



Cambridge International AS & A Level

PHYSICS

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Paper 4 A Level Structured Questions

May/June 2021

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 40

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.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2021 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™, Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **19** 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.

Science-Specific Marking Principles

- 1 Examiners should consider the context and scientific use of any keywords when awarding marks. Although keywords may be present, marks should not be awarded if the keywords are used incorrectly.
- 2 The examiner should not choose between contradictory statements given in the same question part, and credit should not be awarded for any correct statement that is contradicted within the same question part. Wrong science that is irrelevant to the question should be ignored.
- 3 Although spellings do not have to be correct, spellings of syllabus terms must allow for clear and unambiguous separation from other syllabus terms with which they may be confused (e.g. ethane / ethene, glucagon / glycogen, refraction / reflection).
- 4 The error carried forward (ecf) principle should be applied, where appropriate. If an incorrect answer is subsequently used in a scientifically correct way, the candidate should be awarded these subsequent marking points. Further guidance will be included in the mark scheme where necessary and any exceptions to this general principle will be noted.

5 'List rule' guidance

For questions that require *n* responses (e.g. State **two** reasons ...):

- The response should be read as continuous prose, even when numbered answer spaces are provided.
- Any response marked *ignore* in the mark scheme should not count towards *n*.
- Incorrect responses should not be awarded credit but will still count towards *n*.
- Read the entire response to check for any responses that contradict those that would otherwise be credited. Credit should **not** be awarded for any responses that are contradicted within the rest of the response. Where two responses contradict one another, this should be treated as a single incorrect response.
- Non-contradictory responses after the first *n* responses may be ignored even if they include incorrect science.

6 Calculation specific guidance

Correct answers to calculations should be given full credit even if there is no working or incorrect working, **unless** the question states 'show your working'.

For questions in which the number of significant figures required is not stated, credit should be awarded for correct answers when rounded by the examiner to the number of significant figures given in the mark scheme. This may not apply to measured values.

For answers given in standard form (e.g. $a \times 10^n$) in which the convention of restricting the value of the coefficient (*a*) to a value between 1 and 10 is not followed, credit may still be awarded if the answer can be converted to the answer given in the mark scheme.

Unless a separate mark is given for a unit, a missing or incorrect unit will normally mean that the final calculation mark is not awarded. Exceptions to this general principle will be noted in the mark scheme.

7 Guidance for chemical equations

Multiples / fractions of coefficients used in chemical equations are acceptable unless stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

State symbols given in an equation should be ignored unless asked for in the question or stated otherwise in the mark scheme.

Abbreviations

/	Alternative and acceptable answers for the same marking point.
()	Bracketed content indicates words which do not need to be explicitly seen to gain credit but which indicate the context for an answer. The context does not need to be seen but if a context is given that is incorrect then the mark should not be awarded.
—	Underlined content must be present in answer to award the mark. This means either the exact word or another word that has the same technical meaning.

Mark categories

B marks	These are <u>independent</u> marks, which do not depend on other marks. For a B mark to be awarded, the point to which it refers must be seen specifically in the candidate's answer.
M marks	These are <u>method</u> marks upon which A marks later depend. For an M mark to be awarded, the point to which it refers must be seen specifically in the candidate's answer. If a candidate is not awarded an M mark, then the later A mark cannot be awarded either.
C marks	These are <u>compensatory</u> marks which can be awarded even if the points to which they refer are not written down by the candidate, providing subsequent working gives evidence that they must have known them. For example, if an equation carries a C mark and the candidate does not write down the actual equation but does correct working which shows the candidate knew the equation, then the C mark is awarded. If a correct answer is given to a numerical question, all of the preceding C marks are awarded automatically. It is only necessary to consider each of the C marks in turn when the numerical answer is not correct.
A marks	These are <u>answer</u> marks. They may depend on an M mark or allow a C mark to be awarded by implication.

Annotations

✓	Indicates the point at which a mark has been awarded.
X	Indicates an incorrect answer or a point at which a decision is made not to award a mark.
XP	Indicates a physically incorrect equation ('incorrect physics'). No credit is given for substitution, or subsequent arithmetic, in a physically incorrect equation.
ECF	Indicates 'error carried forward'. Answers to later numerical questions can always be awarded up to full credit provided they are consistent with earlier incorrect answers. <u>Within</u> a section of a numerical question, ECF can be given after AE, TE and POT errors, but not after XP.
AE	Indicates an arithmetic error. Do not allow the mark where the error occurs. Then follow through the working/calculation giving full subsequent ECF if there are no further errors.
POT	Indicates a power of ten error. Do not allow the mark where the error occurs. Then follow through the working/calculation giving full subsequent ECF if there are no further errors.
TE	Indicates incorrect transcription of the correct data from the question, a graph, data sheet or a previous answer. For example, the value of 1.6×10^{-19} has been written down as 6.1×10^{-19} or 1.6×10^{19} . Do not allow the mark where the error occurs. Then follow through the working/calculation giving full subsequent ECF if there are no further errors.
SF	Indicates that the correct answer is seen in the working but the final answer is incorrect as it is expressed to too few significant figures.
BOD	Indicates that a mark is awarded where the candidate provides an answer that is not totally satisfactory, but the examiner feels that sufficient work has been done ('benefit of doubt').
CON	Indicates that a response is contradictory.
I	Indicates parts of a response that have been seen but disregarded as irrelevant.
MO	Indicates where an A category mark has not been awarded due to the M category mark upon which it depends not having previously been awarded.

