



# **Examiners' Report** **June 2022**

**GCSE Portuguese 1PG0 4H**

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## Introduction

This writing paper makes up 25% of the overall GCSE grade and consists of three parts:

Part 1: A choice of two writing tasks with four points to cover, including reference to the past and future, with a suggested word count of 80-90 words. (20 marks)

Part 2: A choice of two writing tasks with four points to cover, including reference to the past and the future, with a suggested word count of 130-150 words. (28 marks)

Part 3: A translation task with a paragraph to translate into Portuguese. (12 marks)

Words counts are only suggestions, and longer answers are considered in full when awarding a mark. However, it is important to stress that it is not necessary to write more to score full marks.

The first two tasks are marked for Communication & Content and Linguistic Knowledge & Accuracy. Candidates omitting key details cannot score full marks for Communication & Content, but have access to the whole range of Linguistic Knowledge & Accuracy marks as long as their response is relevant.

To gain marks for Communication & Content, candidates need to address the required details. Some candidates missed a detail from the instructions or did not notice the need to use a particular tense. Very occasionally, a candidate wrote freely based on the introduction to the task, or just wrote everything they could about a given topic, rather than making reference to the bullet points.

The demands of the mark scheme for Linguistic Knowledge & Accuracy increase with each question. Q01 requires references to past, present and future events, extended sentences and some variation of grammatical structures for full marks. Q02 requires consistently accurate language, fluent writing and a wide variety of grammatical structures.

## Question 1 (a)

This question requires candidates to discuss the fight against plastics. This was the least popular of the two options available for Q01.

Most candidates gave a very successful response to this question, addressing all bullet points, with some development. The top marks for Communication & Content went to candidates who expanded on all four points and gave personal responses with justifications. The most commonly omitted detail was the second bullet point, where many candidates failed to notice that this required the past tense. Examiners accepted relevant present tense answers as addressing this point, but could not award full marks for Linguistic Knowledge & Accuracy if the candidate did not use the past tense. Many candidates had variable success when moving between different tenses.

The top category of the mark scheme asks for occasional use of complex language, so it was pleasing to see use of the subjunctive, personal infinitives and impressive connectives such as 'apesar de'.

Para professor de ciências

Normalmente na escola uso as garrafas de água e sumo. Eu bebo sumo natural no cartão com uma palhinha de papel no lanche e pequeno almoço. No meu lanche eu como sanduiche com de fiambé que tava dentro da minha mochila. Por volta da minha sanduiche é aluminio ou plastico às vezes.

Mas em casa decidi reduzir menos plastico. Comecei a usar garrafas de metal. Tambem de usar plastico pequeno para levar um snack, e agora uso plastico duro para levar o meu comer porque o plastico dura. E claro comecei a fazer

reciclagem porque é melhor para o ambiente.

É importante usar menos plástico porque ajuda o meio ambiente. Se nós usarmos mais plástico do que antes nós vamos matar a vida marinha por toda numa só geração.

No futuro pessoas deverão inventar uma coisa para pegar os pedaços plásticos que estão na água e reciclar cada um. No futuro é aquele aquelas garrafas de plástico deverão de ser feitas de metal que não apodrece.



### **Communication: 12/12**

This candidate communicates developed responses to all four parts of the task, including creative use of language to narrate stories and justify personal opinions. There are examples of uncommon vocabulary like “meio ambiente”, “inventar”, “geração” and “apodrece”.

### **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy: 8/8**

The candidate uses a variety of grammatical structures, even including a future subjunctive: “Se nós usarmos mais plástico”. Sentences are frequently extended and linked together with conjunctions such as “porque” and “também”.

The language is not flawless, but that is not necessary for this task: it is generally accurate, with successful references to past, present and future. Although there are misspellings in verb forms such as ‘decidi’ and ‘devião’, these would be understood when reading aloud.



Writing a separate paragraph for each bullet point helps check that you have given enough detail for each one.

