

GCSE

Science A

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Unit A141/01: Unit 1: Modules B1, C1, P1 (Foundation Tier)

Mark Scheme for January 2012

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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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Annotations

Used in the detailed Mark Scheme:

Annotation	Meaning					
/	alternative and acceptable answers for the same marking point					
(1)	separates marking points					
not/reject	answers which are not worthy of credit					
ignore	ignore statements which are irrelevant - applies to neutral answers					
allow/accept	answers that can be accepted					
(words)	words which are not essential to gain credit					
words	underlined words must be present in answer to score a mark					
ecf	error carried forward					
AW/owtte	alternative wording					
ORA	or reverse argument					

Available in scoris to annotate scripts:

?	indicate uncertainty or ambiguity
[4])	benefit of doubt
CON	contradiction
×	incorrect response
1444	error carried forward
0	draw attention to particular part of candidate's response
2000	no benefit of doubt

R	reject
✓	correct response
L1 , L2 , L3	Allocate level of response.
^	information omitted

Subject-specific Marking Instructions

- a. If a candidate alters his/her response, examiners should accept the alteration.
- b. Crossed out answers should be considered only if no other response has been made. When marking crossed out responses, accept correct answers which are clear and unambiguous.

E.g.

For a one mark question, where ticks in boxes 3 and 4 are required for the mark:

Put ticks (\checkmark) in the two correct boxes.	Put ticks (\checkmark) in the two correct boxes.	Put ticks (\checkmark) in the two correct boxes.
		₹
		姥
*	✓	✓
*	*	✓
This would be worth 1 mark.	This would be worth 0 marks.	This would be worth 1 mark.

c. The list principle:

If a list of responses greater than the number requested is given, work through the list from the beginning. Award one mark for each correct response, ignore any neutral response, and deduct one mark for any incorrect response, e.g. one which has an error of science. If the number of incorrect responses is equal to or greater than the number of correct responses, no marks are awarded. A neutral response is correct but irrelevant to the question.

d. Marking method for tick boxes:

Always check the additional guidance.

If there is a set of boxes, some of which should be ticked and others left empty, then judge the entire set of boxes.

If there is at least one tick, ignore crosses. If there are no ticks, accept clear, unambiguous indications, e.g. shading or crosses.

Credit should be given for each box correctly ticked. If more boxes are ticked than there are correct answers, then deduct one mark for each additional tick. Candidates cannot score less than zero marks.

E.g. If a question requires candidates to identify a city in England, then in the boxes

Edinburgh	
Manchester	
Paris	
Southampton	

the second and fourth boxes should have ticks (or other clear indication of choice) and the first and third should be blank (or have indication of choice crossed out).

Edinburgh			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Manchester	✓	×	✓	✓	✓				✓	
Paris				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Southampton	✓	×		✓		✓	✓		✓	
Score:	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	NR

- e. For answers marked by levels of response:
 - i. Read through the whole answer from start to finish
 - ii. **Decide the level** that **best fits** the answer match the quality of the answer to the closest level descriptor
 - iii. To determine the mark within the level, consider the following:

Descriptor	Award mark
A good match to the level descriptor	The higher mark in the level
Just matches the level descriptor	The lower mark in the level

d. Use the L1, L2, L3 annotations in Scoris to show your decision; do not use ticks.

Quality of Written Communication skills assessed in 6-mark extended writing questions include:

- appropriate use of correct scientific terms
- spelling, punctuation and grammar
- developing a structured, persuasive argument
- selecting and using evidence to support an argument
- considering different sides of a debate in a balanced way
- logical sequencing.

Q	uestic	on		Ans	wer		Mai	rks	Guidance
1	(a)		tremor / clumsiness / r concentrate / mood ch		loss / ir	nability to	1	1	accept any other valid symptom, eg lack of coordination, lack of body control, lack of balance, dementia ignore muscle problems, disability, dizziness,
	(b)	(i)				sha's ther	2	2	mother hh (1) father H h (1)
					h	h			
			Alesha's	Н	Hh	Hh			
			father	h	hh	hh			
	(b)	(ii)	0.5				1	1	
	(c)		for: enable her to plan children / may qualify to against: stressful / res want to know / may lea	or help ults not	(1) 100% re	eliable /	may not	2	ignore 'to see if she has it' [= stem] / damages the embryo for - so she can look for treatment anti - any reasonable suggestion [spec makes no reference to details of the testing] - accept 'testing may have side effects' - so she can live a normal life - so she can just deal with it if it comes - ethically wrong eg believes it is against God's will if the 'for' and the 'anti' are not stated, use the context of the answer to decide.
							Total 6	6	

