

Cambridge International AS Level

ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER

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Paper 2 Comprehension 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.

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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 why Richard Bradfield is the more suitable candidate for the vacancy.	10
	You must <u>not</u> refer to Sandrine Jonas.	
	Answer in continuous prose.	
	Credit any of the following points or any other valid point:	
	Richard Bradfield is clearly keen to exploit his <u>claimed</u> creativity to the full, so will be well placed to come up with fresh ideas for (demanding) clients.	
	The budgets involved in the film and music industry promotions are likely to be large, allowing him more artistic licence than he previously experienced with the small advertising firm/with which he has current experience.	
	He has experience working for two organisations so far, including two years at one with multiple clients, much like Diamond D-ZINE.	
	His fairly rapid movement between posts to date might indicate ambition; he is already seeking a managerial post within what appears to be a very prestigious company.	
	His enthusiasm for the government health campaigns ties in with Diamond D-ZINE's healthy meal choices offered in the on-site staff restaurant.	
	Richard Bradfield is currently gaining/has three years' deputy-managerial experience with his sub-team, and the new post would involve leading a team.	
	His experience/leadership role is likely to make him better placed to organise the group activity at the selection day. He already works as part of a similar-sized group to the proposed new team at Diamond D-ZINE.	
	His impressive linguistic competence will no doubt be invaluable for meeting with international clients of the business/travelling abroad when required	
	and perhaps even greeting <u>international</u> guests at the glamorous premières etc.	
	Richard Bradfield has excellent knowledge of (recent) horror films, in particular, presumably a part of Diamond D-ZINE's portfolio. His scheme introducing work experience for under-privileged students/Involvement in the homeless shelter aligns well with/could <u>enhance</u> Diamond D-ZINE's reputation for corporate social responsibility/local charities/ its sponsored internship scheme.	
	also links well with the company's interest in local charities.	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	His appearance in the government podcast would suggest he is likely to perform well at interview, especially the hour-long presentation.	
	Having a preference for casual dress will work well for <u>day-to-day</u> attendance at the office, fitting in with the prevalent dress code.	
	His participation in drama might make him more likely to succeed at interview, especially with 'unexpected questions' and in the hour-long presentation	
	and perhaps give him confidence for representing the company at glamorous events/delivering presentations or pitches.	
	He has extensive personal interests and activities, matching Anton's claim that employees are encouraged to have a life outside work.	
	Since Richard Bradfield already resides in Yaramanta, the company will not be required to pay any <u>relocation</u> expenses for him.	
	He states that he loves to fly, which would be useful when expected to travel (abroad) to meet clients.	
	His enthusiastic response to the 'unexpected' interview question showed a willingness to try to solve an unknown problem, and he seemed to make decisive/sensible calculations/use existing knowledge.	
	which could outweigh	
	Richard Bradfield's working life extends to only five years to date and he seems to get tired/bored of his posts quite quickly.	
	He likes the <u>private office space</u> he currently enjoys as a deputy manager and might therefore find the informal/open-plan environment at Diamond D- ZINE <u>unsuitable/difficult</u> .	
	Richard Bradfield's preference for casual dress/dislike of wearing suits might be a <u>problem when meeting clients/attending glamorous events</u> , as high standards of personal presentation are expected (and as a manager, perhaps even more so).	
	He seems to find socialising with colleagues difficult, which might be a problem, as Diamond D-ZINE encourages such activities in the interests of improving working relationships.	
	In assessing the answer award marks for a coherent appraisal, clearly expressed, of four or more relevant considerations, including balance, that make use of analyticalskills.	

