

General Certificate of Secondary Education January 2015

English Language/English

Unit 1: Personal Writing and Reading Multi-Modal texts

Higher Tier

[GEG12]

THURSDAY 8 JANUARY, MORNING

MARK SCHEME

A General Introduction to the Assessment of CCEA's GCSE English Language/English

The style of assessment

The exams will be marked using positive assessment; crediting what has been achieved. The mark schemes emanate from the Assessment Objectives and are designed to support this positive approach.

The relationship between tasks, mark schemes and Levels of Competence

Each task is designed to test a specified series of Assessment Objectives.

Every task has an individual mark scheme built around a task specific checklist; Levels of Competence strands and descriptors; and a mark grid.

The Competence Levels, which detail increasing levels of proficiency, are made up of three strands. These are derived from the task specific Assessment Objectives and each of the strands focuses on important characteristics within the response.

The job for each examiner is to identify positively what has been achieved and then match each candidate's level of proficiency to the appropriate descriptors.

Writing: the marking process

Two discrete assessments have to be made.

The first assessment will be used to gauge the candidate's performance in the Assessment Objectives for **Writing (i)** and **(ii)**. The second assessment is measured against the remaining Assessment Objective for **Writing (iii)**.

The assessment of this task begins with the examiner highlighting what is creditworthy as well as marking up the errors in SPG. Then, at the conclusion of the response, the examiner will summarise the candidate's achievement and then select the appropriate mark from the mark grid.

The required process, standard and style of marking will be the business of the standardising meetings. Pre-marked exemplar scripts will be distributed to all examiners at these conferences. These 'benchmark scripts' have been marked and annotated by the senior examining team prior to each standardising meeting.

Studying Written Language (Reading): an outline of the marking process

The assessment of an individual response begins with the examiner highlighting what, within an answer, is creditworthy. Then, at the conclusion of the response, the examiner will summarise the candidate's achievement before selecting the appropriate mark from the mark grid.

These procedures which have been outlined above are described in detail overleaf.

The Assessment Objectives

Writing

- (i) Write to communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, using and adapting forms and selecting vocabulary appropriate to task and purpose in ways that engage the reader.
- (ii) Organise information and ideas into structured and sequenced sentences, paragraphs and whole texts, using a variety of linguistic and structural features to support cohesion and coherence.
- (iii) Use a range of sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate punctuation and spelling.

All are being assessed.

The examiner will be required to make **two** distinct assessments: one for **Writing (i)** and **(ii)** and a second assessment for **Writing (iii)**.

The two required assessments

1 Each response will be assessed on the basis of a single reading using the e-marking tools: underlining, circling and wavy underlining

The following method and style of marking is to be used:

- > Use the **underlining tool** to indicate <u>creditworthy material</u>.
- > The circling facility serves two purposes:
 - (a) to highlight spelling mistakes with each error being circled only once -(alot)/happend.)
 - (b) for indicating minor and/or occasional lapses in punctuation such as missing apostrophes, question marks, commas and full stops *run's/ ...two three or four/ ...to me it was not long after . . .*
- Wavy underlining will denote failings in syntax. When used vertically in the margin this will indicate ongoing issues, for example, failings in grammar/lapses in sentence structure He seen yous threw the open door

2 Using the method and style of marking outlined above in conjunction with the Competence Levels for **Writing (i)** and **(ii)**, the examiner will assess, positively, the features of that response.

This process (a worked example follows on the next page) will be carried out in this order:

- (a) The examiner will carefully read and annotate the response.
- (b) The three Competence Level strands that best match the candidate's achievement will be noted.
- (c) After selecting and noting the three Competence Level strands, the examiner will turn to the mark grid to establish the mark to be awarded. Where the mark grid calls for an examiner judgement, the extent to which a candidate has met the overall requirements of the particular Competence Level will determine the mark to be awarded.

(In exceptional circumstances the standard of a candidate's work might range across more than two strand levels. Such an eventuality is not covered by the mark grids. Where this happens, the examiner should decide the mark to be awarded on a 'best fit' basis. The support of the supervising examiner could usefully be sought.)