Q	uesti	on	Answer	Marks	Guidance
2	(a)	(i)	3:2 3 to 2	1	do not credit 6:4 allow to or / or – in place of the colon NOT 2:3 or 2/3 ignore 1.5 by itself, but accept 1.5:1
		(ii)	76%	1	
	(b)		any two from: fewer [short plants] stated or implied (1) neither parent was short (1) parents were carriers (of short allele) (1) need two short alleles to be short (1) tall plants are dominant (1)	2	assume unspecified plants are short plants.
	(c)		closer to (1) more plants (1)	2	
			Total	6	

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
3 (a)	[Level 3] Recognises that Thomas and James have identical genes. Describes and explains at least one difference due to environmental effects. Quality of written communication does not impede communication of the science at this level. (5 – 6 marks) [Level 2] States that Thomas and James inherit the same genes from both parents, but may confuse identical and non-identical twins. Links at least one difference to environmental effects, even if the word 'environment' is not used. Quality of written communication partly impedes communication of the science at this level. (3 – 4 marks) [Level 1] May identify only similarities or differences between Thomas and James, possibly without explanation. May refer to genes/DNA but probably not related to the boys' similarities; may refer to similarities to one or other parent. Quality of written communication impedes communication of the science at this level. (1 – 2 marks) [Level 0] Insufficient or irrelevant science. Answer not worthy of credit. (0 marks)	6	This question is targeted at grades up to C Indicative scientific points at Level 3 may include:

Q	Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
	(b)		XY XX X	2	3 correct = 2 marks 1 or 2 correct = 1 mark
			Total	8	
4	(a)		The car is heavier The battery stops polluting gases The electric motor means less petrol is burned. ✓ The battery stores energy that would otherwise ✓	1	both answers correct for 1 mark tick in any other box = 0
	(b)	(i)	1200 x 2.1 (= 2520)	1	 accept explanation in words provided that multiplication is clear. 2520 kg is in the question: this question is about the logic. accept reverse working, i.e. 2520/2.1 = 1200
		(ii)	16000 x 90 (= 1440000 (g)) (1); = 1440000/ 1000 = 1440 kg 2520 - 1440 = 1080kg (1)	2	if you see 1440000 or 1440, award the first mark. correct numerical answer of 1080 gets both marks even with no working. no ecf from incorrect mass in first calculation.
	(c)		It reacts with oxygen It is used by plants in photosynthesis. ✓	2	
			It is dependant on surfaces. It is used by animals in respiration. It dissolves in sea water. ✓		

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
(d)	[Level 3] Can give at least two methods, each with a different explanation that shows why the pollution is less. OR two methods plus, for one of them, explanation that shows why the pollution is less plus further detail. Quality of written communication does not impede communication of the science at this level. [Level 2] Can give at least two methods, with explanation of one of them. There may be examples of incorrect science alongside the credit-worthy material. Quality of written communication partly impedes communication of the science at this level. [Level 1] Can give two methods with no explanation or one method and an explanation OR discusses detail of hybrid cars only. Quality of written communication impedes communication of the science at this level. [Level 0] Irrelevant or no science. Answer not worthy of credit.	6	This question is targeted at grades up to E Ignore "pollution is less" [stem] Indicative scientific points may include: Scientific points indicative of level 3 are - catalytic converters – removes pollutants [ie more than lowers pollution]/ removes named pollutant [nitrogen oxide[s] or carbon monoxide] - convert nitrogen oxide[s] to nitrogen - convert carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide - low sulfur fuels makes less sulfur dioxide Scientific points indicative at any level may include: - go on foot – reduces car use - go by bike – reduces car use - use public transport - carries more people / fewer cars on the road / pollution per person is less - introduction of initiatives ['bike to work', park and ride] - reduces car use - legal limits / MOT tests - makes people service their cars - Use vegetable oil as fuel – less pollutants - Electric /solar / hydrogen cars – don't use petrol - More efficient engines / drive more slowly / carry less in car /turn off air conditioning/ smaller car – use less fuel Use the L1, L2, L3 annotations in Scoris; do not use ticks.
	Total	12	

Q	Question		Answer		Guidance	
5	(a)					
	(b)		carbon in the fuel (1) with oxygen from the air (1) not enough oxygen / incomplete combustion (1)	3	allow 'oxygen comes from photosynthesis'	
			Tota	I 4		

