1.4 Assessment criteria

Mark	Quality of language (Accuracy) (AO3)
0	No rewardable language.
1	Isolated examples of correct language; pronunciation and intonation often impede communication.
2–3	Many basic errors, impeding communication at times; pronunciation and intonation erratic, not always comprehensible.
4–5	Accuracy variable but errors rarely impede communication; pronunciation and intonation inconsistent but comprehensible.
6–7	Generally accurate but some errors in more complex language; pronunciation and intonation generally good.
8	Highly accurate with perhaps some very minor errors; pronunciation and intonation authentic.

Mark	Quality of language (Range of Lexis) (AO3)
0	No rewardable language.
1	Very basic lexis; minimal command of structure.
2–3	Lexis restricted; operates generally in simple sentences.
4–5	Adequate range of lexis; limited range of structures.
6–7	Good range of lexis with some examples of more complex structures.
8	Wide range of lexis and good variety of structures with only occasional limitation.

Mark	Response (AO1)
0	No rewardable language.
1–4	Little spontaneity; cannot develop responses; very reliant on examiner's language.
5–8	Few examples of spontaneous discourse; limited development of responses; often fails to respond appropriately to questions; needs prompting.
9–12	Some examples of fluent discourse but not always spontaneous or well developed; some hesitation in more complex areas; difficulty with some questions.
13–16	Frequent examples of spontaneous discourse ably developed; responds usually without undue hesitation; deals adequately with most questions.
17–20	High incidence of spontaneous, fluent discourse; able to respond readily to all questions; develops and sustains discourse well.

Mark	Understanding (Stimulus specific) (AO1)
0	No understanding of stimulus.
1	Limited answers to prescribed questions, demonstrating poor understanding of stimulus.
2	Satisfactory answers to prescribed questions, demonstrating adequate understanding of stimulus.
3	Detailed answers to prescribed questions, demonstrating good understanding of stimulus.
4	Full and detailed answers to prescribed questions, demonstrating excellent understanding of stimulus.

Mark	Understanding (General topic area) (AO1)
0	No rewardable language.
1–2	Hardly any relevant ideas and opinions, demonstrating poor understanding of general topic area.
3–4	Few relevant ideas and opinions, demonstrating limited understanding of general topic area.
5–6	Some relevant ideas and opinions, demonstrating satisfactory understanding of general topic area.
7–8	Many relevant ideas and opinions, demonstrating good understanding of general topic area.
9–10	Wealth of relevant ideas and opinions, demonstrating excellent understanding of general topic area.