## Question 1 (b)

For Q01(b) candidates discuss an upcoming visit from a friend. This was by far the more popular of the two options with almost 75% of candidates choosing it.

Most candidates gave a very successful response to this question, addressing all bullet points with some development. Examiners particularly enjoyed reading candidates' opinions on typical English food! The top marks for Communication & Content went to responses that expanded on all four points and gave personal responses with justifications.

Many candidates had variable success when moving between different tenses. It was not possible to award full marks for Linguistic Knowledge & Accuracy if the candidate did not successfully reference the past, present and future. The top category of the mark scheme asks for occasional use of complex language, so it was pleasing to see use of the subjunctive, personal infinitives and impressive connectives such as 'apesar de'.

This task overlaps with the top end of the Foundation paper. If candidates struggle with this task, it is often a sign that they would be better served by entering for the Foundation tier. General inaccuracy caused some problems: there was often English interference (e.g. 'asho' instead of 'acho'), missing accents were common (e.g. translating 'is' and 'and' in the same way) and Spanish appeared quite frequently.



Hola Tiago. Hoje vou a falar sobre a Inglaterra. Vivir em Inglaterra é um pouco aburrido porque todos os dias está sempre chover. Mas quando tem dias de calor, podes ir a praia o podes ir a piscina.

Recentemente, foi a uma cinema com os meus amigos y vimos um filme que era muito gracioso. Passamos um tempo espectacular y a comida foi deliciosa.

Eu adoro comer peixe com batatas fritas nos shoppes na Inglaterra. É muito famoso em Inglaterra y também pinto que é muito delicioso.

Quando tu vais para Inglaterra, eu  
tenho de levantar para visitar o  
centro de Londres e ir às  
compras em um lugar chamado  
Camden Market. Lá podes comprar tantas  
coisas e tem muito para ver  
e descobrir.

123 words



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Examiner Comments

**Communication: 7/12**

This candidate offers detailed responses to all four parts of the task. However, their score is limited by their adaptation of language and their range of vocabulary. Both are strongly influenced by Spanish, thus hindering communication.

**Linguistic knowledge and Accuracy: 3/8**

The candidate uses extended sentences linked with conjunctions, but again the interference from Spanish limits the mark. The final score reflects that every sentence contains a mistake.



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Candidates who also speak or study Spanish should make themselves aware of how the languages differ, with a particular focus on the construction of the past and future tenses.

## Question 2 (a)

For this question, candidates discuss the importance of studying beyond GCSEs. This was the more popular of the two question parts, with 60% of candidates choosing it.

The best responses to this question dedicated a paragraph to each bullet point, each with new ideas building into a persuasive overall argument, and showed that the candidate had thought about how to include complex language.

Less successful responses spent a long time introducing themselves rather than getting on with the task, or repeated the same argument to address different bullet points. Some candidates struggled to demonstrate that they were addressing the bullet points directly, making it harder for the examiners to award them top marks for Communication & Content. Conversely, many candidates wrote very persuasively but did not use any complex language, thus limiting their mark for Linguistic Knowledge & Accuracy.

~~Boa tarde!~~  
Boa tarde! Eu estou escrevendo para  
você para mostrar ~~para~~ minhas opiniões  
sobre ~~o que~~ continuar ~~estudar~~  
com os estudos, a importância  
importância de continuar depois dos  
GCSE's é que podem te dar muitas  
outras portas para te dar um tempo  
para escolher o que você pretende  
a fazer em seu futuro, nós jovens não  
temos muito tempo para descobrir coisas  
novas e encontrar o que queremos  
fazer para o resto de nossas vidas.  
minha mãe é uma das pessoas  
que eu mais amo, me ~~entristece~~





a escola/colégio e sempre podem  
e influenciar bastante e colocar muita  
Revisão  
e você pode acabar sem tempo  
para passear com a sua família.  
Eu realmente adoraria ter mais  
tempo com eles, poderíamos fazer  
muito juntos!



