GCSE 2004 June Series



Mark Scheme

French B Module 4 (Writing)

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

1. 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 language successfully conveying the target message without ambiguity.
- There is no need to count the words used to answer each question. The sole criterion is completion of the tasks set.

2. Mechanics of Marking

• All part marks awarded as indicated in the marking schemes must be clearly shown on the candidate scripts. Carefully check marks which may need multiplying and / or dividing to arrive at any weighted totals.

3. MARK ALLOCATION

Foundation	Communication	Quality of Language	Total
Question 1a	2		2
Questions 1b & 1c	4		4
Question 2	8	12	20
Total	14	12	26

Higher	Communication	Quality of Language	Total
Question 1	8	18 Awarded globally	
Question 2	8	across both questions.	
Total	16	18	34

4. Foundation Tier Question One

This question will be assessed for Communication only. The marks are allocated in the following way:

Question 1a (List Question):

Marks	Degree of Communication	
1	1 - 2 words correct, without ambiguity.	
2	3 - 4 words correct, without ambiguity.	

Maximum mark - 2

Questions 1b and 1c:

Each task has a total of 2 marks. The Part 2 Mark Scheme each year will outline in detail how those communication marks should be divided and awarded.

5. Question Two

This question is marked out of 8 for Communication and 12 for Quality of Language.

- 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.

Marks	Degree of Communication	Explanation
0	Nothing of merit: fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.	
1-2	Communicates a little basic information (eg simple facts).	Some brief, simple facts are communicated in relation to one or two of the tasks set.
3-4	Some basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (eg description, simple opinion).	Some longer descriptions or simple facts conveyed in relation to several of the tasks set.
5-6	Communicates clearly quite a lot of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.	Some extended description in more than one of the tasks set. Simple facts conveyed in relation to all of the tasks set.
7-8	Communicates a lot of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.	Full descriptions in relation to all of tasks set.

6. Quality of Language

- Marks will be awarded out of 12 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The resulting total mark out of 24 is divided by 2 to give a total mark out of 12 for Quality of Language.
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy.

Quality of	Quality of Language				
Mark	Range & Complexity	Accuracy			
0	Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.			
1-2	The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.			
3-4	Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.			
5-6	Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.			
7-8	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.	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.			
9-10	There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicate descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses are used more regularly and with increasing success.	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.			
11-12	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.	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.			

Marks for Quality of Language are awarded according to the criteria below.

Maximum	Maximum	Maximum
Communication Mark	Range & Complexity Mark	Accuracy Mark
0	0	0
2	6	6
4	8	8
6	10	10
8	12	12

In each mark band, the higher of the two marks is awarded if there is strong evidence of the criteria in that band. If the evidence is more limited, the lower mark is awarded.

The prescribed tasks in Question Two at Foundation Tier and Question One at Higher Tier offer an opportunity for the candidate to write in three time frames. Successful use of these opportunities will give the candidate an opportunity to gain access to the higher quality mark bands. Items of communication containing obviously incorrect / ambiguous time frames / tenses will not score for Communication.

- To score 5 marks for Accuracy there must be some attempt to refer to different time frames.
- To score 7 marks the references to different time frames must be clear.
- To score 9 marks verbs and time frames must be generally accurate.

The maximum mark for the Foundation Tier paper is 26.

HIGHER TIER

Both questions are assessed for Communication using the same criteria as at Foundation Tier.

- 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.
- Further details of how to award the marks for Communication will be given in the Part 2 Mark Scheme.

Marks	Degree of Communication	Explanation
0	Nothing of merit: fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.	
1-2	Communicates a little basic information (eg simple facts).	Some brief, simple facts are communicated in relation to one or two of the tasks set.
3-4	Some basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (eg description, simple opinion).	Some longer descriptions or simple facts conveyed in relation to several of the tasks set.
5-6	Communicates clearly quite a lot of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.	Some extended description in more than one of the tasks set. Simple facts conveyed in relation to all of the tasks set.
7-8	Communicates a lot of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.	Full descriptions in relation to all of tasks set.

At Higher Tier the whole script is marked globally for Quality of Language. Each script is marked out of 12 marks for Range and Complexity and 12 marks for Accuracy according to the table below. These two marks are then totalled, multiplied by 3 and divided by 4 to give a Quality of Language mark of 18.

Quality of	Language	
Mark	Range & Complexity	Accuracy
0	Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
1-2	The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
3-4	Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
5-6	Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
7-8	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.	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.
9-10	There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicate descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses are used more regularly and with increasing success.	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.
11-12	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.	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

Maximum	Maximum	Maximum
Communication Mark	Range & Complexity Mark	Accuracy Mark
0	0	0
4	6	6
8	8	8
12	10	10
16	12	12

The following restrictions apply in the award of marks for Range and Complexity and Accuracy:

- To score 5 marks for Accuracy there must be some attempt to refer to different time frames.
- To score 7 marks the references to different time frames must be clear.
- To score 9 marks verbs and time frames must be generally accurate.

