CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

COMBINED SCIENCE **0653/51**

Paper 5 Practical Test **May/June 2025**

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 2025 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **8** printed pages.

PUBLISHED

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 descriptions 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	<u>'List rule' guidance</u> 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.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	<table><tr><th>drink</th><th>colour with iodine solution</th><th>colour with biuret solution</th></tr><tr><td>A</td><td>brown</td><td>lilac</td></tr><tr><td>B</td><td>blue-black</td><td>lilac</td></tr><tr><td>C</td><td>brown</td><td>blue</td></tr></table> ;;; *brown × 2 = 1 mark* *blue-black = 1 mark* *all of colour with biuret lilac, lilac, blue = 1 mark*	**3**
1(b)	**A** contains no starch but does contain protein ; **B** contains starch **and** protein ; **C** does **not** contain starch or protein ;	**3**
1(c)	ethanol ;	**1**

Question	Answer	Marks
2	***One*** *marking point from each section and any* ***two*** *others (if one section is missing max 6 etc.):* **1 Apparatus** (thermostatically controlled) water-bath ; stop-watch ; thermometer / measuring cylinder ; **2 Method** allow **both** invertase and sucrose to reach (required) temperature **before** mixing ; mix together invertase and sucrose for at least two temperatures and use Benedict's solution ; start stop-watch when invertase and sucrose are mixed ; take samples at intervals (for testing) ; repeat at five or more different temperatures all **below** 100 °C ; **3 Measurements** measure volume of, invertase / sucrose / provides stated value with units (cm^3) ; measure time to colour change / time to (brick-)red ; measure temperature / provides stated value with units (°C) ; **4 Constant variables** constant volume / amount of, invertase (solution) / control the volume / amount of, invertase / repeat with stated volume ; constant volume / amount of, sucrose (solution) / control the volume / amount of, sucrose repeat with stated volume ; **5 Processing results** plot a graph of time (to colour change) against temperature ; *idea of* shorter time equals greater activity (of enzyme / invertase) ;	**7**

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)(i)	first reaction time measured ;	**1**
3(a)(ii)	other three reaction times recorded ; reaction times increase ; all reaction times measured to the nearest second ;	**3**

<table>
<tr><th>Question</th><th>Answer</th><th>Marks</th></tr>
<tr><td>3(a)(iii)</td><td>all four rate of reactions calculated ;
all values of rate quoted to two significant figures ;</td><td>2</td></tr>
<tr><td>3(a)(iv)</td><td>as volume (of H) increases the rate (of reaction) increases ;</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>3(a)(v)</td><td>ensure <u>all</u> of magnesium is in contact with H ;</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>3(a)(vi)</td><td>to remove, (leftover) H / reaction mixture / so that there is no extra H / reaction mixture, in next experiment / to avoid changing concentration of H in next experiment ;</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>3(b)(i)</td><td><table><tr><th>test</th><th>observation</th></tr><tr><td>add 1 cm depth of dilute nitric acid followed by 1 cm depth of aqueous barium nitrate</td><td>no precipitate / remains colourless / no reaction</td></tr><tr><td>add 1 cm depth of dilute nitric acid followed by 1 cm depth of aqueous silver nitrate</td><td>white precipitate</td></tr><tr><td>add 5 drops of universal indicator</td><td>red</td></tr></table>;;;
each correct row = 1 mark</td><td>3</td></tr>
<tr><td>3(b)(ii)</td><td>hydrochloric acid
AND
is an acid from universal indicator and contains Cl^- from silver nitrate ;</td><td>1</td></tr>
</table>

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	answer in range 13.<u>0</u> - 17.<u>0</u> (cm) ;	**1**
4(b)(i)	value between 12.2 s and 13.1 s in table ;	**1**
4(b)(ii)	2nd value between 12.2 s and 13.1 s ;	**1**

Question	Answer	Marks
4(b)(iii)	correct calculation of average value of 10 oscillations ;	**1**
4(b)(iv)	correct calculation of T and T^2 ;	**1**
4(b)(v)	check both values are similar ;	**1**
4(b)(vi)	correct calculation of 10%, e.g. difference is (10.3 – 9.9) ÷ 10.3 × 100 = 3.88 or 3.9 or 4% **or** (10.3 – 9.9) ÷ 9.9 × 100 = 4.04 or 4% ; (correct calculation plus statement that) yes / this is within 10% / they are equal ;	**2**
4(c)(i)	horizontal axis (distance) labelled x in cm and linear scale so that plotted points occupy at least half the grid ; correct plots to ± ½ small square ;	**2**
4(c)(ii)	thin straight line of best fit drawn with even distribution of points ;	**1**
4(c)(iii)	extrapolation to determine intercept **and** correct read-off to ± ½ small square ;	**1**
4(d)	bob drawn with its centre at the same level as the top of the bench and string connected ;	**1**