / their behaviour • a benefit for tourism 	2	<p>The question is focused on facts related to the gathering. Do not credit points from the final sentence.</p> <p>There is no premium on own words in this answer. <i>Selective</i> copying is acceptable. Credit only 1 point per box. Tick correct answers.</p>
	(b)	<p>Award one mark for each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tourism • research / study 	2	<p>The question is focused on the benefits arising from the gathering. Do not credit points from the final sentence.</p> <p>There is no premium on own words in this answer. <i>Selective</i> copying is acceptable. Credit only 1 point per box. Tick correct answers.</p>
	(c)	<p>Award one mark for each of the following, up to a maximum of two:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides insights (into their wanderings) • migrations / wanderings are annual • bears travel thousands of miles • travel over tundra / ocean / and back again • some bears are from eastern Canada • some reach Greenland / islands off Norway 	2	<p>The question is focused on facts relating to the bears' migrations.</p> <p>There is no premium on own words in this answer. <i>Selective</i> copying is acceptable. Credit only 1 point per box. Tick correct answers.</p>

Question	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
1 (d)	<p>Candidates may refer to some of the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. may be affected by climate change 2. ice melts earlier each spring / sometimes in March / affecting bears' habitat 3. shortens bears' hunting season 4. leaves them weak / thin / they go hungry 5. (studies point to) smaller bears / fewer cubs 6. pollution (perhaps partly) to blame for the above 7. bears carry excessive/harmful concentrations of chemicals 8. impact of tourism / could disturb mothers with cubs 9. attempt to control access to bears / protect the bears 10. bears see more humans 11. bears don't appear to fear humans 12. possible that humans disturb mothers / cubs 13. bears alter migration routes 14. fewer opportunities now for feeding at garbage piles / stealing food / being a nuisance 15. ...means fewer bears killed now / in the past the danger of bears getting shot 16. treaty to study / protect / save bears 	14	<p>NOTES</p> <p>Features of higher band responses (Band 4 and above) are likely to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear focus on the task • effective organisation of points • ability to express points in own words (where possible). <p>Medium band responses (Bands 5 and 6) are likely to show evidence that the task has been understood. In Band 6, points are likely to be listed mechanically without a clear focus on the question and with some lifting. 'Mechanical' responses include those which follow the passage closely, perhaps altering the occasional word or inverting sentence structures.</p> <p>Lower band responses (Bands 7 and 8) may make a good number of points but lift the material, sometimes indiscriminately.</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS</p> <p>This answer is not marked per point. Use the band descriptors and practice scripts to arrive at your mark.</p> <p>Disregard any points in 1a, 1b or 1c.</p> <p>Use the following annotations to help you arrive at your mark:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  to indicate points from the list in this table  for points not made securely REP for repeated points L M for extended lifting MR for mis-reading NAQ for irrelevant material.

Question 1d**GENERIC band descriptors******Be prepared to use the FULL range*****The band descriptors which are shaded reward performance above or below that expected on this paper.*





BAND	MARKS	DESCRIPTOR
Above 4	14 13 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear understanding of text and task • Mostly clear focus; good organisation • Consistent attempt to use own words • Good range of points clearly identified
4	11 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text and task have been understood, though there may be some unnecessary material • Generally clear focus – perhaps some blurring • Evidence of ability to express in own words (where appropriate) • A range of points clearly identified
5	9 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task generally addressed, though there may be some irrelevant material • Some lack of focus • Own words generally used, but may be some selective lifting • General understanding of a number of points
6	7 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some evidence that the task has been understood • Lacks clear focus • Points listed mechanically, with some lifting • Straightforward understanding of some of the simpler points
7	5 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only a little evidence that the task has been understood • May contain indiscriminate lifting • Some grasp of a limited number of points
8	3 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable misunderstanding of text and task • May contain much indiscriminate lifting • At the top of the band, a rudimentary understanding of only a limited number of simple points
Below 8	1 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material selected has little or no bearing on the task • Answers likely to be brief and hesitant or rambling and unstructured

Question 2 *SAVE YUPI*







CRITERIA

Candidates should demonstrate that they can:

- Explain and evaluate how writers use presentational features to achieve effects and engage and influence the reader (AO2 iii).

