



## **Certificate of Secondary Education**

# **French 3657 Short Course**

**3657/W Writing**

## **Mark Scheme**

*2007 examination - June 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.

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**WRITING TESTS - FOUNDATION AND HIGHER TIERS**

**PART ONE**

**Principles of Marking**

- All marking is to be done in accordance with the published Criteria for Assessment.
- The stress is on effective communication. Credit should be given for the language successfully conveying the target message without ambiguity.
- There is no need to count the number of words used to answer each question. The sole criterion is completion of the tasks set.

**MARK ALLOCATION**

<b>Foundation</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Quality of Language</b>	<b>Total</b>
List	2		2
Message	12	8	20
Letter	8	12	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>42</b>

<b>Higher</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Quality of Language</b>	<b>Total</b>
Letter	8	12	20
Question 2	8	12	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>40</b>

**FOUNDATION TIER QUESTION 1 - List Question**

This question will be assessed for Communication only.

<b>Marks</b>	<b>Degree of Communication</b>
1	1 - 2 words correct, without ambiguity.
2	3 - 4 words correct, without ambiguity.

Maximum mark - 2

**QUESTION 2 - Message Question**

This question will consist of six tasks and will be assessed for Degree of Communication and Quality of Language.

**DEGREE OF COMMUNICATION**

For each of the six tasks, the following criteria will be used.

<b>Marks</b>	<b>Degree of Communication</b>
0	Required message not communicated.
1	Comprehension difficult or ambiguous. Some relevant information conveyed.
2	Required message conveyed without ambiguity even if not totally correct.
6 x 2 = 12 marks	

**QUALITY OF LANGUAGE**

A global mark out of 8 will be awarded. The mark awarded for Communication will determine the mark range available for Quality of Language according to the following criteria.

<b>Marks awarded for Communication</b>	<b>Marks available for Quality of Language</b>	<b>Quality of Language</b>
0 - 1	0	Inaccuracy is almost always a barrier to communication.
2 - 4	1 - 2	Some of the messages are intelligible but the frequency of serious error makes communication difficult.
5 - 6	3 - 4	Several of the messages are intelligible, despite frequent error which creates ambiguity and requires effort from the reader.
7 - 8	5 - 6	Errors occur regularly but most intended messages can be understood, with hesitation but without undue difficulty.
9 - 12	7 - 8	Despite various errors, the piece is more accurate than inaccurate; intended meanings are usually clear.

Maximum mark 12 + 8 = 20

**QUESTION 3 - Letter Question**

This question will consist of eight tasks and will be assessed for Degree of Communication, Range/Complexity and Accuracy, giving a maximum mark of 20.

**DEGREE OF COMMUNICATION**

- The assessment of Communication depends upon recognising an attempt to write something about the task.
- You should not take into account the quality of the language used, unless it interferes so much that communication would not take place.
- Candidates will be expected to go beyond the minimum level of response in order to score at least 3 marks. This means that the candidate will have added an additional detail (hereafter called a **Development**), which goes beyond the minimum required by the task.
- For a Development to be accepted, the quality of language should be the same as that which is required for a Communication task.
- Developments cannot be credited for a task which has been rejected.
- There can be only **one** Development per task in this question.

**Tasks to Marks - Degree of Communication**

Tasks	Marks	Requirement	Degree of Communication
0	0		Nothing of merit; fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.
1	1		Communicates <i>a little</i> basic information (e.g. simple facts).
2 – 8 (0 Dev)	2		
3 - 8 (1 Dev)	3		<i>Some</i> basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (e.g. description, simple opinion).
3 - 8 (2 Dev)	4		
5 - 8 (3 Dev)	5	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	Communicates clearly <i>quite a lot</i> of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.
5 - 8 (4 Dev)	6	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	
7 - 8 (5 Dev)	7	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	Communicates <i>a lot</i> of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.
7 - 8 (6 Dev)	8	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	

**QUALITY OF LANGUAGE**

- Marks will be awarded out of 6 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The marks will be added to make a total out of 12 for Quality of Language.
- The mark awarded under Range/Complexity must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- The mark awarded under Accuracy must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy.
- For the award of 4 marks or more under Range/Complexity there must be at least one reference to each of past, present and future events.

<b>Range / Complexity</b>	<b>Marks</b>	<b>Accuracy</b>
Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	<b>0</b>	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	<b>1</b>	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	<b>2</b>	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	<b>3</b>	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	<b>4</b>	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicates descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	<b>5</b>	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	<b>6</b>	There are hardly any major and few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

The maximum mark for the Foundation Tier Paper is 42.

**HIGHER TIER**

**QUESTION 1**

This question is the same as that set for Foundation Writing Question 3. It should therefore be marked in accordance with the instructions given for Foundation Tier Question 3.

**QUESTION 2**

This question will consist of *four* tasks and will be assessed for Degree of Communication, Range/Complexity and Accuracy, giving a maximum of 20.

