



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Applied 2016

Marking Scheme

Sign Language

Common Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.

In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

PART ONE – SHORT QUESTIONS – 40 MARKS

Section A		
<p>1a. Where were you born? Candidates will sign where they were born.</p> <p>1b. In what year were you born? Candidates will signs the year in they were born.</p> <p>1c. In what month is your birthday? Candidate will sign their birthday month.</p>		(1)
<p>2a. Fingerspell DOCTOR. Candidate fingerspell the vocabulary DOCTOR.</p> <p>2b. Fingerspell TEACHER. Candidates fingerspell the vocabulary TEACHER.</p> <p>2c. Fingerspell GARDA. Candidates fingerspell the vocabulary GARDA.</p>		(1)
<p>3a. At what time in the morning does your school start? Candidates will sign the time at which their school starts in the morning.</p> <p>3b. At what time do you usually get up to go to school? Candidates will sign the time at which they usually get up to go to school.</p> <p>3c. At what time do you usually go to bed during the school term? Candidates will sign the time at which they usually go to bed during the school term.</p>		(1)
<p>4a. During what month do the Leaving Certificate written exams take place? Candidates will sign June.</p> <p>4b. In which month do we celebrate Christmas? Candidates will sign December.</p> <p>4c. In which month is St. Valentine’s Day? Candidates will sign February.</p>		(1)
<p>5a. Name your favourite film star. Candidates will sign the name of their favourite film star.</p> <p>5b. Name your favourite sports person. Candidates will sign the name of their favourite sports person</p> <p>5c. Name your favourite celebrity. Candidates will sign the name of their favourite celebrity.</p>		(1)

Section B

The answers provided here are indicative only. All correct answers will be rewarded appropriately

<p>6a. Do you enjoy shopping? Explain your answer. Candidates will explain whether or not they enjoy shopping. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>6b. If you had €200 to spend on clothes, what would you buy? Explain your answer. Candidates will explain how they would spend €200 on clothes. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>6c. If you had €200 to spend on anything, what would you buy? Explain your answer. Candidates will explain how they would spend €200. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p>	(4)
<p>7a. Describe the food and drink you would serve at a family occasion. Candidates will describe the food and drink that would be served at a family occasion. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>7b. Describe the food and drink you most enjoy in a restaurant. Candidates will describe the food and drink they most enjoy in restaurants. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>7c. Describe the take-away food you most enjoy. Candidates will describe the takeaway food they most enjoy. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p>	(4)
<p>8a. Give directions from here to the Principal's office. Candidates will give directions from the exam centre to the Principal's office.</p> <p>8b. Give directions from here to the front entrance of the school. Candidates will give directions from the exam centre to the front entrance of the school.</p> <p>8c. Give directions from here to the school-yard. Candidates will give directions from the exam centre to the school-yard.</p>	(4)
<p>9a. What is your favourite after-school activity? Explain your answer. Candidates will name their favourite after-school activity and explain their choice.</p> <p>9b. What is your favourite subject? Explain your answer. Candidates will name their favourite subject and explain their choice.</p> <p>9c. What is your least favourite subject? Explain your answer. Candidates will name their least favourite subject and explain their choice.</p>	(4)

Section C

The answers provided here are indicative only. All correct answers will be rewarded appropriately

<p>10a. Discuss two advantages and two disadvantages of attending either a mixed school or a single sex school. Candidates will discuss two advantages and two disadvantages of attending either a mixed school or a single sex school. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>10b. Discuss two advantages and two disadvantages of attending either a Deaf school or a main stream school. Candidates will discuss two advantages and two disadvantages of attending either a Deaf school or a main stream school. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>10c. Discuss two advantages and two disadvantages of using bilingualism in any school with Deaf students. Candidates will discuss two advantages and two disadvantages of using bilingualism in any school with Deaf students. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p>	(6)
<p>11a. What is the Irish Deaf community? Explain your answer. Candidates will sign, for example, Deaf people, hearing people with ISL, hearing parents of Deaf children, some people who work within Deaf organisations, people who share similar goals and aspirations with the Deaf community, etc., explaining how all these people make up the Deaf community. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>11b. What is Irish Sign Language and who uses it? Candidates will sign that ISL is a visual language which has its own grammar and structure, different from spoken languages. Communication is not just about the hands, facial expressions are also an important feature of ISL. It is used, for example, by Deaf people, hearing people with ISL, hearing parents of Deaf children, some people who work within Deaf organisations, etc. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>11c. What is International sign language and where is it used? Candidates will sign that International sign language is not a full embodied language. It is generally used in conference settings where people with different indigenous sign languages meet together. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p>	(6)
<p>12a. Give your views on ISL Vlogs. Candidates will give their views on ISL Vlogs. Allow for a a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>12b. Give your views on Irish TV subtitling. Candidates will give their views on Irish TV subtitling. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p> <p>12c. Give your views on whether technology has improved life for Irish Deaf people. Candidates will give their views on whether technology has improved life for Irish Deaf people. Allow for a wide variety of answers.</p>	(7)

Guidelines for Marking Part One

Linguistic features include: articulation of handshape: orientation: movement: location and non-manual features.

