

Cambridge IGCSE™

FIRST LANGUAGE ARABIC

0508/02

Paper 2 Writing

For examination from 2027

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

Specimen

This document has **10** pages.

Generic Marking Principles

All examiners must apply these general marking principles when marking candidate responses. Examiners must apply them alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme must 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 descriptions for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptions 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 descriptions.

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 descriptions in mind.

Arabic specific marking guidance

Marking of work should be positive, rewarding achievement where possible, but clearly differentiating across the whole range of marks, where appropriate.

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:

If there are two marks in band (e.g. 11–12):

- Where the candidate's work **convincingly** meets the level statement, you should award the highest mark.
- Where the candidate's work **just** meets the level statement, you should award the lowest mark.

If there are three marks in band (e.g. 8–10):

- Where the candidate's work **convincingly** meets the level statement, you should award the highest mark.
- Where the candidate's work **adequately** meets the level statement, you should award the mark in the middle of the range.
- Where the candidate's work **just** meets the level statement, you should award the lowest mark.

Section A: Discursive/Argumentative Writing**Question 1 or 2**

This question tests the following writing assessment objectives (25 marks):

W1 articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined

W2 organise and structure ideas and opinions for deliberate effect

W3 use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures appropriate to context

W5 make accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Question	Answer	Marks
EITHER		
1	التفوق الأكاديمي أهم من التفوق الرياضي. ما رأيك؟ ودلّ عليه بالبراهين. Use Table A to give a mark out of 12 for style and accuracy, and Table B to give a mark out of 13 for content and structure.	25
OR		
2	اقتناء حيوان أليف يُضفي على البيت جوًّا مختلفًا. ناقش سلبيات وإيجابيات هذا الموضوع. Use Table A to give a mark out of 12 for style and accuracy, and Table B to give a mark out of 13 for content and structure.	25

Section B: Descriptive/Narrative Writing**Question 3 or 4**

This question tests the following writing assessment objectives (25 marks):

W1 articulate experience and express what is thought, felt and imagined

W2 organise and structure ideas and opinions for deliberate effect

W3 use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures appropriate to context

W5 make accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Question	Answer	Marks
EITHER		
3	<p>صف يوماً ما طرّاً عشته؛ ماذا شاهدت، سمعت، ...الخ، وما مشاعرك خلال اليوم.</p> <p>Use Table A to give a mark out of 12 for style and accuracy, and Table C to give a mark out of 13 for content and structure.</p>	25
OR		
4	<p>اكتب قصة مغامرة شائقة دارت أحداثها في أحد المخيمات بالصحراء.</p> <p>Use Table A to give a mark out of 12 for style and accuracy, and Table C to give a mark out of 13 for content and structure.</p>	25

Marking criteria for Section A and Section B**Table A, Style and accuracy**

Use the following table to give a mark out of 12 for Writing.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
5	11–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precise, well-chosen range of vocabulary appropriate to the style of writing. Uses sophisticated expressions. (W3) Uses a wide range of well-constructed sentences accurately, including complex sentences. (W3) Spelling, punctuation and grammar almost always accurate. (W5)
4	8–10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly well-chosen range of vocabulary appropriate to style of writing. Uses expressions which are varied and often effective. (W3) Uses a range of sentence structures accurately, including some complex ones. (W3) Spelling, punctuation and grammar mostly accurate, with some minor errors. (W5)
3	5–7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate range of vocabulary appropriate to the style of writing which is sometimes well-chosen. (W3) Uses most sentence structures accurately, sometimes attempting complex ones with success. (W3) Spelling, punctuation and grammar generally accurate, but with some errors. (W5)
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple range of vocabulary appropriate to the style of writing which may be repetitive. (W3) Uses simple sentence structures accurately which may be repetitive. Sometimes attempts more complex sentence structures with limited success and/or clarity. (W3) Frequent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar, occasionally serious, but which do not impair communication. (W5)
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited range of, and/or imprecise vocabulary appropriate to the style of writing. (W3) Uses simple sentence structures, sometimes inaccurately. (W3) Persistent errors of spelling, punctuation and grammar impair communication. (W5)
0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No creditable content.