- **3** A final check of the booklet:
 - (a) Use the 'E' tool to indicate the end of the candidate's final response.
 - (b) Stamp all other blank or planning pages with the 'SEEN' tool.

Here is an example of this style of annotation in action for **Task 1a** (this should be read in conjunction with the relevant Competence Level strands on p. 8)

The response is positively assessed against each of the three strands that make up the Competence Levels for Writing (i/ii). It is summarised by the following descriptors:

- "Competent development and style that maintains the audience's clear engagement" (Development and style CL 3)
- "Proficient structuring allied to the positive use of structural and linguistic devices enhance the audience's engagement" (Structuring/linguistic and structural features CL 3)
- "Purpose and audience is clear and underpins the response" (Purpose and audience CL 2)

These individual strand levels are noted at the end of the response in a text box -



The next stage in the process is to check these 'strand scores' on the mark grid for Task **1a**. This indicates a score of **9 marks**.

This score would then be entered against No. **1a** in the scoring facility at the bottom, right corner of the screen.

In order to assess **Task 1b**, the same process (step 2 above) is used to make this second assessment using the Competence Levels that relate to **Writing (iii)**.

Here is an example of this style of annotation in action (it should be read in conjunction with the relevant Competence Level strands on p. 9)

The response is positively assessed against each of the three strands that make up the Competence Levels for Writing (iii). It is summarised by the following descriptors:

- "Deliberate manipulation of a range of sentence structures demonstrating conscious control of sentence variety" (Sentence structure and use of punctuation CL 3)
- "Accurate spelling of most words... some errors with more problematic words" (Spelling CL 3)
- "Extended vocabulary which is employed with increasing precision" (Range of vocabulary CL 3)

These individual strand levels are noted at the end of the response in a text box -



The next stage in the process is to check these 'strand scores' across the mark grid for Task **1b**. This indicates a score of **5/6 marks**.

The selected score would then be entered against No. **1b** in the scoring facility at the bottom, right corner of the screen.

Task 1a – Personal writing Testing Writing (i) and (ii) Response time: 45 minutes Max. 16 marks

Write an article for your school magazine about "Things that make you happy".

How Writing (i) and (ii) feed through to marks: use the task specific checklist to ascertain the extent to which a candidate has crafted language in order to:

- communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively;
- use and adapt forms and select vocabulary appropriate to the task and purpose in ways that engage the reader;
- organise information and ideas into structured and sequenced sentences, paragraphs and whole texts;
- use a variety of linguistic and structural features to support cohesion and overall coherence.

The overall performance is then assessed against the three individual Competence Level strands. These are noted before the final stage in the process which is to match these 'strand scores' across the mark grid in order to decide upon a mark.

This task specific checklist outlines the skills associated with Writing (i) and (ii) that candidates at all Competence Levels may be expected to attempt to employ in their responses. **Credit any other valid strategies used that are not mentioned below.**

Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively demonstrating:

- a handling of the topic in such a way as to positively develop the reader's interest
- use of a style that builds a positive relationship with the target audience
- possible use of anecdotes/ humour to enliven the writing and so engage the reader.

Adapting form and vocabulary to task and purpose in ways that engage the reader, demonstrating:

- a conscious awareness of the magazine readership as audience
- a use of tone that is designed to engage and sustain the attention
- use of vocabulary that is in keeping with the task and audience to enhance the writing.

Organise information and ideas into structured, sequenced sentences, paragraphs and whole texts demonstrating:

- a sense of logical progression being led through the writer's choices
- the use of engaging/challenging introductory and concluding paragraphs
- the deployment of topic/link sentences for different paragraphs
- development that uses conscious organisation to sustain the audience's interest.

Use a variety of linguistic and structural features to support cohesion and overall coherence demonstrating:

- a conscious varying of sentence length for effect
- the use of connectives to give coherence
- the use of rhetorical devices such as the rule of three, questions, hyperbole to develop interest and a rapport with the reader.

How Writing (iii) feeds through to marks: use the task specific checklist to ascertain the extent to which a candidate has crafted language by using:

- a range of sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect;
- accurate punctuation and spelling.

