



Cambridge O Level

COMBINED SCIENCE

5129/32

Paper 3 Experimental Skills and Investigations 32

October/November 2023

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 October/November 2023 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 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.

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Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)(i)	thermometer ;	1
1(a)(ii)	Any two from: concentration of amylase ; concentration of starch ; same number of drops / volume of iodine solution ; pH ; test-tubes in water-bath for same time ; same method of testing for starch ; amylase and starch needs to be from the same source ;	2
1(b)(i)	no units for temperature ; seconds in body of table ;	2
1(b)(ii)	repeat (procedure) / measure the time ; smaller intervals stated e.g. 36 °C, 37 °C, 38 °C ,39 °C (between 35 °C and 40 °C) ; (repeat and) average / eliminate anomalous data ;	3
1(c)(i)	black / blue-black / dark blue / dark purple ;	1
1(c)(ii)	test: Benedict's ; result: (colour change from blue to) red / orange / yellow / green ;	2

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Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	any one from: reduces risk of being burned / electrocuted ; reduces risk of short circuiting (if coils touch) / coils touching; the tape will hold the test-tube together if the glass breaks / reduces risk of tube breaking ;	1
2(b)	ammeter ;	1
2(c)(i)	0.7 (A) ;	1
2(c)(ii)	2.8 (W) ;	1
2(d)	axes labelled in correct orientation with time on y-axis and power on x-axis ; linear scale for plotted points to cover half or more in both directions ; all points in the table plotted accurately using fine points or crosses to $\pm$ half small square ; curved line through all plotted points with even distribution of point above and below the line ;	4
2(d)		
2(e)	as power increases the time decreases / ORA ;	1
2(f)(i)	not known if thermometer was in the same place for each experiment or temperature may be increasing faster at the top ; OR rate of temperature increase may not be the same everywhere ; OR not known how much hotter at the top ;	1
2(f)(ii)	stir / mix / shake ;	1

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Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)(i)	measuring cylinder ;	1
3(a)(ii)	24 (cm ³) ;	1
3(b)	gas escapes in apparatus A / ORA ;	1
3(c)	carbon dioxide ;	1
3(d)(i)	filtration / filtering / filter ;	1
3(d)(ii)	any value less than 1.0 g and greater than 0 explanation: some of the solid has reacted / some of the solid hasn't reacted / some gas has been given off ; explanation must be correct for the mark	1
3(e)(i)	concentration: greater than 9.8 and less than 13.6 ; explanation: it follows the trend in the data / every 1.9 g adds 5 seconds / it is double the concentration that gives 15 cm ³ ;	2
3(e)(ii)	concentration: 7.9 ; explanation: does not follow the trend / lower than the previous value / is not an increase ; mark for explanation given only if anomalous result given correctly	2
3(e)(iii)	the greater the concentration the faster the rate / the lower the concentration the slower the rate / greater the concentration the greater the volume in 60 seconds ;	1

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Question	Answer	Marks
4	1 mark from each section plus any other 3 marks from last two sections. apparatus – one mark only A named piece of apparatus e.g.: test- tube / boiling tube / beaker / (conical) flask ; safety – one mark only use eye protection / tie hair back / gloves / PPE / well ventilated room / fume cupboard ; observations: observes the colour change when : Chlorine is mixed with potassium bromide ; Chlorine is mixed with potassium iodide ; Bromine is mixed with potassium iodide ; use of results to draw conclusion (<i>The students conclusion is supported if :</i>) Chlorine turns potassium bromide orange ; Chlorine turns potassium iodide red brown / red / brown ; Bromine turns potassium iodide red brown / red / brown ; Conclusion linking displacement and reactivity with example e.g. Potassium bromide + chlorine → potassium chloride + bromine so chlorine is more reactive than bromine ;	7