^	Indicates where more is needed for a mark to be awarded (what is written is not wrong, but not enough). May also be used to annotate a response space that has been left completely blank.
SEEN	Indicates that a page has been seen.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	(gravitational) force per unit mass	B1
1(b)(i)	$g = GM/r^2$	C1
	$= (6.67 \times 10^{-11} \times 6.42 \times 10^{23}) / (3.39 \times 10^6)^2$ $= 3.73 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$	A1
1(b)(ii)	$a = r\omega^2$ and $\omega = 2\pi / T$ or $a = v^2 / r$ and $v = 2\pi r / T$	C1
	$a = 3.39 \times 10^6 \times (2\pi / (24.6 \times 3600))^2$ $= 0.0171 \text{ m s}^{-2}$	A1
1(b)(iii)	force per unit mass = $3.73 - 0.0171$ $= 3.71 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$	A1

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	$pV = nRT$	C1
	$pV = nRT$ and $N = nN_A$ or $pV = NkT$	C1
	$3.1 \times 10^{-3} \times 8.5 \times 10^5 = (N \times 290 \times 8.31) / (6.02 \times 10^{23})$ so $N = 6.6 \times 10^{23}$ or $3.1 \times 10^{-3} \times 8.5 \times 10^5 = N \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 290$ so $N = 6.6 \times 10^{23}$	A1
2(b)(i)	$(3.1 \times 10^{-3} \times 8.5 \times 10^5) / 290 = (6.3 \times 10^{-3} \times 2.7 \times 10^5) / T$ so $T = 190 \text{ K}$ or $6.3 \times 10^{-3} \times 2.7 \times 10^5 = 6.6 \times 10^{23} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times T$ so $T = 190 \text{ K}$	A1
	2(b)(ii)	$\Delta U = 3/2 \times k \times \Delta T \times N$ $= 3/2 \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times (190 - 290) \times 6.6 \times 10^{23}$ $= -1400 \text{ J}$
2(c)	$\Delta U = q + w$	M1
	$q = 0$ so $\Delta U = w$	A1

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	acceleration in opposite <u>direction</u> to displacement shown by – sign	B1
	g/L is constant	M1
	(so) acceleration is (directly) proportional to displacement	A1
3(b)	$\omega^2 = g/L$	C1
	$\omega = 2\pi/T$ or $\omega = 2\pi f$ and $f = 1/T$	C1
	$(2\pi/T)^2 = 9.81/0.18$ $T = 0.85$ s	A1
3(c)	energy $\propto x_0^2$	C1
	(after 3 cycles,) amplitude = $(0.94)^3 x_0$ = $0.83x_0$	C1
	ratio final energy / initial energy = 0.83^2 = 0.69	A1

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)(i)	frequency (modulation)	B1
4(a)(ii)	1. zero	B1
	2. frequency (of 1.2 MHz) varies by ± 50 kHz	B1
	frequency varies (by ± 50 kHz) at a rate of 8000 times per second	B1
4(b)(i)	wavelength = $(3.00 \times 10^8) / (240 \times 10^3)$	C1
	(= 1250 m)	A1
	= 1.25 km	
4(b)(ii)	bandwidth = 30 kHz	A1
4(b)(iii)	frequency = 15 kHz	A1

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	from $x = 0$ to $x = r$: horizontal line at $V = 1.0V_0$	B1
	from $x = r$ to $x = 3r$: curve with negative gradient of decreasing magnitude starting at $(r, 1.0V_0)$	B1
	line passing through $(2r, \frac{1}{2}V_0)$ and $(3r, \frac{1}{3}V_0)$	B1
5(b)	line with negative gradient from $\lambda = \frac{1}{3}\lambda_0$ to $\lambda = \lambda_0$	B1
	line passing through $(\lambda_0, 0)$	B1
	curve with negative gradient of decreasing magnitude passing through $(\frac{1}{2}\lambda_0, E_{\text{MAX}})$ and $(\frac{1}{3}\lambda_0, 2E_{\text{MAX}})$	B1
5(c)	$1.0T_{\frac{1}{2}}$ shown at $\frac{1}{2}N_0$ and $2.0T_{\frac{1}{2}}$ shown at $\frac{1}{4}N_0$	B1
	line starting at $(0, 0)$ and reaching $(T, N_0 - N)$	B1
	line starting at $(0, 0)$ and reaching original curve at $(1.0T_{\frac{1}{2}}, \frac{1}{2}N_0)$	B1

