CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

MALAY **0546/43**

Paper 4 Writing **May/June 2026**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 45

Published

This mark scheme contains the instructions and marking guidance that our examiners used to mark candidate responses for this component.

Before they start marking, examiners complete a standardisation process. They review a range of candidate responses and discuss the mark scheme in detail to agree which answers can and cannot be accepted. Examiners award marks where it is clear that candidate responses have met the requirements of the mark scheme. These requirements may vary between different components or different versions of the same component, depending on the exact requirements of the question and the candidate responses seen during the standardisation process.

Sometimes, our mark schemes may allow marks to be awarded to responses which contain elements that are factually incorrect or for content not covered by the syllabus. We do this in response to the demands of a specific question to support candidates and make sure that our assessments are fair. However, these allowances should not be used as a guide for teaching and learning.

We cannot discuss the mark scheme with schools, and we recommend that schools read the mark scheme together with the assessment material and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

This document consists of **17** printed pages.

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

General marking principles

All examiners must apply these marking principles when marking candidate responses.

1	Examiners must award marks for each response in line with: • the specific **content** defined in the mark scheme • the specific **skills** defined in the mark scheme or in the level descriptions • the **standard of response** required as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.
2	Examiners must award **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).
3	Examiners must award marks **positively**. This means that: • marks are not deducted for errors or omissions • marks are awarded for correct/valid answers as defined in the mark scheme and also for **other valid answers** which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme referring to your team leader as appropriate • the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar are judged **only** when the mark scheme indicates that these features are **specifically assessed** in the question. However, the meaning of all responses must be unambiguous.
4	Examiners must **consistently** apply the requirements of the mark scheme and any rules for what to do when candidates have not followed instructions correctly.
5	Examiners must use the **full range of marks** defined in the mark scheme, unless limited by the quality of the candidate responses seen.
6	Examiners must award marks according to the mark scheme and **must not** award marks with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
✓	Mark awarded on **Question 1**
✗	Used to show original mark not awarded.
✓ 1	Task/Bullet point 1 completed. Numbered ticks 1 to 5 refer to tasks/bullet points 1 to 5. One tick = partial task completion. Two ticks = task fully completed.
^	Something missing. In the left margin = task omitted. In the body of the text = significant word missing.
BOD	Benefit of doubt given
+	Recorded in right margin to indicate that the candidate has provided detailed information that merits awarding.
Highlighter	In **Question 2** – Examples of connectives highlighted In **Question 3** – Examples of cohesive devices, and complex structures and vocabulary highlighted.
or IR	Section of text not relevant to the task. Has to be agreed with Team Leader.

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Annotation	**Meaning**
?	Message unclear
Off page comment	Usually used to annotate practice scripts to standardise examiners.
SEEN	To confirm blank pages seen
~~	Occasionally used to underline examples of errors/inaccuracies

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Additional Guidance

- **Crossing out:**

(a)	If a candidate changes his/her mind over an answer and crosses out an attempt, award a mark if the final attempt is correct.
(b)	If a candidate crosses out an answer to a whole question but makes no second attempt at it, mark the crossed out work.

- **Annotations used in the mark scheme:**

(a)	tc = 'tout court' and means that on its own the material is not sufficient to score the mark.

- **No response and '0' marks:**

(a)	**Award NR (no response):** If there is nothing written at all in the answer space or If there is only a comment which does not in any way relate to the question being asked (e.g. 'can't do' or 'don't know') or If there is only a mark which isn't an attempt at the question (e.g. a dash, a question mark).
(b)	**Award 0:** If there is any attempt that earns no credit. This could, for example, include the candidate copying all or some of the question, or any working that does not earn any marks, whether crossed out or not.

- **Optional questions:**
  Mark all questions attempted by the candidate. Where the candidate attempts more than one of the alternatives in Question 3, the marking system will take the best mark.

- **Using mark schemes with grade descriptors:**
  Start at the bottom of the mark scheme and work upwards through the descriptors when awarding marks.

  The marker should look at the work and then make a judgement about which level statement is the 'best fit'. In practice, work does not always match one level statement precisely so a judgement may need to be made between two or more level statements.

