

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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Section A: Role Play

Task	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
A	<p>Each (1) Total 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • former industrial land now Olympic park • southern part – all aspects • northern part quieter + trees, wildlife • watch live events free • on large screens • Park accessible to wheelchair users • (although most activities in London) some, eg sailing, elsewhere • good opportunity to explore other places • (more than) 8 million tickets available • official sites / agents • beware of fraudulent websites / agents / tickets • improved public transport links • limited parking • walking routes from stations • safe cycle routes 	30	<p>Accept key points from indicative content in any order.</p> <p>Mark for Use of Stimulus, Response to Examiner and Quality of Language, using Grids A, B + C.1 in Appendix 1.</p>

Task	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
B	<p>Each (1) Total 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • government plan to switch off existing tv signal / introduce new digital signal • nationally by 2016 • date varies according to region • website has details of dates • benefits include more / greater choice of programmes • new features – on-screen information / subtitles • optional channels – films, sports • monthly payment • easy to adapt existing tv • by plugging in a digital box • unconverted sets won't work after switchover / convert all sets • help available for elderly and people with disabilities • recorders will work • but not record one channel while watching another • radios and aerials / satellite tv unaffected 	30	<p>Accept key points from indicative content in any order.</p> <p>Mark for Use of Stimulus, Response to Examiner and Quality of Language, using Grids A, B + C1 in Appendix 1.</p>

Task	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
C	<p>Each (1) Total 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • food and drink festival in September • small Shropshire town with reputation for food • running annually since 1995 • promotes local produce • and having a great time • open-air traditional market in square (castle backdrop) • (signposted) routes through the town • exploring local shops, restaurants, etc. • many (small) independent producers • attractions include street-food stalls • demonstrations and talks • parking difficult in town / think green • park (outside) and use bus • come by train (combined entrance ticket available) • buy tickets on line to avoid queues 	30	<p>Accept key points from indicative content in any order.</p> <p>Mark for Use of Stimulus, Response to Examiner and Quality of Language, using Grids A, B + C1 in Appendix 1.</p>

Section B: Topic Discussion

Task	Indicative Content	Marks	Guidance
		30	<p>Using Grids D, E.1, C.1 and G in Appendix 1, mark for Ideas, Opinions and Relevance; Fluency, Spontaneity, Responsiveness; Quality of Language (Accuracy); and Pronunciation and Intonation.</p> <p>Grid D guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All topics must relate to AS topic / sub-topic areas, otherwise max 4. • Max 4 if insufficient reference to TL country <p>Grid E.1 guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max 4 for pre-learnt non-spontaneous material <p>Grid C.1 guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even if there is pre-learnt material, award marks at face value.

APPENDIX 1

Examiners allocate marks to candidates' work on a best-fit basis using the following marking grids.

UNIT 1 SPEAKING – ROLE-PLAY

GRID A	USE OF STIMULUS 15 marks AO2	GRID B	RESPONSE TO EXAMINER 10 marks AO1
13 – 15	Full use of the stimulus material. Successfully conveys all or nearly all of the points.	9 – 10	Responds fluently and fully to the examiner's questions and comments. Shows initiative and imagination throughout. Leads the conversation. A convincing performance.
10 – 12	Good use of the stimulus material. Successfully conveys about three quarters of the points.	7 – 8	Responds readily, takes the initiative and is able to keep the momentum going. Shows imagination and gives some well developed answers.
6 – 9	Reasonable attempt to use the stimulus material. Successfully conveys about half of the points.	5 – 6	Responds satisfactorily to the examiner. Produces some appropriate replies. Shows some initiative and imagination in developing answers but performance is inconsistent.
3 – 5	Some attempt to use the stimulus material. Able to give some basic information. Successfully conveys about a quarter of the points.	3 – 4	May be hesitant in responding. Responses to the examiner are brief and sometimes inadequate. Shows little initiative or imagination.
0 – 2	Little or no attempt to use the stimulus material. No relevant information or supplies one or two of the points.	0 – 2	Has some difficulty in understanding and is hesitant in responding to many of the examiner's questions and comments. Shows very little initiative or imagination.