The overall performance is then assessed against the three individual Competence Level strands. These are noted before the final stage in the process which is to match these 'strand scores' across the mark grid in order to decide upon a mark.

This task specific checklist outlines the skills associated with Writing (iii) that candidates at all Competence Levels may be expected to attempt to employ in their responses. **Credit any other valid strategies used that are not mentioned below.**

The range and effectiveness of sentence structures:

- The wider the range and the greater the degree of originality and control in structuring sentences, the more opportunity the candidate gives him/herself to attempt to establish a positive rapport with the reader.
- The fresher, the more assured and varied that manipulation of sentence structuring is, the higher will be the mark awarded.

The use made of accurate punctuation and spelling:

- Linked to the control of sentence structure is the control of a variety of appropriate punctuation. Here, too, competent usage can help to maintain the reader's interest. The greater the control and variation in the use of punctuation, the higher will be the reward.
- Accuracy in spelling, in isolation, can be misleading; it needs to be viewed beside the range and precision of the vocabulary used. A limited vocabulary spelt accurately is unlikely to capture the reader's attention.
- Examiners should credit ambitious use of vocabulary where the word may not always be accurately spelt but has been chosen carefully for effect.

	Task 1a			
	Development and Style	Structuring/Linguistic and Structural Features	Purpose and Audience	
CL 1	Deliberate approach to development that uses a straightforward style in an attempt to respond positively	Logically organised, leading the audience through the response. This is supported by some straightforward use of structural and linguistic features	Recognition of purpose and audience giving a straightforward direction to the writing	CL 1
CL 2	Generally effective development supported by an increasingly fluent style which engages and develops interest	Combines clear structuring with a conscious effort to use some structural and linguistic devices in order to develop the audience's interest	Purpose and audience is clear and underpins the response	CL 2
CL 3	Competent development and style that maintains the audience's clear engagement	Proficient structuring allied to the positive use of structural and linguistic devices helps to enhance the audience's engagement	Convincing sense of purpose and audience woven within the fabric of the response	CL 3
CL 4	Poised development combined with a sophisticated style to command the reader's attention	Assured competence in structuring is matched by the skilled use of a variety of structural and linguistic devices to enliven the work and actively cultivate a connection with the audience	Confident understanding of purpose in conjunction with a conscious development of a rapport with the audience	CL 4

Task 1a Mark Grid		
Competence Levels	Strands attained	Mark awarded
0	000	0
	111	1/2/3
1	112	4
	221	5
2	222	6/7
-	223	8
	332	9
3	333	10/11
	334	12
	443	13
4	444	14/15/16

The 3 strands outlining the key qualities at each Competence Level for Writing (iii)

	Task 1b			
	Sentence Structure/Use of Punctuation	Spelling	Range of Vocabulary	
CL 1	Controlled straightforward sentence structure with generally secure basic punctuation (full stops and commas)	Generally accurate spelling of regular, straightforward words	Some conscious attempt to use vocabulary to enliven the writing	CL 1
CL 2	Increasingly sustained competence with a variety sentence structures where the basics of punctuation (full stops, commas, exclamation and question marks) are used to add clarity	Mainly accurate spelling, including some words with irregular patterns – credit attempts at ambitious usage	Greater precision in the use of a widening vocabulary that actively helps to engage the audience	CL 2
CL 3	Deliberate manipulation of a range of sentence structures demonstrating conscious control of sentence variety for effect and a proficiently handled range of punctuation that enhances the writing	Accurate spelling of most words, although some errors with more problematic words will persist	Extended vocabulary which is employed with increasing precision and accuracy	CL 3
CL 4	Assured use of a wide range of sentence structures that enhances the overall effect in terms of clarity, purpose and audience; confidently deploying a full range of punctuation to facilitate fluency	Errors will be limited to one-off mistakes or the outcomes of ambitious attempts to use complex language	Extended, apposite vocabulary consciously used for effect	CL 4

Task 1b Mark Grid		
Competence Levels	Strands attained	Mark awarded
0	000	0
	111	1/2
1	112	2
	221	3
2	222	3/4
-	223	4
	332	5
3	333	5/6
	334	6
	443	7
4	444	8

The Assessment Objectives for Reading

- (i) Read and understand texts, selecting material appropriate to purpose, collating from different sources and making comparisons and cross-references as appropriate.
- (ii) Develop and sustain interpretations of writers' ideas and perspectives.
- (iii) Explain and evaluate how writers use linguistic, grammatical, structural and presentational features to engage and influence the reader.

