

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2013

GCSE Arabic (5AR04)
Paper 1 Writing in Arabic

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Writing task 1

Communication and content	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very detailed and fully relevant response to the stimulus.• No ambiguity.• Clear ability to narrate, describe, express opinion and expand.• Excellent linking of the piece into a whole.• Coherent and pleasant to read.	9-10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detailed response to the stimulus but there may be minor omissions.• Clear and coherent, with only occasional lapses.• Reasonable attempt to link the piece into a whole.• Evidence of description, opinion and expansion.• Pedestrian or alternatively somewhat over ambitious.	7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most of the task is completed and relevant information is conveyed, although there may be some omissions and/or irrelevancies.• Comprehensible overall, with some lapses.• Evidence of ability to go beyond minimal response.• Begins to expand ideas and express opinions.• Some attempt to link piece into a whole.	5-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Main points conveyed, but may be major omissions and/or irrelevance.• Some ambiguity.• Short response, with no descriptions and minimal opinions.• Sentences mostly written in isolation.• Not easy to read.	3-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Little relevant information is conveyed.• Much ambiguity and omission.• Substantial degree of irrelevance and incoherence.• Very limited, rarely comprehensible to native speaker.	1-2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No content worthy of credit.	0

Knowledge and application of language	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide range of appropriate vocabulary and structures, including some complex items. • Consistently competent use of more complex structures and different tenses. • Clear ability to manipulate language and to produce longer, fluent sentences with ease. 	9-10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good variety of appropriate vocabulary and structures. • Some attempt to use ambitious structures with a fair measure of success. • Unambiguous use of different verb tenses. • Generally at ease with subordination. 	7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate but predictable range of vocabulary and structures. • Correct syntax in simple, short sentences. • Some longer sentences where syntax is not always correct. • May include different tenses or time frames, perhaps with some ambiguity. • Some examples of subordination. 	5-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited and/or repetitive range of vocabulary or structures. • Predominantly uses short sentences. • Some attempts at tenses, but many mistakes. • Language is basic and sometimes inappropriate to the task. 	3-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very limited range of basic structures. • Frequently resorts to non-target language. • Rarely offers complete sentences. 	1-2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No language worthy of credit. 	0

A mark of zero for communication and content will mean a mark of zero for knowledge and application of language and for accuracy.

Writing task 2

Communication and content	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very detailed and fully relevant response to the stimulus. • No ambiguity. • Clear ability to narrate, describe, express opinion and expand. • Excellent linking of the piece into a whole. • Coherent and pleasant to read. 	13-15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed response to the stimulus but there may be minor omissions. • Clear and coherent, with only occasional lapses. • Reasonable attempt to link the piece into a whole. • Evidence of description, opinion and expansion. • Pedestrian or alternatively somewhat over ambitious. 	10-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the task is completed and relevant information is conveyed, although there may be some omissions and/or irrelevancies. • Comprehensible overall, with some lapses. • Evidence of ability to go beyond minimal response. • Begins to expand ideas and express opinions. • Some attempt to link piece into a whole. 	7-9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main points conveyed, but may be major omissions and/or irrelevance. • Some ambiguity. • Short response, with no descriptions and minimal opinions. • Sentences mostly written in isolation. • Not easy to read. 	4-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little relevant information is conveyed. • Much ambiguity and omission. • Substantial degree of irrelevance and incoherence. • Very limited, rarely comprehensible to native speaker. 	1-3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No content worthy of credit. 	0

Knowledge and application of language	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide range of appropriate vocabulary and structures, including some complex items. • Consistently competent use of more complex structures and different tenses. • Clear ability to manipulate language and to produce longer, fluent sentences with ease. 	9-10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good variety of appropriate vocabulary and structures. • Some attempt to use ambitious structures with a fair measure of success. • Unambiguous use of different verb tenses. • Generally at ease with subordination. 	7-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate but predictable range of vocabulary and structures. • Correct syntax in simple, short sentences. • Some longer sentences where syntax is not always correct. • May include different tenses or time frames, perhaps with some ambiguity. • Some examples of subordination. 	5-6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited and/or repetitive range of vocabulary or structures. • Predominantly uses short sentences. • Some attempts at tenses, but many mistakes. • Language is basic and sometimes inappropriate to the task. 	3-4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very limited range of basic structures. • Frequently resorts to non-target language. • Rarely offers complete sentences. 	1-2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No language worthy of credit. 	0

Accuracy	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very accurate, though not necessarily faultless. • Consistently good spelling and manipulation of language. • Secure when using more complex language with only a few minor errors. 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally accurate language. • Most spelling and verb forms correct. • When more complex structures are attempted, accuracy can be more variable. 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fair number of errors made, including some basic, but communication overall unaffected. • Straightforward and familiar language fairly accurately spelt and manipulated. • Verbs more correct than incorrect. • The work is clearly more accurate than inaccurate. 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many basic errors, but main points communicated. • Simple 'pre-learnt' stereotypes correct. • Frequent misspellings. • Frequent incorrect verb forms. 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently inaccurate language and misspellings frequently impede basic communication. • Only isolated examples of accurate language and verb formation. 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No language worthy of credit. 	0

A mark of zero for communication and content will mean a mark of zero for knowledge and application of language and for accuracy.

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