**DEGREE OF COMMUNICATION**

- The assessment of Communication depends upon recognising an attempt to write something about the task. All responses should be self-contained and comprehensible without reference to the rubrics.
- Candidates will be expected to go beyond the minimum level of response in order to score at least 2 marks. This means that the candidate will have added an additional piece of information, in the form of a phrase or clause (hereafter called a **Development**), which goes beyond the minimum required by the task.
- For a Development to be accepted, the quality of language should be the same as that which is required for a Communication task.
- Developments cannot be credited for a task which has been rejected.
- There can be *up to two* developments per task in this question.

**Tasks to Marks - Degree of Communication**

Tasks	Marks	Requirement	Degree of Communication
0	0		Nothing of merit; fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.
1 – 4 (0 Dev)	1		Communicates <i>a little</i> basic information (e.g. simple facts).
1 - 4 (1 Dev)	2		
2 - 4 (2 Dev)	3		<i>Some</i> basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (e.g. description, simple opinion).
2 - 4 (3 Dev)	4		
3 - 4 (4 Dev)	5	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	Communicates clearly <i>quite a lot</i> of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.
3 - 4 (5 Dev)	6	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	
4 (6 Dev)	7	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	Communicates <i>a lot</i> of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.
4 (7 - 8 Dev)	8	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	

**QUALITY OF LANGUAGE**

- Marks will be awarded out of 6 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The marks will be added to make a total out of 12 for Quality of Language.
- The mark awarded under Range/Complexity must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- The mark awarded under Accuracy must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy.
- For the award of 4 marks or more under Range/Complexity there must be at least one reference to two of past/present/future events.

<b>Range / Complexity</b>	<b>Marks</b>	<b>Accuracy</b>
Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	<b>0</b>	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	<b>1</b>	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	<b>2</b>	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	<b>3</b>	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	<b>4</b>	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicates descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	<b>5</b>	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	<b>6</b>	There are hardly any major and few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

The maximum mark for the Higher Tier paper is 40.



**Writing – Part 2 Mark Scheme**

**Foundation Tier**

**Question 1**

Examples of the types of response qualifying for 0, 1 and 2 marks will be issued at the standardisation meeting.

This is 1 task:

<b>1.</b>	<b>Four bedroom items</b>		
	2	1	0
	3 or 4 appropriate answers	1 or 2 appropriate answers	English words that do not exist in French

**For Questions 2 and 3**

In Question 2 overuse of cognates may result in a judgement relating to the mark for Quality of Language in terms of awarding the lower of the two marks in any band.

English cognates can be accepted for Communication but should be considered as major errors under Accuracy.

**Question 2**

There are six tasks:

<b>1.</b>	<b>Sport you like</b>		
	2	1	0
	Sentence needed <i>Je n'aime pas le sport</i>	No verb Infinitive Past tense	

<b>2.</b>	<b>Which day you play sport</b>		
	2	1	0
	One item needed Past tense	No verb Infinitive	

<b>3. Where you eat lunch</b>		
2	1	0
Accept reference to McDonalds etc. Past tense	No verb Infinitive	

<b>4. What you eat</b>		
2	1	0
One item Brand names Past tense	No verb Infinitive	

<b>5. Opinion of fast-food</b>		
2	1	0
Accept reference to particular fast-food e.g. les frites Accept Brand names	No verb Infinitive Past tense	

<b>6. Which fruit you prefer</b>		
2	1	0
One item	No verb Infinitive Past tense	Frais citrus

**Foundation Question 3/Higher Question 1**

Communication

There are eight tasks:

**Accept past tenses for reference to school as candidates may be writing as if they have left.**

<b>1. What you think of your school</b>	
Accept	Reject
one statement	

<b>2. What is your favourite subject and why</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
<i>J'aime...</i> Both parts needed	

<b>3. Whether you have homework</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
one statement referring to homework <i>J'ai devoirs (de maths) (sic)</i> <i>Je recoir</i> but consider under accuracy	<i>J'ai maths</i> (no ref. to <i>devoirs</i> )

<b>4. What you wear for school</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
one statement with one item	

<b>5. How you travel to school</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
One statement	

<b>6. What you did during the last holidays</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
one statement Past Tense	

<b>7. What you are going to do in September</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
one statement – accept any activity Future tense	

<b>8. Question about teachers</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
	Statement form with no?

**Higher Tier**

**Question 2**

Content

There are four tasks.

Each task needs an appropriate verb in an appropriate tense.

<b>1. Recent leisure activity</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
One statement Past tense	Inappropriate tense Home-based activities

<b>2. Advantages and Disadvantages of town</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
One statement – could be an opinion Either advantage or disadvantage	

<b>3. Continuing to live in town and reason</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
Both parts needed Accept answers e.g. Je voudrais habiter en France parce que....	Inappropriate tense

<b>4. Job opportunities</b>	
<b>Accept</b>	<b>Reject</b>
One statement Reference to own job	

**Question 3 Foundation/Question 1 Higher**

- Degree of communication: Accept the inappropriate use of the infinitive for the present tense. Accept the inappropriate use of the infinitive **with context** for past or future. Accept the inappropriate use of the present for past or future **if the task is contextualised.**
- Range/Complexity: Inappropriate use of the infinitive/inappropriate tense should be considered here.
- Accuracy: Errors in the formation of verbs/tenses should be considered here.