The maximum mark for the Higher Tier paper is 34.

Writing – Part 2 Mark Scheme

Foundation Tier

Question 1

Part (a)

(2 marks)

This question is assessed for Communication only.

Marks	Degree of Communication	
0	No understandable words	
1	1-2 understandable words	
2	3 – 4 understandable words	

(a)	Write down four places that you can visit in your town or region		
	Accept: • on • an • no • wr no • wr • la tha de ma ma gy ma ch cir res Reject: • any Yo • En • use • la	ly the first four attempts by the c y understandable places in French / incorrect article ongly spelt words that would be r n-English speaking native speake isspellings eg la bibblioteque ords with no accents maison de once only. La mai an once in different contexts eg. L s jeunes agazin agasaine agasine m aison publique ib	andidate n e.g. la ville / la mer recognisable to a sympathetic r ison de can be accepted more a maison de Paul / la maison ench (including place names eg s: museum eg le shopping centre
2		1	0
Three or four words communicated		One or two words communicated	No words communicated

Parts B & C

(4 marks)

This question is assessed for Communication only.

In Parts (b) and (c) tick each task that is successfully communicated.

(b)	Describe your house and give your opinion about it (Write two full sentences.)		
	(ie using two verbs, which may be in one sentence.eg J'aime ma maison qui est moderne.)		
	 Accept: present / past tense valid opinion within the context opinion not directly linked to another sentence but relevant in context es for est j'amie superb, super, modern infinitives which reflect the stem of the verb eg j'aimer but not j'aller nfp applies within bullet points but see final bullet point below. accept name / position of house. / j'habite un appartement. Reject: verbs in wrong person / no subject. j'habite une maison without an adjective. inappropriate tense for verb 		
	av av et us pe	moderne avoir for être and vice versa unless as part of a perfect tense et/ist for est use of et for est Re-penalise at the start of each bullet point penalise repeated use of English word on each occasion eg. le hous est grand: le house est modern: j'aime le house = 0	
2		1	0
Both tasks communicated On		One task communicated	Neither task communicated

(c)	Write one sentence to describe your region and one sentence about what there is to do in your region		
	Accept: • town / village for region • one piece of information describing the region and one piece of information about possible activities • past tense • ma ville s'appelle • jobs outside the house • activities outside the house • general opinions eg j'aime ma région but accept j'aime + activities, places in the region. • rejections under Part (b)		
2		1	0
Both tasks communicated One task communicated Neither task communicated			Neither task communicated

Question 2

(8 marks – Communication) (12 marks – Quality of Language)

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme, a mark between 0 and 8 will be awarded for Degree of Communication and a further 12 marks for Quality of Language.

There are 3 tasks. Any relevant information on these tasks will be rewarded.

The point at which the task has been successfully completed will be indicated within the body of the text.

Annotate tasks as follows: Item of information (containing a verb) = I Development = D Opinion = O Reason/justification = R

Bullet Point 1	Write a description of yo	our school. What do you think of your school?
Ac	cept	Reject
 stem of the verticity of the v	h reflect the correct o eg je porter but not is implied eg je avec les profs there must be at least n the bullet point is at least two items of an opinion / an item of more than one opinion	 Pieces of information not containing a verb other inappropriate tense

Bullet Point 2	Describe a typical day at	t school last week. What did you think about the day?
Ac	cept	Reject
 était fatigante If present tense limited to √ Accept opinion Perfect tense with auxiliary (accept plus an attempt) Infinitive of er structure Award √ for an items of inform information and Award √ + for an answer – at least information and 	ot avoir used for être) at a past participle verb used as a past swer with at least two ation / one item of l an opinion fully communicated	 Pieces of information not containing a verb Inappropriate tense Opinions on their own unless school day is implied Family outings Infinitives without auxiliary as perfect tense These count as present tense if the stem is the same Perfect tense with incorrect use of être as auxiliary eg je suis mangé

Bullet Point 3Write about your plans f	for the future . Explain why you have these plans
Accept	Reject
 Must have future indicator or future clearly implied with use of present tense Any future plans Award √ for at least two items of information about future plans / one item and one opinion Award √ + for at least two items of information with a reason / one item and more than one opinion, I, D, R Je voudrais travail / travaille 	 Pieces of information not containing a verb Inappropriate tense Je voudrais professeur

Quality of Language

Quality of Language marks are awarded according to the Quality of Language criteria grid below.

Quality of	Quality of Language			
Mark	Range & Complexity	Accuracy		
0	Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.		
1-2	The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may often contain many cognates.	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors		
3-4	Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic need of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.		
5-6	Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempts to link structures together.	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.		
7-8	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.	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.		
9-10	There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicate descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	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.		
11-12	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.	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.		

Max. Communication mark	Max. Range & Complexity mark	Max. Accuracy mark
0	0	0
1 - 2	6	6
3 - 4	8	8
5 - 6	10	10
7 - 8	12	12

The following restrictions apply in the award of marks for Range & Complexity and Accuracy.