The specific elements of the Assessment Objectives addressed by Tasks 2 and 3:

- Task 2 (i) selecting material appropriate to purpose/collating and making cross-references
 - (ii) dev. and sustain interpretations
 - (iii) explaining and evaluating how a writer uses linguistic, grammatical and structural devices to achieve effects
- Task 3 (i) selecting material appropriate to purpose/collating and making cross-references
 - (ii) dev. and sustain interpretations
 - (iii) explaining and evaluating how structural and presentational features achieve effects and engage and influence the reader

The examiners will be required to make **one** assessment in respect of each of the two tasks.

The required process of assessment

Each response will be assessed on the basis of a single reading using the three e-marking tools: underlining/ticking/C & C button \rightarrow C

- 1 The following method and style of marking is to be used:
 - > use the **underlining** facility to highlight **appropriate explanation and interpretation**;
 - > use the ticking tool to indicate consideration of relevant examples/evidence;
 - > use the **C** button in the margin to highlight appropriate comparing and contrasting;
 - > ignore all errors in punctuation, syntax and spelling as they are not being assessed.

2 Using the method and style of marking outlined above in conjunction with the Competence Levels for **Reading**, the examiner will assess, positively, the features of the response.

This process (a worked example follows on the next page) will be carried out in this order:

- (a) The examiner will carefully read and annotate the response.
- (b) The three selected Competence Level strands will be noted.
- (c) After selecting and noting the three Competence Level strands, the examiner will turn to the mark grid to establish the mark to be awarded. Where the mark grid calls for an examiner judgement, the extent to which a candidate has met overall requirements of the particular Competence Level will determine the mark to be awarded.

(In exceptional circumstances the standard of a candidate's work might range across more than two strand levels. Such an eventuality is not covered by the mark grids. Where this happens, the examiner should decide the mark to be awarded on a 'best fit' basis. The support of the supervising examiner could usefully be sought.)

Here is an example of this style of annotation in action for a **Task 2** response (it should be read in conjunction with the relevant Competence Level strands on p.15)

The response is positively assessed against each of the three Competence Level strands for **Reading (i–iii)** and summarised by the following descriptors:

- "Confident and precise development of perceptive interpretations" (Developing and sustaining interpretations CL 3)
- "Competent explanations some insightful are developed through an approach that is generally evaluative" (Explaining and evaluating CL 2)
- "Precise cross-referencing of apposite, supporting evidence" (Selecting material and cross-referencing CL 3)

These individual descriptors are noted at the end of the response in a text box -



The next stage in the process is to check these 'strand scores' across the mark grid for **Task 2**. This indicates a score of **11/12 marks**.

The selected score would then be entered against No. 2 in the scoring facility at the bottom, right corner of the screen.

Here is an example of this style of annotation in action for a **Task 3** response (it should be read in conjunction with the relevant Competence Level strands on p.17)

The response is positively assessed against each of the three Competence Level strands that make up the Competence Level in this task. It is summarised as:

- "Clearly developed generally accurate interpretations of how presentational devices engage" (Developing and sustaining interpretations CL 2)
- > "Clear evaluation. Confident explanations" (Explaining and evaluating CL 3)
- ➤ "Focused comparing and contrasting. Supporting evidence both sources CL 2)

These individual descriptors are noted at the end of the response in a text box -

T3 232

The next stage in the process is to check these 'strand scores' across the mark grid for **Task 3**. This indicates a score of **6 marks**.

This score would then be entered against No. **3** in the scoring facility at the bottom, right corner of the screen.

Compare and contrast how **language** is used in **both** texts to **persuade** you that Northern Ireland is an interesting and fun place to visit. In your response comment on **how** the **words** and **phrases** are used to promote Northern Ireland.