Sign production includes: fingerspelling of words: vocabulary choice: pace of articulation: use of eye gaze: sign in context/information: verbs, etc.

Signing errors include all the features above, for example, three signing errors can be:

- (1.) Handshape (2.) Non-manual features (3.) Vocabulary

Section A

To attain any marks the candidate must first answer the questions with complete knowledgeable information and secondly, the candidate's sign production must be clearly understood.

1 = Correct answer, structure and/or linguistic features are clearly presented.

0 = Incorrect answer, structure and/or linguistic features are not clearly presented, not relevant, vocabulary errors.

Section B

To attain any marks the candidate must first answer the questions with complete knowledgeable information and secondly, the candidate's sign production must be clearly understood.

4 = Structure and/or features are clearly presented with no signing errors, "Deaf friendly" manner.

3 = Structure and/or features are clearly presented with minor signing errors, not more than one error allowed in sign production, "Deaf friendly" manner.

2 = Structure and/or features are fairly clearly presented, not more than two errors allowed in sign production, less "Deaf friendly" manner.

1 = Structure and/or features are fairly/poorly presented, not more than three errors allowed in sign production, not "Deaf friendly" manner.

0 = Incorrect answer, structure and/or features are not clearly presented, not relevant, too many grammatical or vocabulary errors, not "Deaf friendly" manner.

Section C

To attain any marks the candidate must first answer the questions with complete knowledgeable information and secondly, the candidate's sign production must be clearly understood.

7 = Structure and/or linguistic features are clearly presented, sign production is well articulated, timing is of perfect duration.

6 = Structure and/or linguistic features are clearly presented with up to two signing errors allowed, timing appropriate to what is recommended.

5 = Structure and/or linguistic features are clearly presented with up to three signing errors allowed, "Deaf friendly" manner.

4 = Structure and/or linguistic features are clearly presented, not more than four errors allowed in sign production, "Deaf friendly" manner.

3 = Structure and/or linguistic features are fairly clearly presented, not more than five errors allowed in sign production, less "Deaf friendly" manner.

2 = Structure and/or linguistic features are poorly presented, not more than six errors allowed in sign production, not "Deaf friendly" manner.

1 = Structure and/or linguistic features are poorly presented, with six or more errors in sign production, not "Deaf friendly" manner.

0 = Incorrect answer, structure and/or linguistic features are not clearly presented, not relevant, too many grammatical or vocabulary errors, not "Deaf friendly" manner.

PART TWO – PRESENTATION – 60 MARKS

TOPICS:

1. Make a presentation about the refugee crisis facing Europe.
In your presentation you should outline where the refugees come from, why they are leaving their own countries and give your opinion on how you think people in Ireland should respond to the situation.
2. Make a presentation about the 100th year anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising that occurs in 2016. In your presentation you should outline the main events that took place in 1916 and give your opinion about how this historical event should be commemorated.
3. Make a presentation about the impact of technology and social media on the Deaf community and on Deaf individuals. In your presentation you should identify two developments in technology and social media and give your opinion on the impact these developments have had on the Deaf community and Deaf individuals
4. Make a presentation about a person, past or present, who you feel has made a significant contribution to the Irish Deaf community.
In your presentation you should provide some background information about your chosen person and explain why you think he or she has made a valuable contribution to the Irish Deaf community.

Marks for the presentation are awarded in line with the guidelines issued to schools. These are reproduced on Page 7.

Section A	Marks 1 - 2	Marks 3 - 4	Marks 5 - 6	Marks 7 - 8	Marks 9 - 10
Grammatical Control:	Constant grammatical errors	Frequent errors, difficulty with outputting information but message understandable	Good basic structures but with some errors	Occasional errors and has a good flow of information	Few errors and has a good competency in relaying the information
Vocabulary:	Constant vocabulary errors	Has difficulty producing the correct vocabulary	Good vocabulary knowledge but still has difficulty producing some vocabulary	Has good and wide range of vocabulary but with some errors	Has good and wide range of vocabulary with little or no errors
Phonology:	Production of SL is difficult to comprehend	Production of SL is heavily influenced by English	Production of SL is fair to middling	Good production of SL but with some errors	Good production of SL with little or no errors
Fluency:	Constant hesitancy when producing SL	Hesitant but able to produce SL with some competency	Good fluency but has hesitations when producing SL	Good fluency with occasional hesitations when producing SL	Good fluency with natural NMF when producing SL with little or no hesitations

Section B	Marks 1 - 4	Marks 5 - 9	Marks 10 - 14
1. Content of presentation, including evidence of preparation, research and personal reflection	Candidate demonstrates limited evidence of preparation, research and personal reflection	Candidate demonstrates good evidence of preparation, research and personal reflection	Candidate demonstrates excellent evidence of preparation, research and personal reflection
2. Response to questions on presentation	6 Marks based on quality of candidate's response		