  Once a 'best-fit' level statement has been identified, use the following guidance to decide on a specific mark:

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

- If the candidate's work convincingly meets the level statement, award the highest mark.
- If the candidate's work adequately meets the level statement, award the most appropriate mark in the middle of the range (where middle marks are available).
- If the candidate's work just meets the level statement, award the lowest mark.

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Detailed Mark Scheme

Question	Answer	Marks
1	**Candidates are required to complete 5 gaps in Malay. Read all of the items that the candidate has listed and award marks as follows:** ● **Award 1 mark for each correct item.** ● In Question 1, award marks for items wherever the candidate has written them provided the candidate has made clear which part of the form they refer to. ● Mark for communication. Tolerate inaccuracies, provided the message is clear. Ignore any definite/indefinite article, possessive adjective, etc. Ignore any verbs. ● If spelling is inaccurate, start by referring to the table below. Refer to the questions below if no decision on the spelling you have encountered is recorded there. If you read aloud what the candidate has written, does it sound like the correct answer and would a native speaker of Malay understand it? Does what the candidate has written look like the correct answer, e.g. one letter missing but no other word created? Would a native speaker of Malay understand it? ● Reject misspelt words which suggest a word with a quite different meaning. Where nouns are usually plural, accept the singular and vice versa. ● Expect candidates to know countries in the target language (use the sound-alike and look-alike rule) but accept any spelling for towns/cities/villages. ● All answers must fulfil the communicative purpose described in the rubric. ● If the task is Give a hobby and the candidate writes three things, two of which are incorrect and one of which can be accepted as a correct hobby, consider if the communication purpose has been fulfilled. Imagine a real form: would the end user come away knowing what the candidate's hobby is, or would they be confused by the other answers given? You might need to discuss and see what the consensus is.	**5**

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Question	Answer	Marks
1	Anda menghantar haiwan peliharaan anda ke hotel haiwan peliharaan. Anda perlu mengisi borang. Lengkapkan borang di bawah dalam **Bahasa Melayu**.	5

	ACCEPT	REFUSE
Gap 1 Jenis haiwan peliharaan. (1 mark)	Any appropriate type of animal reasonable kept as pets/ to be sent to pet hotel, and in Malay. e.g. ***kucing, anjing, hamster, ular, iguana*** etc. Can accept ***Kuching***	Refuse type of animal unreasonable kept as pets/ to be sent to pet hotel or not in Malay. e.g. ***beruang, dinosaur, zirafah, lembu, gajah***, ***singa, harimau, kambing, ayam,*** etc
Gap 2 Warna haiwan peliharaan: (1 mark)	Any name of colour in Malay e.g. ***merah, hitam, biru*** etc.	Refuse vocabulary which is not name of colour in Malay e.g. ***purple, red*** etc.
Gap 3 and 4 Jenis makanan kegemaran haiwan peliharaan: (2 mark)	Any **TWO** names of reasonable food relevant for pets named and in Malay. e.g. sayur, buah, daun, ikan, daging ayam, daging kambing,nasi, susu, etc. Accept specific name of food, not just types.	Refuse vocabulary which is not reasonable food relevant for pets named or not in Malay. Reject name of brands.
Gap 5 Jumlah hari penginapan. (tulis dalam perkataan) (1 mark)	Any reasonable number for hotel stay for pets. Must be in Malay and must in words. e.g. ***satu, tiga, lima, tujuh, sepuluh, dua malam, etc.***	Refuse unreasonable number for hotel stay for pets. Not in Malay or if not in words. e.g. ***3, 7, 100, seratus, ten, three, seribu, lima bulan, lima Jun, hujung minggu, Sabtu,12 Jumaat, etc.***