How Reading (i), (ii) and (iii) feed through to marks: use the question specific checklist to ascertain the extent to which a candidate has:

- selected and evaluated evidence
- developed and sustained interpretations
- explained how a writer uses linguistic devices to achieve effects.

The overall performance is then assessed against the three individual Competence Level strands. These are noted before the final stage in the process which is to match these 'strand scores' across the mark grid in order to decide upon a mark.

Task specific checklist outlining the material that candidates at all Competence Levels may be expected to include in their responses. **Credit fully any other valid suggestions/comments**.

Language used to persuade:

- "outdoorni" promotes NI as a place for outdoor adventure and activities in "many Areas" which suggests there are many places to visit and lots to do: "discoverni" also promotes NI as a place where you can experience a range of things, both indoor and outdoor, e.g. food, culture, crafts, theatre, history and relaxation
- "outdoorni" presents NI as an adventure "playground" with no limits and tells customers to "get stuck in"; whereas "discoverni" suggests that you can do a lot in a short space of time: "Squeeze more into your short break"
- "outdoorni" starts with a greeting to the customer: "Welcome to your adventure"; whereas "discoverni" poses a question to get their immediate attention: "Fancy a getaway ...?"
- in "outdoorni" the possessive pronoun is used to attract potential travellers to NI by giving them a sense of ownership and belonging: "this is your Northern Ireland"/ "your adventure playground"
- in "outdoorni" the taglines of the eight places to visit are puns which refer to each of different areas and their key activities: "The sky's the limit!"/ "Lose yourself!"/ "Float your boat!"/ "Bike it!".
 Exclamation marks are also used to emphasise the adventure that awaits: "Get rocking!"/ "Dive in!"/ "Lap the lough!"/ "Surf's up!"
- both texts use enticing language to encourage customers: "just waiting to be discovered" and "why
 not relax". They both use lots of positive adjectives to describe the experience visitors will have:
 "beautiful countryside"/"most magical" and "extraordinary NI"/" delicious food"
- both texts use superlative language to appeal to customers and sell the experience they will have: "fantastic"/ "magnificent"/ "outstanding"; and "unbeatable"/ "unmissable"/ "astonishing"
- both texts use direct address and inclusive language to appeal to customers: in "outdoorni" "you won't be disappointed!" and in "discoverni" – "You don't have far to go"/ "you can afford"/ "you deserve it!"
- both texts use imperatives: "Get on your bike"/ "just pedal your way" and "Explore"/ "Start"/ "uncover"

- both texts use statistics and facts to support their message: "all above 600 metres"/ "400 year old city walls"
- both texts present lots of advice and support for the potential customer: "Take a day out" and "Begin in the big city"
- "discoverni" states "Don't forget a little nightcap..." which suggests the target audience is an adult one and the use of ellipsis implies some pleasant self-indulgence; whereas in "outdoorni" the emphasis is on promoting NI as an exciting place to visit with the word "spectacular" being repeated several times

	Task 2 Language use in Multi-Modal Texts			
	Developing and sustaining interpretations	Explaining and evaluating	Selecting material and cross-referencing	
CL 1	Mainly purposeful comment supports appropriate interpretation of how language has been used	Overall consideration of how linguistic devices achieve their effects – there may be some attempt at focused explanation/evaluation	Relevant selection of examples of language from both texts – some used for purposeful cross-referencing	CL 1
CL 2	Clearly developed, generally accurate interpretation of the use of linguistic effects from both sources	Competent explanations – some insightful – are developed through an approach that is generally evaluative	Focused comparing and contrasting using appropriate supporting evidence from both sources	CL 2
CL 3	Confident and precise development of perceptive interpretation across both sources	Clear evaluation of linguistic devices that is thorough and/or assured. Confident explanations assess how these impact upon the audience	Precise cross- referencing of apposite, supporting evidence	CL 3

	Task 2 Mark Grid			
Competence Levels	Strands attained	Mark awarded		
0	000	0		
4	111	1/2/3		
1	112	4/5		
	221	6/7		
2	222	8/9		
	223	10		
2	332	11/12		
3	333	13/14/15		

Compare and contrast how **presentational devices** are used in **both** texts to add to the appeal of Northern Ireland. In your response comment on **how images/colour/layout** add to the appeal.

