



Cambridge International AS Level

ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

8021/23

Paper 2 Comprehension

May/June 2021

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of **11** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Considering the advantages and <u>one</u> disadvantage, explain which <u>one</u> of the education options would be <u>most</u> suitable for the family. You should concentrate on your chosen option and <u>not</u> refer to the other options. Answer in continuous prose. Abbeyvale Advantages • Sounds like a fantastic school with lots of sport facilities and Ricardo is very sporty (plays football) / Ethan an excellent swimmer and there is a pool on site. • the school has a good report for looking after student welfare so boys can get support if they miss their parents. • There are other children in a similar family situation who could offer support / befriend the boys. • They can keep in regular contact with their parents via video phone, social media, etc. which might reduce Tino's anxiety. • Not too far away from grandparents who can visit if necessary or boys can visit them. • This school has the longest holidays (15 weeks) so more time to visit parents / see parents. • Ricardo has a girlfriend and the school still close to where she is. Disadvantages • Tino is 6 and the school is aged 7–18 so he may not be able to go straight away / problems of what to do with him until then. • Worst option for Tino (if he can go) as the change of school might make Tino anxious as he does not like to be away from his mother. • Only 50% of the cost of flights are covered by the company (in addition to school fees). • Expensive to pay for boarding school compared to state schools which are usually free. • 3 years in boarding school is a long time to be away from their parents and they could be unhappy. Home school Advantages • Adventure: huge learning experience / once in a lifetime opportunity • Survey site is well equipped with housing, cooking, etc. and basic medical so all basic necessities are there. • Keep the family together: Tino would prefer to be with his mother. • Mum could be the home-school teacher as she has teaching experience. • Can keep in contact with home via internet to maintain friendships e.g., girlfriend and school	10

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Disadvantages • Jungle: possibly dangerous animals, diseases and heat. Is it the right place to take children? • Environmental protests could cause a risk for the safety of the boys. • Nearest proper town is 80 miles away. What happens if there is an emergency with one of the children? • 12-hour shifts might make it difficult to home-school. They may have to alternate which means that there would be no time together as a family. • Lack of social interaction with other children: boys would have to give up sports / Ricardo will have to give up football and his girlfriend. • Ethan may find home schooling difficult as he already struggles with school. • There are no pool/sports facilities and all the boys are sporty. • The work experience offer is not what Ricardo is interested in as he wants to be a doctor. 2 years out of school may jeopardise his exam performance. • Patchy internet connection may make tuition online difficult. Grandparents Advantages • Keeps the boys with their family even if not parents. This may suit Tino especially, who can get anxious. Parents may feel more reassured about this. • Continuation of current schooling, especially for Ricardo who has exams and wants to be a doctor. • Life outside school as they know it can continue. Sports activities such as football, swimming and cycling can continue / Ricardo can still visit his girlfriend. • Grandpa used to be a teacher and could help Ethan with catching up on his progress. • Grandparents could rent out their own house and make some money. • Grandparents could keep an eye on their own house as it is close by. Disadvantages • Grandma has been recently ill and still recovering – this could be hard work and may hinder her recovery. • 50% of airfare costs still need to be found to fly the boys out to where their parents are. • Status quo, so missed opportunity to do something different. • Grandparents have already done the parenting – they will get little respite in term time / may be tired.	

Question	Answer		Marks
1(a)	Mark(s)	Descriptors	
	9–10	- Capacity to interpret evidence and sustained ability to present relevant arguments, analysis and exemplification maintaining a strong focus on the main issues in the question. - Comprehensive approach demonstrating ability to identify and select relevant information, data, concepts and opinions and maintain a strong focus on the key issues. - Shows the ability to communicate clearly and accurately in a fluent and organised manner.	
	6–8	- Moderate range of arguments, analysis and exemplification covering some of the main issues in the question. - Demonstrating some grasp of the nature of key issues but with a restricted range or a loss of focus leading to the inclusion of some irrelevant material. - Shows the ability to communicate clearly and accurately in a fluent and organised manner.	
	3–5	- Limited analysis shown in a response consisting of mainly undeveloped material. - A modest range of selected points, perhaps some of which are irrelevant or incorrect. - Ability to convey meaning but with limited powers of expression with some errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar which impede the flow and hinder communication.	
	1–2	- Some simple, mainly unexplained or undeveloped points or perhaps a very narrow range – with little interpretation or analysis and little development or exemplification. - Limited range, dubious choice showing restricted appreciation of key issues. - Ability to convey meaning but with limited powers of expression with some errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar which impede the flow and hinder communication.	
	0	A mark of zero should be awarded for no creditable content.	