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	potential difference applied between the plates	M1
	causes charge separation (between the plates) or causes energy to be stored (between the plates)	A1
6(b)(i)	$I = Q / t$	M1
	clear substitution of $Q = CV$ and $f = 1 / t$, leading to $I = fCV$	A1
6(b)(ii)	$2.5 \times 10^{-6} = 50 \times C \times 180$	C1
	$C = 280 \text{ pF}$	A1
6(c)	(total) capacitance increases	B1
	greater charge (for each cycle/discharge) so greater (average) current or V and f are constant so (average) current increases or I is (directly) proportional to C so (average) current increases	B1

Question	Answer	Marks
7(a)(i)	no current enters/leaves the input	B1
7(a)(ii)	gain is the same for all frequencies	B1
7(b)(i)	$V_{IN} = 1.5 \times 400 / (400 + 1100) = 0.40 \text{ V}$ or $V_{IN} = 1.5 - (1.5 \times 1100 / 1500) = 0.40 \text{ V}$ or $(1.5 - V_{IN}) / 1100 = V_{IN} / 400$ so $V_{IN} = 0.40 \text{ V}$	A1
7(b)(ii)	gain = $(-)\ R_f / R_i$	C1
	$V_{OUT} / 0.40 = (360 + 100) / 96$	C1
	$V_{OUT} = 1.9 \text{ V}$	A1
7(b)(iii)	resistance <u>of thermistor</u> decreases	B1
	(magnitude of) gain decreases so reading decreases	B1
7(b)(iv)	(at gain 12.5) V_{OUT} is 5.0 V, so (above gain 12.5) output becomes saturated	B1

Question	Answer	Marks
8(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> force per unit length force per unit current length/current perpendicular to field <i>1 mark for any two points, 2 marks for all three points</i>	B2
8(b)	change in potential energy = change in kinetic energy or $qV = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$	B1
	$v = \sqrt{(2qV / m)}$	A1
8(c)(i)	magnetic force = centripetal force or $Bqv = mv^2 / r$	M1
	clear substitution of expression for v and correct algebra leading to $q / m = 2V / B^2r^2$	A1
8(c)(ii)	$q / m = (2 \times 230) / [(0.38 \times 10^{-3})^2 \times 0.14^2]$	C1
	$= 1.6 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$	A1
8(c)(iii)	(for α -particle,) q / m is (much) smaller	B1
	r would be <u>much</u> larger	B1

Question	Answer	Marks
9(a)	(particle is) stationary/not moving	B1
	(particle is) moving parallel to the (magnetic) field	B1
9(b)	magnetic field around each coil is circular or each coil is normal to magnetic field due to adjacent coils	B1
	current in coil interacts with (magnetic) field to exert force (on coil)	B1
	force is normal to both coil and magnetic field or force parallel to axis (of coil)	B1
	forces between coils are attractive so spring contracts	B1
9(c)	(oscillating) coils cut magnetic flux or as separation of coils changes, magnetic flux changes	B1
	cutting flux causes induced e.m.f. in coils	B1
	<u>changing</u> (induced) e.m.f. causes changing current (in coil)	B1

Question	Answer	Marks
10(a)	the steady current or the direct current	M1
	that produces the same heating effect (as the alternating current)	A1
10(b)(i)	peak current = 2.6 A and r.m.s. current = 1.8 A	A1
10(b)(ii)	peak current = 2.0 A and r.m.s. current = 2.0 A	A1
10(c)(i)	$k = 2\pi f$	C1
	$= 2\pi \times 50$	A1
	$= 310 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$	
10(c)(ii)	power = V_{RMS}^2 / R or power = $V_0^2 / 2R$	C1
	$R = (240 / \sqrt{2})^2 / 3200$ or $R = 240^2 / (2 \times 3200)$	A1
	$R = 9.0 \Omega$	

Question	Answer	Marks
11(a)	to produce a 3-dimensional image of structure/body	B1
11(b)	X-rays (are used)	B1
	scanning in sections	B1
	scanning from many angles	B1
	image of each section is 2-dimensional	B1
	scanning repeated for many sections or images of many sections combined together	B1

Question	Answer	Marks
12(a)	quantum of energy	M1
	of electromagnetic radiation	A1
12(b)(i)	energy = hc / λ or energy = hf and $f = c / \lambda$	C1
	$0.57 \times 10^6 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19} = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3.00 \times 10^8) / \lambda$ $\lambda = 2.2 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}$	A1

Question	Answer	Marks
12(b)(ii)	$p = h / \lambda$	C1
	$= (6.63 \times 10^{-34}) / (2.2 \times 10^{-12})$	A1
	$= 3.0 \times 10^{-22} \text{ N s}$	
	or	
	$p = E / c$	(C1)
	$= (0.57 \times 10^6 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19}) / (3.00 \times 10^8)$	(A1)
	$= 3.0 \times 10^{-22} \text{ N s}$	
12(c)(i)	mass (of Sm-157 nucleus) = $157 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27}$ or mass (of Sm-157 nucleus) = $0.157 / (6.02 \times 10^{23})$	C1
	recoil speed = $(3.00 \times 10^{-22}) / (157 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27})$ $= 1.2 \times 10^3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$	A1
12(c)(ii)	$(1.2 \times) 10^3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ is <u>much</u> less than $(3.0 \times) 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$	B1