



**MARKING NOTES
REMARQUES POUR LA NOTATION
NOTAS PARA LA CORRECCIÓN**

November / novembre / noviembre 2012

ENGLISH / ANGLAIS / INGLÉS B

**Standard Level
Niveau Moyen
Nivel Medio**

Paper / Épreuve / Prueba 2

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These notes are not intended to replace the published criteria but to supplement them in some instances.

*These notes are intended to define the **top** mark of the scale in this examination. The phrase, “a good answer”, is intended to refer to scripts which are likely to be placed in the 9 to 10 band of descriptors. Scripts should be marked proportionately lower to the degree to which they fail to meet these requirements.*

*In each case, good answers will meet **most**, though not necessarily **all**, of the following requirements.*

1. *Your school is considering reducing the time devoted to sports in order to give more lessons. Write a letter to the school principal **either** supporting **or** objecting to this idea.*

Argument/controversial – formal – letter

A good answer:

- will adopt a formal register
- will use the format of a formal letter (address and date (optional), greeting, closing salutation)
- will adopt a suitable tone of respect
- will support one side of the argument. Failure to do so will reduce the mark for relevance in Criterion C, as merely “generally relevant”
- will give reasons for the points made
- may mention opposing arguments in order to refute them; this should be rewarded.

2. *Write a diary entry that begins with these words: “I thought the weekend was going to be boring, but ...”.*

Narration/reflection – informal – diary entry

A good answer:

- will adopt an informal register
- will include features of a diary entry (*e.g.* date)
- will begin with the words given in the question. If these words do not appear, award a maximum of [**9 marks**] for Criterion C
- will clearly convey the excitement or interest of the weekend
- will include an element of reflection
- will personalize the content
- may have some twist in the narrative or an unexpected ending; this should be rewarded
- may explain briefly why the weekend was expected to be boring; this should be rewarded.

3. *Your best friend recently moved to another town and is having difficulty adapting to a new school. Write an e-mail to him/her mentioning the problems and offering advice.*

Written interaction – informal – e-mail

A good answer:

- will adopt an informal register
- will offer advice in an encouraging way
- will adopt a friendly tone
- will use any of the greetings and goodbyes appropriate to an e-mail
- will cover both aspects of the question; the problems and the advice. Failure to do so will reduce the mark for relevance in Criterion C
- will back up the advice with reasons
- may adopt an e-mail format (e.g. “To” and “Subject”); this should be rewarded.

Note: Some limited use of Textese (e.g. 4 for four/for and u for you) and/or emoticons is permissible.

4. *Write a review for your school newspaper of a film that you have recently enjoyed. Do not simply retell the story.*

Analysis and critique/subjective – semi-formal – review

A good answer:

- will adopt a semi-formal register
- will have a title and the name of the reviewer
- will use a lively style which will engage the readers
- will identify the film
- will make clear why the film was enjoyed
- will discuss various aspects such as characters, acting or soundtrack
- will not just retell the plot
- will recommend readers to see the film
- may have flashes of informality that convey a personal tone; this should be rewarded
- may use a system of ratings, for example stars; this should be rewarded.