UNIT 1 SPEAKING – ROLE-PLAY (Continued)

GRID C.1	QUALITY OF LANGUAGE (ACCURACY) 5 marks AO3
5	Characterised by a high and consistent level of accuracy in use of complex structures, although there may be some errors.
4	Language generally accurate. Shows a sound grasp of AS and/or A2 structures, as appropriate. Generally correct use of complex structures. Tenses and agreements good, although there may be some inconsistency and errors in more complex areas.
3	Shows evidence of fair understanding of grammatical usage. Generally accurate use of simple sentence structures. Some correct use of complex sentence structures. The performance is likely to be patchy and inconsistent.
2	Evidence of gaps in basic grammar. Frequent errors of an elementary kind (endings, verb forms, gender of common nouns, adjectival agreements) but evidence of correct use of simple sentence structures. Vocabulary and structures may be quite strongly influenced by the candidate's first language.
0 – 1	Little evidence of grammatical awareness. Persistent, serious and elementary errors (endings, verb forms, gender of common nouns). Frequent first language interference.

UNIT 1 SPEAKING – TOPIC DISCUSSION

GRID D	IDEAS, OPINIONS AND RELEVANCE 10 marks AO1
9 – 10	Well-chosen relevant information to develop a range of ideas and to justify points of view.
7 – 8	Able to develop and explain ideas and to express points of view, with some justification. Offers relevant information.
5 – 6	Shows some ability to develop and explain ideas and to express opinions. Able to convey information. Not always relevant.
3 – 4	Shows a limited ability to develop or explain ideas and to express opinions. May have some difficulty communicating factual information. Often irrelevant or repetitive.
0 – 2	Very few ideas. Ideas not explained or developed. Very limited ability to convey even quite basic information. Very superficial.

GRID E.1	FLUENCY, SPONTANEITY, RESPONSIVENESS 10 marks AO1
9 – 10	Responds promptly and fully. Consistently shows initiative. Leads the conversation. A fluent and spontaneous performance throughout.
7 – 8	Able to respond readily and take the initiative, with little hesitation. Most of the time is fluent and spontaneous and can keep the momentum going.
5 – 6	Responds reasonably promptly to the examiner, though with occasional hesitation. Reasonably fluent and spontaneous at times.
3 – 4	May be hesitant in responding. Responses to the examiner are brief and sometimes inadequate. Fluency is often confined to pre-learnt material.
0 – 2	Has some difficulty in understanding. Hesitant, with frequent pauses, in responding to many of the examiner's questions and comments. Fluency confined to pre-learnt material.

UNIT 1 SPEAKING – TOPIC DISCUSSION (Continued)

GRID C.1	QUALITY OF LANGUAGE (ACCURACY) 5 marks AO3
5	Characterised by a high and consistent level of accuracy in use of complex structures, although there may be some errors.
4	Language generally accurate. Shows a sound grasp of AS and/or A2 structures, as appropriate. Generally correct use of complex structures. Tenses and agreements good, although there may be some inconsistency and errors in more complex areas.
3	Shows evidence of fair understanding of grammatical usage. Generally accurate use of simple sentence structures. Some correct use of complex sentence structures. The performance is likely to be patchy and inconsistent.
2	Evidence of gaps in basic grammar. Frequent errors of an elementary kind (endings, verb forms, gender of common nouns, adjectival agreements) but evidence of correct simple sentence structures. Vocabulary and structures may be quite strongly influenced by the candidate's first language.
0 – 1	Little evidence of grammatical awareness. Persistent, serious and elementary errors (endings, verb forms, gender of common nouns). Frequent first language interference.

GRID G	PRONUNCIATION AND INTONATION 5 marks AO1
5	Sounds authentic nearly all of the time. Only occasional errors of pronunciation and intonation.
4	Pronunciation and intonation generally accurate, although there may be occasional mispronunciation of more difficult sounds.
3	Pronunciation and intonation acceptable, in spite of a number of errors that rarely impede communication. Some problems with some more difficult sounds.
2	Pronunciation and intonation may be influenced by candidate's first language, and problems with more difficult sounds sometimes impede communication.
0 – 1	Comprehensible only with difficulty. Many sounds mispronounced. Heavily influenced by candidate's first language.

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