Marking criteria for Section A**Table B, Content and structure**

Level	Marks	General and specific marking criteria	
5	12–13	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas and/or experiences are well expressed, with excellent use of language to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) • Structure is clear, well balanced and carefully organised for deliberate effect. (W2) 	
		Specific – discursive	Specific – argumentative
		<i>Comprehensive and perceptive discussion; consistently developed with every stage of the discussion linked in a logical way and supported by a wide range of appropriate facts, ideas and opinions, with an extensive awareness of differing viewpoints.</i>	<i>Well-focused and persuasive argument; consistently developed with every stage of the argument linked in a logical way and supported by a wide range of appropriate facts, ideas and opinions.</i>
4	9–11	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas and/or experiences are generally well expressed, with good use of language to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) • Structure is mostly clear, balanced and well organised, with some choices made for deliberate effect. (W2) 	
		Specific – discursive	Specific – argumentative
		<i>Coherent discussion, nearly all stages of the discussion are clearly developed and linked in a logical way, supported by mostly appropriate facts, ideas and opinions, with a good awareness of differing viewpoints.</i>	<i>Coherent, almost always persuasive argument; nearly all stages of the argument are clearly developed and linked in a logical way and supported by mostly appropriate facts, ideas and opinions.</i>
3	6–8	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas and/or experiences are expressed, with some good use of language to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) • Structure is reasonably clear, with some organisation and some choices made for deliberate effect. (W2) 	
		Specific – discursive	Specific – argumentative
		<i>Relevant discussion, with some stages of the discussion developed and linked together in a logical way and supported by some appropriate facts, ideas and opinions, and some awareness of differing viewpoints. There may be some repetition.</i>	<i>Relevant argument, at times persuasive, with some stages of the argument developed and linked together in a logical way and supported by some appropriate facts, ideas and opinions. There may be some repetition.</i>

Level	Marks	General and specific marking criteria	
2	3–5	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A few ideas and/or experiences are expressed, with some attempt to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) Structure is occasionally clear, with some attempt at organisation to achieve effects. (W2) 	
		Specific – discursive	Specific – argumentative
		<i>Simple discussion, with limited range of facts, ideas and opinions and limited development and linking of points. There may be limited relevance or awareness of differing viewpoints. There may be significant repetition.</i>	<i>Simple argument, with limited range of facts, ideas and opinions and limited development and linking of arguments. There may be limited relevance. There may be significant repetition.</i>
1	1–2	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few or no ideas or experiences are expressed, with little or no attempt to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) There is limited structure with little or no organisation of ideas to achieve effects. (W2) 	
		Specific – discursive	Specific – argumentative
		<i>The response is hard to follow, with little relevance or attempt to convey facts, ideas or opinions.</i>	<i>The response is hard to follow, with little relevance or attempt to convey facts, ideas or opinions</i>
0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No creditable content. 	

Marking criteria for Section B**Table C, Content and structure**

Level	Marks	General and specific marking criteria	
5	12–13	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas and/or experiences are well expressed, with excellent use of language to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) • Structure is clear, well balanced and carefully organised for deliberate effect. (W2) 	
		Specific – descriptive	Specific – narrative
		<i>The description is strongly conveyed and consistently developed; ideas, images and sensory details create a convincing and engaging overall picture with varieties of focus.</i>	<i>The plot is strongly conveyed and consistently developed with convincing and engaging features of fictional writing such as description, characterisation and effective climax.</i>
4	9–11	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas and/or experiences are generally well expressed, with good use of language to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) • Structure is mostly clear, balanced and well organised, with some choices made for deliberate effect. (W2) 	
		Specific – descriptive	Specific – narrative
		<i>The description is almost always clearly conveyed and developed; ideas, images and sensory details create a mostly convincing overall picture.</i>	<i>The plot is almost always clearly conveyed and developed with mostly convincing features of fiction writing such as characterisation, detail and climax.</i>
3	6–8	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas and/or experiences are expressed, with some good use of language to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) • Structure is reasonably clear, with some organisation and some choices made for deliberate effect. (W2) 	
		Specific – descriptive	Specific – narrative
		<i>The description is relevant with some development; ideas, images and sensory details create an, at times, convincing overall picture, even where the writing may sometimes be in a narrative style.</i>	<i>The plot is relevant and cohesive, with some development and some convincing features such as characterisation, detail and climax of the story.</i>

Level	Marks	General and specific marking criteria	
2	3–5	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A few ideas and/or experiences are expressed, with some attempt to convey what is thought, felt and imagined. (W1) Structure is occasionally clear, with some attempt at organisation to achieve effects. (W2) 	
		Specific – descriptive	Specific – narrative
		<i>The description has some simple details, with limited development and/or the response may be more typical of a narrative. There may be limited relevance.</i>	<i>The plot is simple, with limited development and limited use of the features of narrative writing, such as characterisation, detail and climax. There may be limited relevance.</i>
1	1–2	General	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few or no ideas or experiences are expressed, with little or no attempt to convey what is thought, felt or imagined. (W1) There is limited structure with little and no organisation of ideas to achieve effects. (W2) 	
		Specific – descriptive	Specific – narrative
		<i>The description is unclear in relation to the task, lacks detail and conveys little to the reader.</i>	<i>The plot is hard to follow with little relevance to the task, and may consist of events which are presented with little clarity.</i>
0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No creditable content. 	