1(b)	Considering the disadvantages and <u>one</u> advantage, explain which <u>one</u> of the two remaining education options would be <u>least</u> suitable for the family. You should concentrate on your chosen option and <u>not</u> refer to the other options. Answer in about 100 words. Option 1: Abbeyvale Disadvantages • The change of school might make Tino anxious (1) as he does not like to be away from his mother. (1) • Ethan may find the transition hard academically (1) as he is currently finding school hard. (1) • Only 50% of the cost of flights are covered by the company (in addition to school fees) (1) this might be an extra expense for the family. • Ricardo may find it hard to see his girlfriend / continue to play for his football team (1) as it is away from their home. (1) Advantages • Sounds like a fantastic school with lots of sport facilities / there is a pool on site (1) Ricardo is very sporty (plays football) / Ethan an excellent swimmer. (1) • The school has a good report for looking after student welfare (1) so boys can get support if they miss their parents. (1) • There are other children in a similar situation (1) who could offer support to the boys. (1) • They can keep in regular contact with their parents (via video phone / social media, etc.) (1) which might reduce Tino's anxiety. (1) • Not too far away from grandparents (1) who can visit if necessary / boys can visit them. (1) • Ethan might respond well to a change of school / good academic reputation (1) if things are not going well for him at the moment. (1) • Ricardo has a girlfriend (1) and the school still close to where she is. (1) • Longest holidays at this school (15 weeks) (1) - more time to visit parents / see parents. (1) Option 2: Home school Disadvantages • Jungle: possibly dangerous animals, diseases and heat. Is it the right place to take children? • Environmental protests (1) may make it unsafe for children. (1) • Nearest proper town 80 miles away (1), what happens if there is an emergency with one of the children? (1) • Alternate 12-hour shifts might make it difficult to home-school. (1) They may have to alternate which means that there would be no time together as a family. (1) • Lack of social interaction with other children: boys would have to give up sports / Ricardo will have to give up football and his girlfriend / Ethan cannot keep up his swimming (1) jungle is no place for football/pool (1)	10
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Question	Answer	Marks
	- Ethan may find home schooling difficult as he already struggles with school. - There are no pool/sports facilities and all the boys are sporty. - The work experience offer is not what Ricardo is interested in (1) as he wants to be a doctor. 2 years out of school may jeopardise his exam performance. (1) - Patchy internet connection may make tuition online difficult.	
1(b)	Advantages - The family can have an adventure together / huge learning experience / once in a lifetime opportunity. - Survey site is well equipped with housing / cooking / basic medical supplies (1) so all necessities for a family are there. (1) - This option would keep the family together (1) and Tino would prefer to be with his mother. (1) - Mum could be the home-school teacher (1) as has teaching experience. (1) - Can keep in contact with home to maintain friendships / see girlfriend / see school friends (1) links via internet. (1) Option 3: Grandparents Disadvantages - Grandma has been recently ill and still recovering (1). This could be hard work / may hinder her recovery. (1) 50% of airfare costs still need to be found to fly the boys out to where their parents are. - Grandparents have already done the parenting (1) they will get little respite in term time. (1) Advantages - Keeps the boys with their family even if not parents (1) this may suit Tino especially who can get anxious / parents may feel more reassured about this. (1) - Continuation of schooling (1) especially for Ricardo who has exams / wants to be a doctor. (1) - Continuation of out of school activities (1) including sports activities (football/swimming/cycling) / seeing girlfriend. (1) - Grandpa used to be a teacher (1) and could help Ethan with catching up on his progress. (1) - Grandparents could rent out their own house (1) and make some money. (1) - Tino may be less anxious to be away from his mother (1) if grandparents are around. (1) Any relevant content well above 100 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(c)	Using the material and your own knowledge, suggest why protests have been taking place recently at the oil company's other sites (Additional Information 15). • Tropical forest could be removed/damaged to make way for the extraction (1) and wildlife could be impacted / in danger (1) and local indigenous people affected negatively. (1) • Oil may leak out of pipelines and spill (1) causing damage in local rivers / affecting fishing / wildlife. (1) • Climate change concerns are increasing (1) we need to reduce fossil fuel use, not increase it. (1)	2
1(d)	Suggest other reasons, not identified in the material, why some parents may choose home-schooling over regular schooling even if their jobs do not take them away from their children. • A child may have specific medical needs (1) so needs to stay at home for care. (1) • Parents do not agree with formal school curriculum. (1) • The family is not stuck to rigid school calendar for holidays/flexibility. (1) • The child may not have a place at the school they want. (1) • The local school is not well regarded / parents do not like local school. (1) • Parents own experience of school may not have been a positive one (1) and do not want their children to go through the same experience. (1) • Parents want to avoid bullying. (1) • A child may be a gifted sports person and need to train a lot / fit school around the training. (1)	3