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Comments

#### **Communication and Content: 14/16**

This candidate communicates detailed information relevant to the task, with consistently effective development of most key points and ideas. However, the fourth bullet point is not addressed as clearly as the others, making it hard to award full marks.

There is consistently effective adaptation of language to narrate, inform, interest and convince, and creative use of language to express and fully justify a wide range of individual thoughts, ideas and points of view. There is a wide variety of vocabulary and expression, with many examples of uncommon language. The register and style are consistent and appropriate throughout.

#### **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy: 12/12**

The candidate uses a wide variety of grammatical structures, including complex language such as subjunctive: "se você um dia se formar". The response is fluent throughout with extended, well-linked sentences using conjunctions such as "porém" and "além disso". We see consistently accurate language and structures, and successful references to past, present and future events. There are errors but they do not hinder the clarity of the communication.



Borrow language from the bullet points to introduce your response to each one. This makes it clearer to the examiner that you are addressing them.

Neste artigo vou falar sobre a minha opinião de continuar  
~~os~~ estudos.

Eu acho ~~o~~ importante porque pode ajudar a ter um  
bom trabalho depois da escola também ajudar a  
entrar no bom colégio depois dos exames do GCSE.

Para mim o que ajuda a <sup>continuar</sup> ~~continuar~~ com os estudos  
foi a ~~meu pais~~ minha ~~para~~ ~~o~~ ~~país~~ ~~do~~ ~~país~~ para irem  
para ~~uma~~ ~~university~~ ~~para~~ ~~estudar~~ ~~medicina~~  
medicina.

~~o~~ E bom estudar ciências porque se quiser ser medica  
o veterinária é sempre bom.

algumas dificuldades em estudar na universidade é que  
pode ser ~~o~~ ~~carro~~ ou pode ser de fiscal mas  
com boa ajuda vir conseguir é algumas pode ajuda  
a pagar pelo os estudos, livros, uniforme e muito <sup>mais.</sup> ~~mais.~~





### **Communication and Content: 7/16**

This candidate communicates some detailed information relevant to the task, with frequently effective development of key points and ideas. Purely in terms of content, the total of 108 words indicates that some of the points will not be sufficiently developed. Indeed, all four points are addressed with only one sentence.

There is frequently effective adaptation of language and examples of creative language to give an interesting, personal response to the task. The register and style are appropriate.

### **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy: 3/12**

The candidates uses a variety of mainly straightforward grammatical structures, with one example of complex language: "se quiser ser medica".

There are occasional sequences of fluent writing, some with extended, well-linked sentences, e.g. "Eu acho importante porque pode aguar a ter um bom trabalho depois da escola".

Straightforward grammatical structures are largely accurate, but there is only one reference to the future and two references to the past, one of which is incorrect.



In the longer essay, make a point of developing your response to each bullet point.



## Question 2 (b)

For Q02(b) candidates discuss the benefits of mixed schools. This was less popular than part (a); only 40% of candidates chose it.

Bom dia, Senhor Diretor.  
Por favor lê esta carta com cuidado e atenção.  
Por que que ainda temos a viver no passado?  
por que que temos a excluir um sexo desta  
escola? E como é que isto ajuda nos na escola?  
~~Na primária a mi~~ Na minha primária a escola  
era mista e não havia nada mal sobre isso.  
Honestamente na minha opinião ter só um sexo  
~~em uma escola~~ em uma escola é sexista. Tá a dizer  
que só as meninas podem ter uma ~~boa~~ inteligência?  
Eu não gosto que não podemos ver meninas só  
porque eles são do sexo diferente. Com alunos e alunas  
a escola iria ser mista. Não haveria muita diferença  
além de ter classes juntos e iríamos saber ~~o a~~  
que vida fora de escola tem mais ~~de~~ que só

meninos e mulheres. Escolas mistas são melhor para jovens porque iria ~~mostrar~~ mostrar como mais igual para toda gente. em vez de ser estereótipos podemos ter amigos masculinos. ~~Até~~ Ter uma escola só feminina mostra ~~s~~ que devemos de ter metade de masculinos mas isto não devia de ser a verdade. Devemos de ser todos unidos. Obrigada por ler. & Por favor pense sobre isto.