Question	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
2 (a)	<p>Higher Band responses [Bands 4 and above] are likely both to identify particular headings, photographs and captions to make reasonably sustained comments about the effects on the reader. At the top end there will be clear evidence that specific effects of these presentational features are being analysed rather than described or merely listed. Candidates may comment on the following: the direct address of the main heading; the striking and contrasting nature of the photographs; the emotive effects of specific words (e.g. 'miles from home', 'locked up', 'sweltering heat'); the pointed contrast provided in the captions.</p> <p>Middle Band responses [Bands 5 and 6] are likely to be characterised by a general awareness of the effects of the headings, photographs and captions, and by a descriptive rather than analytical approach. Examples at this level may be simply listed and amount to little more than feature-spotting, with some basic and generalised comment.</p> <p>Lower Band responses [Bands 7 and below] are likely to show only a rudimentary understanding of the effects of the headings, photographs and captions. Comments on presentation are likely to be basic and generalised, at the level of spotting more obvious features such as use of large fonts</p>	6	<p>NOTES</p> <p>Features of higher band answers are likely to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identification of specific features from the text • analytical comment on the effect of the features identified. <p>It is possible for concise answers demonstrating these qualities to score highly. It is important not to over-reward long answers which identify specific features or which offer only generalised comment.</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS</p> <p>Use the band descriptors and practice scripts to arrive at your mark.</p> <p>Do not reward generic comments that could be true of any media text: e.g. 'the headings are big and attract the reader': 'the pictures are colourful and draw you in'.</p> <p>Do not credit comments about the main body of the text, which is the focus of Question 2(b).</p> <p>Use the following annotations to help you arrive at your mark:</p> <p> to indicate specific features identified by the candidate</p> <p> to indicate explanations and analytical comment</p> <p> for explanations that are not fully clear</p> <p> for irrelevant material.</p>

Question	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
	and colourful pictures.		
QUESTION 2a GENERIC BAND DESCRIPTORS			
*** Be prepared to use the FULL range ***			
<i>The band descriptors which are shaded reward performance above or below that expected on this paper.</i>			
BAND	MARKS	DESCRIPTOR	
Above 4	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and reasonably sustained analytical response • Use of well-selected detail for support 	
4	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some evidence of analytical comment • Use of some appropriate details for support 	
5	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins to develop a response; mainly descriptive • Reference to some relevant detail 	
6	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some relevant comment • Reference to a little detail 	
7	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straightforward points • Features merely identified 	
8	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple points • Little, if any, specific detail 	
Below 8	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response not worthy of credit: answer brief and hesitating or rambling and lacking relevance 	

Question	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
2 (b)	<p>Higher Band responses [Bands 4 and above] are likely to explore the force of the emotive words and phrases in creating sympathy for the polar bear. The first paragraph sets the tone: ‘could not be any further from home’; ‘locked in a bare concrete enclosure’; ‘It’s no life for any creature’. Yupi is an ‘intelligent predator’ pathetically reduced to ‘pacing up and down repeatedly’. Candidates are likely to comment on the sustained contrast made between her natural habitat and her ‘small patch of concrete’. The description of the enclosure includes reference to its excessive heat, dampness and barrenness. For most of the day Yupi is ‘trapped’ in a ‘holding pen’; ‘horrific conditions of her captivity’.</p> <p>At the top end there will be some evidence that language is being analysed and comments supported by appropriate reference. At the top end there will be some evidence that language is being analysed and comments supported by appropriate reference.</p> <p>Middle Band responses [Bands 5 and 6] are likely to be characterised by a general awareness of the use of language in the article, and by a descriptive rather than analytical approach. Quotations at this level may be simply listed and/or excessive in length. Where comments on language exist, they are likely to be generalised and/or repetitive. Language features may be logged, sometimes incorrectly or vaguely (eg ‘the article uses strong verbs’).</p> <p>Lower Band [Bands 7 and below] responses are likely to show only a rudimentary understanding of the nature and purpose of the article. Comments on language are likely to be basic, generalised and in some cases erroneous. Responses may be characterised by much lifting of points and/or listing of quotations without comment or explanation. At the bottom end, there will be considerable misunderstanding of both task and text and/or almost verbatim copying of parts of the text.</p>	14	<p>NOTES</p> <p>Features of higher band answers are likely to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identification of specific information and language points • analytical comment on the effects of the points identified. <p>Good quality comment on the effects of specific words and phrases is a discriminator for this task. Answers lacking comment on language points should not be marked higher than Band 5.</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS</p> <p>Use the band descriptors and practice scripts to arrive at your mark.</p> <p>Do not over-reward answers that adopt an overly descriptive approach.</p> <p>Do not credit comments about headings, the logo and photographs that are the focus of Question 2(a).</p> <p>Use the following annotations to help you arrive at your mark:</p> <p> to indicate information points</p> <p> to indicate words/phrases specifically identified by the candidate</p> <p> to indicate explanations and analytical comment</p> <p> for explanations that are not fully clear</p> <p> for irrelevant material.</p> <p> for extended lifting</p>

QUESTION 2b GENERIC BAND DESCRIPTORS****Be prepared to use the FULL range*****The band descriptors which are shaded reward performance above or below that expected on this paper.*