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Question	Answer	Marks
2	**Candidates complete a directed writing task in about 80–90 words on a familiar, everyday topic.** • If a candidate has completed most tasks rather than all, but the 10–12 descriptors are the best fit in other respects, then the answer can, in theory, access the lower end of the 10–12 band. • In the top two bands, the word *opinions* also includes reasons, explanations, etc. • If a candidate offers opinions, but not in response to the task which specifically asks for an opinion, then the candidate has not completed all the tasks. You will need to award a mark in the band that best fits the whole answer. • If a task asks *What do you think of your school?* and the candidate answers *I like my school*, this is considered an attempt at answering the bullet point. However, if the bullet point asks *What's your school like?* and the candidate answers *I like my school*, then this response can't be considered as an attempt at answering the bullet point. • If a task requires a future time frame but the candidate answers in another time frame, the answer to the task does **not** meet the criteria *completes the task in the required level of detail* and *meaning is clear and communication is achieved.* • *Relevance* is included in the mark scheme. • The word count (80–90 words) is for guidance only. Our advice to candidates is that they should try to stick to the word limits given in the question paper (for both questions 2 and 3), as they are designed to help candidates spend an appropriate length of time on each question. However, if candidates exceed the word limit, then you should mark what the candidate has written – provided that it is relevant. If candidates write less than the recommended number of words, then they are likely to self-penalise because they may not have addressed all the tasks.	**12**

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Question	Answer	Marks
2	**Aktiviti cuti sekolah** • **Berapa lamakah cuti sekolah akhir tahun anda?** • **Apakah perasaan anda semasa cuti sekolah?** • **Apakah jenis aktiviti yang anda suka lakukan semasa cuti sekolah? Mengapa?** • **Pada cuti sekolah akan datang, anda ingin menghabiskan masa cuti anda dengan siapa?** Tulis antara 80–90 perkataan dalam **Bahasa Melayu**. Read the whole answer and award a mark out of 12 using the table below.	

https://xtremepape.rs/

Marks	Descriptor	Guidance
10–12	• Completes all tasks in the required level of detail. • Provides consistently relevant information and opinions. • Meaning is clear and communication is achieved, although there may be some linguistic inaccuracies. • Uses straightforward vocabulary and structures. • Links words and phrases using a range of simple connectors.	Examples of linguistic inaccuracies: lapses in agreements, tenses/time frames, spelling Examples of linking words and phrases: *and*, *or*, *but*, *because*, *then*
7–9	• Completes most tasks in the required level of detail. • Provides mostly relevant information and opinions. • Meaning is mostly clear and communication is generally achieved, despite linguistic inaccuracies. • Uses limited vocabulary and structures with some repetition. • Some attempt to link words and phrases using a range of simple connectors.	
4–6	• Completes some tasks with some of the required detail. • Provides some relevant information. • Meaning is sometimes clear and some communication is achieved, despite linguistic inaccuracies. • Uses basic vocabulary and structures with frequent repetition. • Some attempt to link words or phrases using a limited range of simple connectors repetitively (e.g. *and*, *or*).	
1–3	• Attempts task(s), with little or none of the required detail. • May provide information; is almost always irrelevant. • Meaning is unclear and communication is rarely achieved. • Uses isolated words/phrases appropriate to the task. • Little attempt to link words or phrases.	
0	• No creditable content.	

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Question	Answer	Marks
3	**Candidates choose between two tasks (an email/letter and an article/blog) and complete one of these in about 130–140 words.** Task completion • A response can only be considered complete if all elements of all part-questions are attempted reasonably successfully. • If a task is *What did you think about the movie?* and the candidate answers *The movie was interesting* (and nothing else), then they do **not** meet the criteria *Gives detailed information, opinions/reactions and explanations*. Range • When the criterion starts with *Uses*… read it as *Uses successfully*…. • Complex structures: there is no defined list of what constitutes a complex structure; it is based on the usual understanding of standard classroom practice at this level. It would also depend on the context of the piece of writing that the candidate is tackling. Accuracy • Gender errors need to be considered under Accuracy. • Extremely short answers with no errors cannot be awarded a mark of more than 4 for *Accuracy* as the candidate has only provided *some accurate spelling and grammar.* • If the answer to one bullet point has an error in the first sentence (e.g. incorrect tense), but the second sentence is completely accurate, you should mark the answer holistically.	