Question			Answer	Marks
1(a)	Levels	Mark(s)	Descriptors	
	4	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. 	
	3	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. 	
	2	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	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	0	A mark of zero should be awarded for no creditable content.	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(b)	Explain <u>four</u> advantages if Sandrine Jonas were to be selected to fill the vacancy. You must <u>not</u> refer to Richard Bradfield.	8
	Credit any of the following points or any other valid point:	
	Sandrine Jonas has worked for just the one company to date (1) which may indicate loyalty/an ability to work well with the people around her. (1)	
	She has more/12 years' experience (1) of working for a major international brand (1) which could translate well to the international music and film industry/help her adapt more easily. (1) – max. 2	
	She is <u>used to</u> sharing desk space and working in an open-plan office with her colleagues (1) so may be <u>comfortable</u> moving into Diamond D-ZINE's informal/open-plan offices. (1)	
	Her scheme to showcase local artists' work (1); such artists might make eventual designers/be future employees. (1)	
	Sandrine Jonas is clearly keen on art (painting wildlife and landscapes and promoting the local artists) (1) and so may thrive in the relaxed creative environment, for example the scribbling on the 'graffiti walls'. (1)	
	Sandrine's interest in fashion, cosmetics and smart presentation (1) will be of huge benefit when meeting important clients/attending glamorous events. (1)	
	She is used to meeting famous people from the world of television (not dissimilar to film) (1) and so should feel at ease when asked to attend events/meet VIPs. (1)	
	4 × 2	
1(c)	Suggest why Sandrine Jonas' response to the 'unexpected' question might not have impressed the interviewers.	2
	Credit any two of the following:	
	She didn't seem to see the point in it (1) and was happy to say so (1).	
	She made no real attempt to work it out/just guessed an answer. (1)	
	She stuttered/hesitated/sounded nervous/defensive (1) which might have made Diamond D-Zine think she was not manager material (1).	
	She made excuses for not knowing the answer/information needed to work it out (1).	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(d)	Referring <u>only</u> to the quotes from two current Diamond D-ZINE employees, explain why Helena <u>and</u> Anton seem to have such different impressions of the work culture at Diamond D-ZINE.	3
	Credit any three of the following:	
	Helena contrasts the work demands with the (extensive/impressive) facilities on offer (1) and seems happy to accept the trade-off (1).	
	She mentions/appears to thrive on the buzz of working in such an environment. (1)	
	Anton makes a contrast with the (much more pressured) work culture at his former workplace/the advertising agency. (1)	
	He values being able to have time for a social life outside the workplace/not having to cancel plans at the last minute. (1)	
	2 + 1 or 3 × 1	
1(e)	In your opinion, explain <u>one</u> way a company might achieve 'carbon- neutral' offices.	2
	Credit any of the following points or any other valid point:	
	By planting trees (1) they could offset carbon emissions produced when heating the offices (1).	
	They could recycle paper (1) reducing the need for trees to be cut down (1). Companies may retrofit their offices to reduce carbon emissions (1) such as by installing solar panels (1).	
	1 + 1	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(i)	Regarding Faruk Hossain, identify the situation he is having to face <u>and</u> its cause (lines 1 to 6).	2
	1 mark each for the situation and the cause:	
	SITUATION: His house/family home has become uninhabitable (1)	
	CAUSE: as the floodwater has <u>failed to retreat</u> /his house has <u>not</u> <u>reappeared</u> from the floodwater (caused by Super-cyclone Amphan which battered southern Bangladesh in May). (1)	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(ii)	Regarding Faruk Hossain, identify the changes in his life which may have an emotional impact on him (lines 7 to 12).	3
	Answer <u>using your own words</u> as far as possible.	
	Credit any three of the following points:	
	Deserting his farm for employment (1)	
	for the (nearest) city to live somewhere which he does not own/renting a little home in the (nearest) city. (1)	
	Hossain will be moving out of his father's residence (1)	
	and not returning. (1)	