Q	uesti	on	Answer	Marks	Guidance
6	(a)		As the amount of coal burned increases the Between 1990 and 2005 More power stations are built Burning coal has no effect Modern power stations put less	1	
	(b)		Coal contains sulfur/produces sulfur dioxide / sulfur dioxide [per ton of coal] is less (1) and any two from: realises that there has been a change in the power station or the coal (1)	3	ignore 'The more coal, the more SO ₂ ' - the correlation between coal burning and levels of SO ₂ is tested in the previous question. accept 'sulfur' for 'sulfur dioxide'
			specifies the change power station has installed filters (1) coal contains less sulfur (1) sulfur removed from flue gases (1) sulfur removed from coal (1) Allow figures quoted from the graph, but they must apply to 2005 onwards (1)		NOTE any change which is specified shows the understanding that a change has been made, so also gains the recognition of change mark.
			Total	4	

Q	uesti	on	Answer	Marks	Guidance
7	7 (a)		A		
	(b)	(i)	400 (km)	1	
		(ii)	P-waves will arrive first (1) P-waves travel faster than S-waves (1)	2	AW no ecf "P-waves get to the detector faster" = 2 [bod]
	(c)	(i)	selects equation: speed = frequency x wavelength or 400 x 10 (1) 4000 (1)	2	correct numerical answer of 4000 gets both marks, even with no working.
	(ii) Has considered which speed matches best 4000 m/s = 4 km/s [hence S-wave]/ because a P-wave would be 6000 m/s / because it is slower than a P-wave		1	the mark is for the reason, not for the choice of wave. Ignore "an S-wave because of its speed"	
			Total	7	

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance	
8	[Level 3] Explains W's theory in terms of the movement apart of continents and the evidence it explains. Plate tectonics does not form part of the explanation. Gives two or more reasons for its rejection. Reasons for rejection are made within a clear context. Quality of written communication does not impede communication of the science at this level. (5 – 6 marks) [Level 2]	6	This question is targeted at grades up to C indicative scientific points at level 3 may include: Continents have moved apart Land bridges linked to the fossil record indicative scientific points at level 2 may include: There are land bridges Continents were joined OR continents move	
	Describes the theory with some lack of clarity. Points may be stated but not integrated into the candidate's overall answer. May not understand the difference between the theory and the evidence for it, so gives evidence for the theory instead of the description of the theory itself. May include several aspects of plate tectonics. May give a clear description of the theory and one reason for its rejection or limited description of the theory and at least two reasons for its rejection. Quality of written communication partly impedes communication of the science at this level eg uses the term 'plates' instead of 'continents'.		 general indicative scientific points may include: The theory the continents have moved / separated the continents were joined/ fitted together / were a supercontinent things which it explains shape/ match/ jigsaw fit of continents similar fossils in different continents similar rock layers in different continents mountain building reasons for lack of acceptance include 	
	[Level 1] Discusses one or two simplistic aspects at most, eg the theory, reason for rejection, the evidence for it. Quality of written communication impedes communication of the science at this level. (1 – 2 marks) [Level 0] Insufficient or irrelevant science. Answer not worthy of credit. (0 marks)		 no known mechanism for movement continental movement not observable evidence limited / he didn't have enough proof too big an idea [from limited evidence] other explanations existed [for some of the evidence] eg land bridge Wegener was an outsider / not a geologist ignore 'Wegener was not a scientist' ignore 'you can't feel the Earth move' 	

Qı	Question		Answer	Marks	Guidance
					Plate tectonic aspects to watch out for:
			Total	6	

Q	Question		Answer			Marks	Guidance
9	(a)					1	
			Ann	✓			
			Ben				
			Collin				
			Diana				
	(b)					2	
	(b)			Τ.]	2	
			Ann	✓			
			Ben				
			Collin				
			Diana	✓			
			Total			3	

Qı	uestion	Answer	Marks	Guidance	
10	(a)	5 (million light-years)		allow 4.5 to 5.5	
	(b)	galaxies that are further away are moving (away) faster / distance and speed are positively correlated (1)	1	either approach direction of correlation must be explicit	
	(c)	realises that not all the data has been used / recognises the outlier (1); Either (YES because) reason for exclusion e.g. it gives a value for B that fits the pattern on the graph / the 6.6 is very different from other values or (NO because) there is no valid reason for excluding it / data needed further investigation (1)	2		
		Total	4		

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