Marks are given out of 12 for Range and Complexity and out of 12 for Accuracy. The resulting mark out of 24 is divided by 2 to give a total mark out of 12 for Quality of Language. Round up $\frac{1}{2}$ marks.

If a mark is awarded for communication then a mark must be awarded for quality.

Higher Tier

Question 1

(8 marks – Communication) (12 marks – Quality of Language)

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark between 0 and 8 will be awarded for Degree of Communication.

There are 3 tasks. Any relevant information on these tasks will be rewarded.

The point at which the task has been successfully completed will be indicated within the body of the text.

Annotate tasks as follows:

Item of information (containing a verb)= I Development = D Opinion = O Reason/justification = R

Bullet Point 1	Write a description of yo	our school. What do you think of your school?
Ac	cept	Reject
 stem of the verligialler Opinion which m'entends bien To award a tick two items Award √ + where fully covered ite information and 	h reflect the correct o eg je porter but not is implied eg je avec les profs there must be at least on the bullet point is at least two items of an opinion / an item of more than one opinion	 Pieces of information not containing a verb other inappropriate tense

Bullet Point 2Describe a typical day a	t school last week. What did you think about the day?
Accept	Reject
 Past tense Opinion which is implied eg la journée était fatigante If present tense used, total bullet point limited to √ Accept opinions in present tense. Perfect tense which consists of auxiliary (accept avoir used for être) plus an attempt at a past participle Infinitive of er verb used as a past participle Award √ for answer with at least two items of information and an opinion Award √ + for fully communicated answer – at least two items of information / one item of information and more than one opinion ie I, D, O School trip 	 Pieces of information not containing a verb Inappropriate tense Opinions on their own unless school day is implied Family outings Infinitives without auxiliary as perfect tense. These count as present tense if the stem is the same. Perfect tense with incorrect use of être as auxiliary eg je suis mangé

Bullet Point 3Write about your plans	Write about your plans for the future . Explain why you have these plans	
Accept	Reject	
 Must have future indicator or future clearly implied with use of present tense Any future plans Award √ for at least two items of information about future plans / one item and one opinion 	 Pieces of information not containing a verb Inappropriate tense Je voudrais professeur 	
 Award √ + for at least two items of information with a reason / one item and more than one opinion, I, D, R Je voudrais travail / travaille J'ai voudrais 		

Question 2

(8 marks – Communication)

There are 3 tasks. Any relevant information on these tasks will be rewarded.

The point at which the task has been successfully completed will be indicated within the body of the text.

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark of between 0 and 8 will be awarded for Degree of Communication.

Bullet Point 1 Faites une description de votre région. Donnez votre opinion de votre région		
Accept	Reject	
 Description of town / vill Present / past tense Award √ for at least two information / one item an Award √ + for at least two information and an opinion and more than one opinion 	Inappropriate tense Inappropriate tense items of n / one item	

Bullet Point 2Parlez de vos impressions d'une visite à la campagne ou au bord de la mer que vous avez faite dans le passé et donnez votre opinion de la visite		
A	ccept	Reject
 être) plus atten Count er infini participle If present tense limited to √ Visit must be r Award √ for at information / c Award √ + for information pl 	xiliary (accept avoir for npt at past participle. tive as attempt at past e used, total bullet point elevant to rubric c least two items of one item and one opinion at least two items of us opinion / one item and opinion ie I.D.O.	 Piece of information containing no verb Inappropriate tense

Bullet Point 3Donnez des avantages et c habiter plus tard dans la v		des désavantages d'habiter en ville. Où voulez-vous vie et pourquoi?
A	ccept	Reject
 disadvantage Award √ for o disadvantage a Award √ for o reason Award √ for w reason Award √ for w reason Award √ + for 	ne advantage and one ne advantage, one and reason ne (dis)advantage with where going to live with one advantage, one place of future living and	 Piece of information containing no verb Past tense unless candidate is clearly basing case on past experiences Reason with no link with other communication

Quality of Language

Questions 1 & 2

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark of between 0-18 will be awarded globally over both questions for Quality of Language.

Mark	f Language Range & Complexity	Accuracy	
0	Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.	
1-2	The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may often contain many cognates.	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors	
3-4	Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic need of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.	
5-6	Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempts to link structures together.	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.	
7-8	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.	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.	
9-10	There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicate descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	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.	
11-12	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.	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.	

18 marks

Max. Communication mark	Max. Range & Complexity mark	Max. Accuracy mark
0	0	0
1-4	6	6
5-8	8	8
9-12	10	10
13-16	12	12

The following restrictions apply in the award of marks for Range & Complexity and Accuracy:

The mark for Range & Complexity and Accuracy are added together to give a mark out of 24. This mark is then multiplied by 3 and divided by 4 to give a Quality of Language mark out of 18. (Half marks are rounded up).