	Everyone else in the family, his four brothers as well (1)	
	resided in it/there for tens of years. (1)	
	Those brothers departed some time back (1).	
	Only Hossain/he remained. (1)	
	For half a year he stayed in his father's home (1)	
	but it was not at all easy (1)	
	and all remaining signs of their home (1)	
	are finally, now, disappearing under the water. (1)	
2(b)	State <u>one</u> positive and <u>two</u> negative developments since Cyclone Bhola (lines 13 to 18).	3
	Answer <u>in about 30 words</u> .	
	While death tolls have reduced in recent times/over the last 50 years (1)	
	the <u>frequency</u> of natural disasters makes recovery in villages <u>more</u> difficult (1)	
	and many people are homeless/stranded (following repeated storms) (1).	
	All/18 of Khulna's/Pratapnagar's villages are/remain under water (1).	
	Any relevant content above 30 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(c)(i)	Summarise the terrible situation of the approximately 50 000 people still displaced after Super-cyclone Amphan (lines 19 to 27).	3
	Answer <u>in about 30 words</u> .	
	Credit any three of the following points:	
	They inhabit government land by rivers, roads or in (cyclone) shelters. (1)	
	Exasperated, some people have relocated to nearby settlements. (1)	
	Some have built new huts on stilts, on dry land. (1)	
	Economic life/job opportunities already hindered by the pandemic (1)	
	have worsened for the poorest, with missed agricultural opportunities. (1)	
	Any relevant content above 30 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	
2(c)(ii)	Summarise the terrible situation of Shahjahan Moral (lines 28 to 35). Answer <u>in about 30 words</u> .	3
	Credit any three of the following points:	
	He used to farm/was a farmer, planting rice/paddy, with good profits. (1)	
	He now sails his boat over the submerged land. (1)	
	The fares passengers pay are insufficient for his family's survival. (1)	
	Any relevant content above 30 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	
2(d)	Identify <u>two</u> of the key features needed for sustainable solutions, according to Alexandra Bilak.	2
	Credit any two of the following:	
	Proper availability of displacement information (1)	
	Initiatives for creating stable housing (1)	
	Sustainable urbanisation/ecosystem management (1)	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(e)(i)	Explain why it is important for Bangladesh to improve its 'flood embankments' (lines 42 to 50).	4
	Answer <u>using your own words</u> as far as possible.	
	Credit any four of the following points:	
	People are unconvinced that sufficient action is taken (to assist people suffering after/affected by flooding). (1)	
	Flood embankments constructed 60 years ago (1)	
	have been eroded (following recurring cyclones) (1)	
	while authorities have done nothing (1)	
	despite demands for these to be fixed. (1)	
	When (extreme) weather events occur (1)	
	people are impoverished. (1)	
	(Following (Super-cyclone Amphan), a canal was subsumed by the existing waterway (1)	
	and has never reappeared/currently threatens people's homes. (1)	
2(e)(ii)	Explain the main complaints about 'flood embankments' made by people in Amphan's path (lines 55 to 58).	2
	Answer <u>in about 20 words</u> .	
	Credit any two of the following:	
	Embankments were left unrepaired after previous storms. (1)	
	Funding (applications) have not been granted (1)	
	so repairs can only be made from already small yearly budgets. (1)	
	Any relevant content above 20 words should not be considered as part of the answer.	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(e)(iii)	Explain the longer-term impact on Bangladesh's population (lines 59 to 60).	1
	Answer <u>using your own words</u> as far as possible.	
	Credit either of the following points:	
	People are being forced to leave the countryside for <u>packed</u> urban centres (1),	
	making slums <u>grow</u> . (1)	
2(f)	In your opinion, suggest why the problem of people being 'forcibly displaced' needs action from 'the international community' (lines 66 to 69).	2
	Credit any two of the following or any other valid point:	
	Bangladesh cannot solve these problems alone (1) and international expertise/financial assistance would no doubt help. (1)	
	Rising sea levels (caused by climate change) are a global responsibility, wherever the effects are being felt (1) and may well have major impacts on human migration around the world. (1)	
	The international community has a moral obligation to help displaced/destitute people/those affected by natural disasters. (1) 2×1 or 1×2	