How Reading (i), (ii) and (iii) feed through to marks: use the question specific checklist to ascertain the extent to which a candidate has:

- selected and evaluated evidence
- developed and sustained interpretations
- explained how a writer uses presentational and structural devices to achieve effects and engage and influence the reader.

The overall performance is then assessed against the three individual Competence Level strands. These are noted before the final stage in the process which is to match these 'strand scores' across the mark grid in order to decide upon a mark.

Task specific checklist outlining the material that candidates at all competence levels may be expected to include in their responses. **Credit fully any other valid suggestions/comments.**

The use of images, colour and layout:

- all the images used in "outdoorni" present a positive and attractive picture of Northern Ireland appealing primarily to people interested in an active lifestyle; in "discoverni" the four main pictures of the four suggested venues also paint a positive and attractive picture of Northern Ireland but appeal to people interested in a variety of activities, both indoor and outdoor such as theatres and restaurants
- in "outdoorni" the large map of Northern Ireland dominates the left-hand side of the leaflet and highlights where the various activities take place and nine photographs/action shots of activities dominate the right hand side of the text; in "discoverni" the three main pictures and corresponding sections of text draw your attention to that part of the leaflet first
- in "outdoorni" each of the eight sections has a heading and a caption which sums up the main activity in this area; in "discoverni" two cartoon cars are used to indicate the travel time between each of the three main attractions that are central to the promotion of Northern Ireland
- both texts use bright colours for visual appeal. In "outdoorni" the eight places are presented in greyed sections and colour-coded to identify them easily on the map; in "discoverni" the three main attractions are promoted in circular sections and are also colour-coded to match with the corresponding text below. The circular places of interest also point to the exact locations on the watermarked map of NI
- in "outdoorni" the heading "welcome to Northern Ireland" is presented in large text at the top
 of the leaflet and stands out. The subheading at the bottom of the leaflet "Your Adventure has
 started" is in large font and attracts the eye of the reader; in "discoverni" the main title "48 hours in
 extraordinary NI" is presented towards the bottom left hand side of the leaflet in a coloured text box
 and large font size to draw attention to the main selling point of the leaflet
- "outdoorni" promotes its own website as well as a list of other useful websites presented in a red coloured textbox at the bottom right of the leaflet; whereas "discoverni" promotes its own website and also uses social media websites to appeal to potential customers. Its website is prominently displayed in the bottom left corner. The letters "ni" are in a different colour to emphasise Northern Ireland as a place to visit

 in "discoverni" a striking geometrical pattern at the bottom of the leaflet adds visual appeal and draws the reader's eye to the information displayed. An orange circle attracts potential customers to the price of a short break in NI. The "discoverni" logo is placed beside the website and the shamrock is an iconic symbol of Ireland for readers/tourists. It is endorsed by the European Regional Development Fund logo; by contrast "outdoorni" uses a solid block of background colour to highlight the list of web addresses, further highlighted by striking white lettering

	Task 3 Pres.	Dev. use in Mult	i-Modal Texts	
	Developing and sustaining interpretations	Explaining and evaluating	Selecting material and cross-referencing	
CL 1	Mainly purposeful comment supports appropriate interpretation of the use of presentational devices	An overall consideration of how presentational devices achieve their effects – some may offer focused explanation/ evaluation	A relevant selection of examples of presentational devices from both texts – some used for purposeful cross-referencing	CL 1
CL 2	Clearly developed, generally accurate interpretation of how presentational devices from both sources engage and influence the reader	Competent explanations – some insightful – presented to reveal how presentational devices engage and positively influence the reader	Focused comparing and contrasting using appropriate supporting evidence from both sources	CL 2
CL 3	Thorough and/or assured interpretation of how the most significant presentational devices have been developed to impact upon the reader	A clear evaluation that confidently analyses how significant presentational devices impact upon the audience.	Precise cross- referencing of apposite, supporting evidence	CL 3

Task 3 Mark Grid			
Competence Levels	Strands attained	Mark awarded	
0	000	0	
1	111	1/2	
I	112	3	
	221	4	
2	222	5	
	223	6	
3	332	7	
3	333	8/9	