BAND	MARKS	DESCRIPTOR
Above 4	14 13 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good range of points showing a secure understanding of the ways in which information and language contribute to the text's purpose • Careful supporting references and some analytical comment • Sound awareness of text and task
4	11 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of points showing a sound understanding of the ways in which information and language contribute to the text's purpose • Appropriate supporting references and an attempt at an analytical approach • Task has been addressed for the main part
5	9 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easier information points together show some understanding of the text's purpose • Comments tend to be descriptive rather than analytical, and references may be inert • Some focus on the task
6	7 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Points likely to concentrate on simpler information and basic language features • Assertions predominate, with minimal or no textual evidence in support • A little evidence that the task has been understood
7	5 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some simple descriptive points • Much indiscriminate re-telling of the content, or paraphrase • Considerable misunderstanding of the passage and/or task
8	3 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only glancing references to the task • May consist entirely of indiscriminate re-telling, without explanation or comment • Almost complete misunderstanding of passage and task
Below 8	1 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers will be brief and hesitant or rambling and unstructured • Material selected will have little or no bearing on the task







SECTION B: WRITING

Candidates answer EITHER 3 OR 4.

CRITERIA

Candidates should demonstrate that they can:

- Write to communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, using and adapting forms and selecting vocabulary appropriate to task and purpose in ways that engage the reader (AO3 i)
- Organise information and ideas into structured and sequenced sentences, paragraphs and whole texts, using a variety of linguistic and structural features to support cohesion and over coherence (AO3 ii)
- Use a range of sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate punctuation and spelling (AO3 iii).

Question	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
3	<p>Candidates should write informatively and engagingly for the magazine reader.</p> <p>Stronger responses will show some appreciation of the need to shape material consciously in order to engage the interest of the magazine readers.</p> <p>There is likely to be some evidence of an effective use of language (eg imagery, rhetorical devices) to create specific effects for an audience.</p>	40	<p>NOTES</p> <p>Length in itself is not a criterion. Short answers may be self-penalising in terms of the marking criteria (e.g. control, development of ideas, structure, paragraphing, variety of sentence structures) – but may well demonstrate significant qualities.</p> <p>However, very short answers (fewer than 50 words) should not normally be marked higher than Band 7 for either of the two marks for Writing. For AO3 (iii), there will not be sufficient evidence of correct spelling and punctuation or of a variety of sentence structures.</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS</p> <p>Use the band descriptors and practice scripts to arrive at your mark.</p> <p>Award two marks: one for AO3(i)/(ii); another for AO3(iii).</p> <p>Use the following annotations to help you arrive at your marks:</p>
4	<p>For higher bands there should be a clear sense of an argument being advanced, with illustrations drawn most likely from candidates' own experiences.</p> <p>The writing should engage the reader's interest, and there will be, for the higher bands, some evidence of crafting the writing to create specific persuasive effects when presenting their views.</p>	40	<p> for good ideas</p> <p> for good vocabulary and expression</p> <p> for errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar</p> <p> for awkward expression</p> <p> for weak sentence structure</p> <p> for omissions</p>

Note: If the candidate has answered Question 4, click on 'No Response' for both Question 3 writing elements. Then proceed to annotating/marking Question 4.
If the candidate has answered Question 3, annotate/mark this question and input the two separate marks. Then click on 'No Response' for both Question 4 writing elements.

Generic Marking Criteria for Section B: Writing

Band	Marks	Descriptors AO3i & AO3ii	Marks	Descriptors AO3iii
Above Band 4	27 26 25 24	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows generally competent control of the material but may not always convey meaning clearly when using more ambitious linguistic devices and structures. demonstrates a secure understanding of the task, addressing it in a relevant way and adapting form and style with confidence to suit audience and purpose. uses varied vocabulary to create different effects which are mainly appropriate to the purpose of the writing, conveying thought and meaning clearly. uses structure deliberately and with direction – a focused and interesting opening, events and ideas developed clearly and in some detail, an appropriate ending. uses paragraphs of varying length and structure for effect, which effectively organise and link ideas and create an overall sense of coherence. 	13 12	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses generally well controlled sentence structures which are varied in length and type and show evidence of being used deliberately to create specific effects appropriate to the task. shows secure spelling of complex regular words and generally secure spelling of irregular or more complex vocabulary. uses punctuation to enhance or clarify meaning – is accurate both within and between sentences, but may make some errors in complex sentence structures.
4	23 22 21 20	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows general control of the material; the response may be straightforward and controlled but linguistically unambitious or may lose some control in attempting something ambitious. demonstrates an understanding of the task, addressing it in a mainly relevant way with some evidence of adapting form and style to suit different audiences and purposes. uses some variety of vocabulary to create different effects and to suit the purpose of the writing, but which may be imprecise or fail to convey shades of meaning. uses structure with a sense of direction – a clear and focused opening, straightforward development of ideas, an attempt to achieve an appropriate ending. is organised into paragraphs which may be varied for effect and which are carefully linked together to make the sequence of events or development of ideas clear to the reader. 	11 10	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses sentence structures which show some variety. May tend to repeat sentence types, lose control of more ambitious structures, or make some syntactical errors. usually spells complex regular words securely; may make errors with irregular or more complex vocabulary. uses punctuation in an attempt to create some specific effects; is usually accurate for sentence separation and sometimes within sentences, but may make less secure use of speech marks, colons and semi colons.

