

OCR Report to Centres

June 2013

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It is also responsible for developing new specifications to meet national requirements and the needs of students and teachers. OCR is a not-for-profit organisation; any surplus made is invested back into the establishment to help towards the development of qualifications and support, which keep pace with the changing needs of today's society.

This report on the examination provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding of the specification content, of the operation of the scheme of assessment and of the application of assessment criteria.

Reports should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and mark schemes for the examination.

OCR will not enter into any discussion or correspondence in connection with this report.

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General:

Moderators were very grateful as ever to those centres that continue to submit their paperwork well before the deadline (May 15th). Prompt submissions assist the moderation process greatly. Moderators also noted that some centres were meticulous in the submission of their paperwork. Unfortunately a number of centres this year needed some considerable support from moderators with the administration requirements. The centre authentication form (CCS160), mark sheets (MS1 / IMS1) and cover sheets should be included with samples. Centres should submit the *total marks* awarded from both the language papers and topic work. In addition, all work submitted should have the correct candidate's name and number.

For centres which enter candidates under code R445/01, the intention is that samples will be uploaded into the OCR repository. Centres that enter candidates under code R445/02 would be expected to send samples to moderators via the postal system.

Component 1

Many centres showed very clear, careful and accurate marking of Component 1 and some centres were double marking the language tests or having the marking checked, and this is very good practice. Another example of good practice was ringed marks against correct answers and lines through marks against incorrect answers. A few samples had no marks of assessment on scripts; a few centres marked incorrect answers as correct. Centres are advised to undertake internal checks before submission to OCR. Incorrect marking or administration can cause delays to the moderation process.

Centres are reminded that in questions requiring comprehension of Latin, candidates who convey all or nearly all of the meaning of a section should be awarded full marks. No half marks should be awarded. At this level, glossed words should be credited.

Component 2

There were some imaginative assignments set for Component 2. The enjoyment of candidates in researching a topic was very clear. Where the candidates received a handout or instructions giving guidance, including a copy of it with the sample was very useful to moderators. Most centres now set titles which ask questions to be considered by candidates or involve some comparison. Such responses tend to be the most successful. OCR is always willing to advise centres on the suitability of a topic or title. Some titles were regarded by moderators as too wide for the word limit (400 / 2 x 200). In addition, candidates must be advised to keep to the specified word limits.

It was felt that moderators would have liked some further indication of what information had been provided by the teacher and what had been researched by candidates. A few centres showed no indication, on the samples, of how marks had been awarded. Attention is drawn to paragraphs 4.4 of the specification regarding the annotation of candidates' work. Centres are advised not to award a specific Entry Level Certificate level (e.g. '*This is Level 3*') on samples; this decision rests with the board.

Candidates who are absent for Component 2 are permitted to complete the task on another occasion. All candidates must submit a piece of work for Component 2. This may be assessed by the centre as 0 but a mark must be awarded for an award.

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