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	**Jawab hanya satu soalan. Pilih soalan 3(a) atau 3(b).** **Tulis antara 130–140 patah perkataan dalam Bahasa Melayu.Dunia pekerjaan** **Anda sedang memikirkan tentang masa depan anda. Tulis sebuah e-mel kepada nenek anda untuk berkongsi fikiran anda tentangnya.** **Sertakan maklumat berikut di dalam e-mel anda:** • **Pekerjaan yang anda impikan semasa kecil dahulu.** • **Mengapa anda impikan pekerjaan itu.** • **Langkah-langkah yang anda perlu ambil untuk mendapat pekerjaan impian anda.** • **Perasaan anda jika berjaya mencapai cita-cita anda.** • **Tanya nenek anda pendapatnya tentang pekerjaan impian anda.** Read the whole answer, award a mark from each of the three tables below and add up the total. Marks are available for: • task completion (maximum 10 marks) • range (maximum 10 marks) • accuracy (maximum 8 marks).	**28**

https://xtremepape.rs/

Question	Answer	Marks
3(b)	**<u>ATAU</u>** **<u>Perpustakaan awam</u>** **Guru anda meminta anda menulis sebuah rencana untuk majalah sekolah tentang kepentingan menjaga perpustakaan awam.** **Sertakan maklumat berikut di dalam rencana anda:** • **Apa yang boleh dilakukan di perpustakaan awam.** • **Perasaan anda tentang vandalisme di perpustakaan awam.** • **Pengalaman anda menyaksikan kerosakan di sebuah perpustakaan awam.** • **Kepentingan menjaga perpustakaan awam.** • **Satu aktiviti yang sekolah anda akan adakan di perpustakaan awam.** Read the whole answer, award a mark from each of the three tables below and add up the total. Marks are available for: • task completion (maximum 10 marks) • range (maximum 10 marks) • accuracy (maximum 8 marks).	**28**

https://xtremepape.rs/

Task completion

Marks	Descriptor
9–10	• Completes all tasks. • Provides detailed information, opinions/reactions and explanations. • The writing is focused and wholly relevant.
7–8	• Completes most tasks. • Provides straightforward information, opinions/reactions and explanations. • The writing is mostly relevant.
5–6	• Completes some tasks. • Provides some information, opinions and simple explanations. • The writing is more relevant than irrelevant.
3–4	• Attempts some tasks with some success. • Provides basic information and opinions. • The writing is occasionally relevant.
1–2	• Attempts task(s) with little or no success. • Provides some information and is almost always irrelevant.
0	• No creditable response.

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Range

Marks	Descriptor
9–10	• Uses extended, well-linked sentences frequently. • Uses a wide range of simple and complex structures listed in the syllabus to produce sentences of varying length. • Uses a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the task(s).
7–8	• Uses some extended sentences, mostly well linked. • Uses a range of structures listed in the syllabus, including some complex structures, to produce sentences of varying length. • Uses a range of vocabulary appropriate to the task(s) with occasional repetition.
5–6	• Uses some extended sentences, with some evidence of linkage. • Uses simple structures and attempts to use some complex structures listed in the syllabus. • Uses mostly straightforward vocabulary appropriate to the task(s) with some repetition.
3–4	• Uses simple structures and makes no attempt at using the complex structures listed in the syllabus. • Relies on repetition of a small range of straightforward vocabulary.
1–2	• Uses isolated phrases and makes some attempt at basic structures. • Relies on repetition of a small range of basic vocabulary.
0	• No creditable response.

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/

Accuracy

Marks	Descriptor
7–8	• Accurate spelling and grammar; not necessarily faultless. • Occasional errors in spelling and grammar do not impede communication.
5–6	• Mostly accurate spelling and grammar. • Errors in spelling and grammar sometimes impede communication.
3–4	• Some accurate spelling and grammar. • Errors in spelling and grammar frequently impede communication.
1–2	• Rarely accurate spelling and grammar. • Errors in spelling and grammar persistently impede communication.
0	• No creditable response.

Irrelevance

- Sections of material unrelated to any of the bullet points will be disregarded.
- If the whole answer to **Question 3** is irrelevant (e.g. contains no evidence of being related to the bullet points set), award 0 for *Task completion*, *Range* and *Accuracy*.
- If Question 3 is attempted but communication is not achieved (i.e. the candidate misunderstood the question), award a maximum of 4 for *Range* and a best fit for *Task completion* and *Accuracy.*

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2026

https://xtremepape.rs/