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Examiner Comments

#### **Communication and Content: 12/16**

This candidate communicates detailed information relevant to the task, with mostly effective development of key points and ideas. There is some successful adaptation of language to narrate, inform, interest and convince, and creative use of language, as shown by this passage: "Honestamente, na minha opinião ter só um sexo em uma escola é sexista. Tá a dizer que só as meninas podem ter inteligência?" This response just misses out on the top mark band due to the brief response to the first bullet point and the informal style.

#### **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy: 5/12**

This response shows a variety of grammatical structures, but without including complex structures listed in the specification for the Higher tier. There are prolonged sequences of fluent writing, with extended, well-linked sentences. Language and structures are generally accurate, with successful references to different tenses. However, there are only two uses of the past tense.



Plan how to include complex language before starting to write the essay.

### Question 3

Q03 requires candidates to translate a short paragraph into Portuguese. The difficulty level increases with each sentence and specific vocabulary is required, so only the very best candidates can access the top category of the mark scheme. The majority of candidates were at least partially able to communicate the meaning of the passage, scoring around half marks.

#### 3 Traduza o seguinte parágrafo para Português.

Yesterday I ate watermelon because eating fruit is an important part of our lifestyle. Besides that, it has lots of vitamins, which are essential for the body. Nonetheless, some of my friends dislike this type of food. So, I would like to be famous in order to motivate young people in Brazil to be healthier.

Ontem eu comi uma melancia porque comer fruta é a parte mais importante da nossa vida. Por outro lado, isso tem muitas vitaminas, na quais são essenciais para o corpo. Infelizmente, alguns dos meus amigos não gostam desse tipo de comida. Então, eu gostaria de ser famoso para motivar jovens no Brasil a serem saudáveis.



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Score: 8/12

This is a largely accurate translation, but does not meet the criteria for the top mark band as parts of the message are omitted. "Infelizmente" is an incorrect translation for "nonetheless" and "an important part of our lifestyle" is changed to "the most important part of our life".



**ResultsPlus**  
Examiner Tip

Check your translation thoroughly to make sure you haven't accidentally changed the meaning.

3 Traduza o seguinte parágrafo para Português.

Yesterday I ate watermelon because eating fruit is an important part of our lifestyle. Besides that, it has lots of vitamins, which are essential for the body. Nonetheless, some of my friends dislike this type of food. So, I would like to be famous in order to motivate young people in Brazil to be healthier.

Ontem, eu comi melancia porque comer fruta é uma parte importante em nossa vida. Além disso, tem muitas vitaminas, que são essenciais para o nosso corpo. Mesmo ao contar isso, alguns dos meus amigos não gostam desse tipo de comida. Então, eu quero ser famoso para motivar jovens no Brasil para serem mais saudáveis.



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Mark: 6/12

This response scores at the top of its band because a large part of the text is conveyed, but is prevented from scoring higher due to the frequency of mistakes. Some errors prevent meaning being conveyed, e.g. 'eu comê' and 'memo', while other errors or changes hinder clarity, e.g. 'melassia', 'tenham', 'disse', 'assima' and changing 'I would like' to 'I want'.



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Examiner Tip

Consider studying Portuguese spelling rules when preparing for this exam.

## Paper Summary

Advice for future candidates:

- Read each question carefully and consider what exactly you are being asked to write about. Make sure you know which tenses are required. Both essay questions will always ask you to use the past, present and future.
- Avoid using words from other languages such as English or Spanish. If necessary, come up with an entirely new idea to discuss.
- Avoid repeating yourself.
- Check your translation conveys all the words from the original English text.
- Look at questions from past papers so you are familiar with what you will need to do.
- Practise developing ideas in the past, present and future.

## **Grade boundaries**

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