



General Certificate of Education

English Language and Literature 5721 *Specification A*

NTA1 Language Production

Mark Scheme

2006 examination – January series

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

NTA1 – Language Production

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES AND WEIGHTINGS

The table below is a reminder of which Assessment Objectives will be tested by the questions and the marks available for them.

Unit 1

Assessment Objective	AO4	AO6
Question 1 Production	25 (x2)	25 (x2)
Question 2 Commentary		25 (x2)

Question 1 – Production Marking procedure

- 1 Use the question specific mark scheme first to get a sense of which band the candidate's work falls into – then use the grid.
- 2 Use of AO4 must be seen **through** AO6; mark piece of writing where context and choice of form by the candidate are reflected in their own writing, and where they have made informed choices in their own work.
- 3 Award 25 marks for each AO, multiply each by 2 to arrive at a mark out of 100.

Question 2 – Commentary Marking Procedure

- 1 Assessment of AO6 is concentrated upon the second part of the AO; mark piece of writing where commentary reflects and explains candidate's own writing, and where informed choices have been made based upon their own reading in AS English Language and Literature.
- 2 Award 25 marks for AO6, multiply by 2 to arrive at a mark out of 50.

Marking notations for English Language and Literature

Use the guidelines in the Assistant Examiner's Handbook as the basis of your marking, but supplement with these specific notations used across all units of the new specification.

Points that are correct

✓ (tick):	to indicate a positive point (but not rhythmical ticking)	Q1 and Q2
straight underline/ vertical line at side:	to indicate a good passage	Q1 and Q2
expl:	candidate explains	Q2
pr:	personal response	Q2

Errors (in body of script)

ringed or marked with S:	spelling mistake	Q1
squiggly underline:	poor expression/poor or wrong idea	Q1 and Q2
x (cross):	to indicate a point is wrong	Q2

Marginal annotation

For Question 1

BE:	basic error
gr:	grammatical error
voc:	vocabulary error
exp:	flaw in expression

For Question 2

aud:	point made about audience	
purp:	point made about purpose	
con:	point made about context	
form:	point made about form	
voc:	vocabulary point made	
gr:	grammatical point made	
imag:	point made about imagery	
phon:	point made about phonology	
coh:	point made about cohesion	
struc:	point made about structure	
eg?	lack of example given	
pnm:	point not made (if idea is not explained)	Q2

Generic Grid: Question 1

		AO4 (25 marks x2) Awareness of context/form/use of content.	AO6 (25 marks x2) Style/accuracy.
Band 5	24-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophisticated interpretation of context. • Sophisticated use of form. • Completely fit for purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression precise and wholly appropriate. • Audience completely engaged. • Stylish and sophisticated. • Rare errors.
	21-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilful interpretation of context. • Skilful & knowledgeable use of form. • Engaging content for audience and purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilful & sustained use of appropriate style. • Cohesive writing that works. • Rare errors.
Band 4	18-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident sense of context. • Content well selected for audience and purpose. • Convincing control of form. • Shows evidence of a number of qualities of the band above but not secure in all of these. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained use of appropriate style. • Approaching fulfilment of aims. • Firm control of technical aspects.
	16-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound sense of context. • Content fulfils task. • Competent handling of form. • Successful approach for context/audience/purpose. • Soundly structured. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective register. • Clear stylistic shaping and communicative intent. • Underlying technical control. • Successful use of language for context/audience/purpose. • Few technical flaws. • Lacking sense of style of higher bands.
Band 3	14-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of context. • Audience clearly targeted. • Awareness of form. • Clear focus on set task. • Appropriate content with some gaps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definite if inconsistent register. • Expression clear and generally controlled – mostly suitable for genre. • Some relatively minor technical flaws.
	11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic awareness of context and form, with some uncertainty evident. • Content broadly appropriate. • Approach broadly – but not entirely – appropriate for audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some uncertainty about appropriate style but some conscious shaping. • Expression communicated ideas but lacks flexibility/sophistication. • Some technical flaws but few basic errors.
Band 2	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibly some misunderstanding about one of the following: audience/purpose/form. • Some attempt made to address audience/purpose, which reveals some awareness of context, albeit on a very basic level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Style/approach not entirely convincing but possibly some broad shaping for audience. • Some flaws in expression. • Probably frequent technical errors.
	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some sense of purpose but style/approach not convincing for context/form. • Weak focus on audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Style not secure for audience/purpose. • Ideas and expression likely to be naïve and vocabulary limited. • Intrusive errors.
Band 1	4-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very limited awareness of context. • Basic misjudgements of form. • Little or no focus on audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occasional awareness of audience/purpose glimpsed in the language used. • Intrusive basic errors.
	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sense of context. • No sense of form or shaping of material for audience/purpose. • Does not focus on task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent weakness in expression. • Major flaws in technical aspects. • Style likely to be entirely inappropriate.