Band	Marks	Descriptors AO3i & AO3ii	Marks	Descriptors AO3iii
5	19 18 17 16	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may not always show control of the material; the response may be simple and controlled but linguistically unambitious, or may attempt something ambitious but tend to lose control. • demonstrates some understanding of the task, addressing it in a sometimes relevant way and with some attempt to adapt form and style to suit audience and purpose. • uses vocabulary to create some limited effects, which may however be too simple to convey shades of meaning, not fully understood or not appropriate and may contain some idiomatic errors. • uses structure with some sense of direction – a generally clear and focused opening, some development of ideas, a limited attempt to achieve an appropriate ending. • uses paragraphs which may occasionally be varied for effect and/or are linked together to make the sequence of events or development of ideas fairly clear to the reader. 	9 8	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses sentence structures which show a little variety; may tend repeat sentence types, lose control of more ambitious structures, and/or include syntactical errors. • usually spells simple regular vocabulary securely but may make errors with complex regular vocabulary. • uses punctuation which sometimes helps clarify meaning, usually accurately for sentence separation and sometimes successfully within sentences.
6	15 14 13 12	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not always show control of the material; the response may have a level of linguistic error that distracts the reader from the merits of the content. • demonstrates a limited understanding of the task and addresses it with some relevance, making a limited attempt to adapt form and style to suit audience and purpose. • uses vocabulary which is sometimes chosen for variety and interest but likely to be limited in range, sometimes inappropriate and may contain some idiomatic errors. • structures writing with some sense of direction which may not be sustained; a fairly clear opening, some limited development of ideas, some sense of an ending. • uses paragraphs which create some sense of sequence for the events or the development of ideas but which may lack unity or have little or no evidence of links between them. 	7 6	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses repetitive sentence structures, which are mainly simple or compound, or lengthy with some sense of control. • usually spells simple regular vocabulary accurately but may make a number of typical errors. • sometimes uses punctuation accurately for sentence separation but has limited success with attempts to use it within sentences to clarify meaning.

Band	Marks	Descriptors AO3i & AO3ii	Marks	Descriptors AO3iii
7	11 10 9 8	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows limited control of the material; the level of linguistic error may require the reader to re-read some sentences before the meaning is clear. demonstrates a very limited understanding of the task, addressing it with occasional focus and making limited attempts to adapt form and style to suit audience and purpose. uses vocabulary to create occasional variety and interest but which is likely to be very limited in range and often inappropriate with some idiomatic errors. shows some signs of organisation and some sense of direction – a limited attempt to create an opening, very simple or rambling development of ideas, may come to a stop rather than achieving a deliberate ending. uses paragraphs which may signal only obvious development of events or ideas, or which may be haphazard and lack clear links or overall unity. 	5 4	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses simple repetitive sentence structures with little control of more complex ones and frequent syntactical faults. spells some simple regular vocabulary accurately but makes random errors. uses some basic punctuation with some success between sentences but, within sentences, usually misuses or omits it.
8	7 6 5 4 3	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> offers occasional relevant and comprehensible content, but density of linguistic error may require the reader to re-read and re-organise the text before meaning is clear. demonstrates a little awareness of the task, addressing it with intermittent focus; form and style may occasionally be appropriate to audience and/or purpose, but this is unlikely to be deliberate. uses vocabulary which is very occasionally chosen for variety and/or interest but which is very limited in range and often inappropriate, with obvious idiomatic errors. shows occasional signs of organisation and a very limited – if any – sense of direction. uses paragraphs occasionally to signal very obvious changes in the direction of events or ideas, but which may need to be re-read or re-organised before the meaning is clear. 	3 2	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses recognisable sentence structures, with some accuracy in the use of more simple ones. uses erratic spelling which may be recognisable for most words but is accurate for only a limited number. uses punctuation which is occasionally successful but is inconsistent and likely to be inaccurate.

Band	Marks	Descriptors AO3i & AO3ii	Marks	Descriptors AO3iii
Below band 8	2 1 0	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is very short or communicates very little, with some sections making no sense at all; may gain some marks where there is occasional clarity. • shows almost no awareness of task, audience or purpose. • uses vocabulary which is seriously limited. • shows almost no signs of organisation or sense of direction. • uses paragraphs – if at all – in a haphazard way such that, in spite of re-reading and re-organising, very little sense emerges. 	1 0	<p><i>In this band a candidate's writing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses spelling and punctuation so imprecisely that very little meaning is communicated.

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