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	According to the first two paragraphs, explain why scientists are so concerned about lionfish in the Atlantic Ocean. Answer <u>using your own words</u> as far as possible. • Lionfish have invaded the sea/they do not belong in the sea/region. (1) • Lionfish are having (very) bad impact on local <u>fish, people and jobs</u>. (1) • They have spread (quickly) across a wide area. (1) • scientists worry about their spread south (Florida down to Brazil) (1) within the next decade. (1)	3
2(b)	Identify <u>two</u> reasons why the lionfish came to be in the Caribbean Sea in the first place. Answer <u>using your own words</u> as far as possible. • Lionfish escaped <u>by accident</u> (from fish tanks) damaged during <u>hurricane Andrew / massive tropical storm</u>. (1) • set free <u>on purpose</u> by (amateurs)people who <u>have stopped having fun / got fed up with / given up looking after</u> their captured lionfish. (1)	2
2(c)	According to paragraphs 2 to 5, explain why lionfish have been able to dominate the Caribbean Sea. Answer <u>in about 30 words</u>. • They have <u>no</u> natural enemies / nothing eats them. (1) • Lionfish have a <u>high</u> reproductive rate / 2 million eggs a year from 1 female. (1) • <u>Warm</u> water encourages reproduction. (1) • Adaptable/Survive in a range of habitats <u>and</u> depths. (1) Any relevant content well above 30 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	3
2(d)	Identify evidence in the material to support the point that lionfish are ‘voracious predators’ (line 31). Answer <u>in your own words</u> as far as possible. • Lionfish are not fussy eaters / they eat anything they come across. (1) • Nothing predated/hunts them. (1) • They can eat up to 20 little fish / lots of fish in half an hour / they eat lots of fish at a rapid rate. (1) • They can eat fish more than half their size. (1) • A lionfish stomach can grow massively / get so much bigger / large expandable stomach after eating (so they can eat a lot). (1) • One lionfish can <u>devastate</u> young fish numbers (in a short time / very rapidly). (1) • Evidence shows many endangered varieties of fish have been found in lionfish stomachs. (1)	3

Question	Answer	Marks
2(e)(i)	Identify a word in the material that has the same meaning as the following word or phrase: One of a kind Unique	1
2(e)(ii)	Bad Detrimental / unfortunate	1
2(e)(iii)	On purpose Intentionally	1
2(e)(iv)	Far-reaching Extensive	1
2(e)(v)	Courses of action Measures	1
2(f)	Identify <u>three</u> reasons why lionfish might become a popular restaurant dish in the future. Answer <u>in about 30 words</u>. • It has already been well received by some restaurants. (1) • The flesh tastes nice. (1) • There is plenty of supply. (1) • It has nutritional benefits, including Omega 3. (1) • (It is 'guilt free eating') as you are helping the environment by eating fish that is sustainable / eating the lionfish benefits the environment. (1) Any relevant content well above 30 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	3
2(g)	Suggest the benefits <u>and</u> drawbacks of the solution to train sharks to eat the lionfish. Benefits • Sharks are a natural predator. (1) • There are plenty of sharks to hunt the lionfish. (1) • It is a cheaper than sending fishing boats out / paying people. (1) • Sharks are unlikely to predate on humans if they are full of lionfish. (1) Drawbacks • Possibly dangerous to the <u>humans involved</u>. (1) • It might be time consuming (rapid spread of lionfish). (1) • (It could be difficult to train) because shark behaviour is unpredictable / wild animals. (1) • tracking them in the water is difficult. (1)	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(h)	Other than the difficulty of training sharks, identify <u>two</u> other reasons why it is so difficult to eradicate lionfish. • There are so many lionfish <u>spread</u> over such a wide area. (1) • Lionfish reproduce quickly <u>and</u> replace lost numbers quickly / it is hard to keep up with their rate of reproduction. (1) • Natural predators (grouper) <u>are fewer in number</u> due to overfishing (1) so they may struggle to predate on lionfish. (1)	