Question 1 Your task is to write a letter of complaint **or** praise about a product or service. You should write to **either** a company **or** a shop.

You may use Texts A, B, C or D to give you ideas for your letter, or you may base your letter on your own experience.

You are advised to write approximately 300 – 400 words.

Key Words: letter – complaint or praise – product or service – to a company or shop

Assessment focuses: choice of form, style and vocabulary – expertise and accuracy for specific audience and purpose – knowledge of literary text and features of language.

Band 5: (21 - 25 marks)

24 – 25 Sophisticated & skilful approach
Letter is entirely convincing
Ideas entirely apt
Assured sense of personal style
Technically accurate/expression precise

21 – 23 Skilful and convincing letter which reveals clear knowledge of form and purpose
Engaging letter which interests the reader and would be persuasive
Rare technical errors/secure expression
Cohesive writing/fully developed ideas

Band 4: (16 – 20 marks)

18 – 20 Confident letter which reveals a very sound awareness of form
Convincing letter which holds the reader’s attention
Confidently expressed. Sustained use of appropriate style
Firm control of technical aspects

16 – 17 Clear, competent writing which reveals a sound awareness of form
Ideas are appropriate
Approach fulfils the task. Well-expressed
Style is appropriate with some stylistic shaping. Few technical errors

Band 3: (11 – 15 marks)

14 – 15 General awareness of letter form, with some inconsistencies
Ideas generally suitable
Approach not entirely convincing but seriously attempted
Expression generally clear and controlled
Candidate strives for suitable style, but some, relatively minor inconsistencies
Possibly some technical flaws

11 – 13 Basic awareness of letter form but some misjudgements about style
Approach broadly but not entirely appropriate
Attempt made to put forward opinions but the writing lacks stylistic shaping
Expression lacks flexibility and sophistication
Possibly a number of technical flaws – few basic errors

Band 2: (6 – 10 marks)

- 8 – 10** Candidate has written a letter but approach reveals limited understanding of the task
Some suitable ideas but the writing is unlikely to be engaging
Limited sense of how to express feelings in this context
Some flaws in expression
Likely to be frequent technical flaws
- 6 – 7** Some attempt made to write a letter but approach not convincing
Very limited/simplistic ideas for audience and purpose
Style not convincing. Unlikely to be engaging and of interest
Unsophisticated approach/simplistic language
Intrusive errors

Band 1: (0 – 5 marks)

- 4 – 5** Basic misjudgements in approach reveal very limited awareness of task or article form,
although a few ideas may be suitable at a very basic level
Writing likely to be poorly constructed and difficult to follow
Lacks audience awareness
Intrusive basic errors
- 1 – 3** Very little or no sense of letter form
Unlikely to be any sense of how to make the writing engaging for the reader
Style likely to be entirely inappropriate
Major flaws in technical aspects

Generic Grid: Question 2

AO6 (25 marks x 2)		
Band 5	24-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophisticated/subtle understanding of how writing works at different level • Wide-ranging analysis that thoroughly engages with meaning • Skilful use of framework for analysis • Cogent and cohesive
	21-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear overview of a range of effects for audience and purpose • Comments engage with meaning and are fully supported by examples • Knowledgeable use of framework for analysis • Confidently and accurately expressed
Band 4	18-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguishes a range of significant features • Clear and detailed comment on the text's communicative intent • Engages with meaning • Well supported comments showing linguistic insight • Successful and detailed use of framework for analysis • Competently expressed • Few errors
	16-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguishes key features of style and effects created • Explains, using some detail, about grammar and style • Comments embedded within a framework for analysis • Explanation is clear – commentary is effective • Some engagement with meaning
Band 3	14-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanation evident • Framework for analysis used • Comments focus on a number of important linguistic choices • Some apt examples given but also some over-generalisations • Clear communication of ideas, although there may be some – relatively minor – technical errors
	11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments make mostly general points about stylistic features • Awareness of effect on audience and purpose and own intentions shown • Some lack of precision and a limited number of precise examples given • Explanation generally clear but lacking subtlety • Possibly feature spots • At least two language features commented on
Band 2	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempt made to reflect on some ideas and choices • Some reference made to vocabulary and style but in a very general way • Ideas are basically accurate although some misunderstanding may be evident • A limited number of ideas explored and very few examples given • Partial use of framework for analysis • Some flaws of expression • At least one language feature commented on
	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weak focus on audience and purpose • Comments simplistic and general • Focus on content rather than style • Probably no precise examples given to support ideas • Some errors of explanation

Band 1	4-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partial and purely descriptive comments• Occasional awareness of audience and purpose• Simplistic ideas which include a number of inaccuracies• Intrusive technical and expressive errors
	1-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commentary is not explanatory• No focus on task• Fragmentary points• Frequent weakness in expression

A06: Demonstrate expertise and accuracy in writing for a variety of specific purposes and audiences, drawing on knowledge of literary texts and features of language to explain and comment on the choices made.