



# Cambridge International AS Level

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**ENGLISH GENERAL PAPER**

**8021/23**

Paper 2 Comprehension

**May/June 2023**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

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**Published**

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of **10** printed pages.

**Generic Marking Principles**

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:**

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:**

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:**

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:**

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:**

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

**GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:**

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	<p><b>Considering only the advantages, explain why Nicoletta is more likely to favour Footpath Focus.</b></p> <p><b>You must not refer to Total Tartaruga.</b></p> <p><b>Answer in continuous prose.</b></p> <p>Credit any of the following points or any other valid point.</p> <p>Footpath Focus requires high levels of physical fitness and Nicoletta will be a perfect fit as a keen triathlete.</p> <p>The three-year project is nearing completion and Nicoletta would appreciate the <u>visible results</u> of their work.</p> <p>The completed trail work/steps and rails should help prevent soil erosion over the next 50 years and she is keen to get involved in work with a <u>long-lasting impact</u>.</p> <p>She seems pleased that the travel costs of the Footpath Focus option are low (with their student discount) and, with the lower cost of food and accommodation, it's much cheaper overall.</p> <p>The remote star-gazing/campfire opportunity seems to have captured her imagination, and she is keen to persuade the other two that they would enjoy this.</p> <p>She is rather scornful of Simon's comments on the lack of creature comforts/need for fun on a holiday, so probably wouldn't mind the basic accommodation facilities/working outside <u>in all weathers</u>.</p> <p>As the only <u>one</u> with the tent and other camping equipment, she might enjoy feeling superior to the others by providing the tent they will share.</p> <p>We can assume Nicoletta has camped like this before so she clearly loves this activity.</p>	8

Question	Answer			Marks
	In assessing the answer award marks for a coherent appraisal, clearly expressed, of three or more relevant considerations, that make use of analytical skills.			
<b>Levels</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Descriptors</b>		
4	7–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity to interpret evidence and sustained ability to present relevant arguments, analysis and exemplification maintaining a strong focus on the main issues in the question.</li> <li>• Comprehensive approach demonstrating ability to identify and select relevant information, data, concepts and opinions and maintain a strong focus on the key issues.</li> <li>• Shows the ability to communicate clearly and accurately in a fluent and organised manner.</li> </ul>		
3	5–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moderate range of arguments, analysis and exemplification covering some of the main issues in the question.</li> <li>• Demonstrating some grasp of the nature of key issues but with a restricted range or a loss of focus leading to the inclusion of some irrelevant material.</li> <li>• Shows the ability to communicate clearly and accurately in a fluent and organised manner.</li> </ul>		
2	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited analysis shown in a response consisting of mainly undeveloped material.</li> <li>• A modest range of selected points, perhaps some of which are irrelevant or incorrect.</li> <li>• Ability to convey meaning but with limited powers of expression with some errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar which impede the flow and hinder communication.</li> </ul>		
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some simple, mainly unexplained or undeveloped points or perhaps a very narrow range – with little interpretation or analysis and little development or exemplification.</li> <li>• Limited range, dubious choice showing restricted appreciation of key issues.</li> <li>• Ability to convey meaning but with limited powers of expression with some errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar which impede the flow and hinder communication.</li> </ul>		
0	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mark of zero should be awarded for no creditable content.</li> </ul>		

Question	Answer	Marks
1(b)	<p><b>Explain two disadvantages for Jamil if the three friends choose Footpath Focus.</b></p> <p><b>Do <u>not</u> refer to Total Tartaruga.</b></p> <p>Credit any of the following points or any other valid points.</p> <p>The <u>high levels of physical fitness</u> required will not suit Jamil (1) given his ongoing recovery from his broken ankle/fear of reinjuring it. (1)</p> <p>The <u>strenuous hiking on the day off</u> may not appeal (1) given his preference for watching golf on television over getting involved. (1)</p> <p>Jamil is <u>concerned about mixing with</u> a large group (1) so spending time with 32+ people may be too difficult for him. (1)</p>	4
1(c)	<p><b>Explain two disadvantages for Jamil if the three friends choose Total Tartaruga.</b></p> <p><b>Do <u>not</u> refer to Footpath Focus.</b></p> <p>Credit any of the following points or any other valid points.</p> <p>Jamil is keen to have a special time with his two friends (1) but there appears to be a need to share their cabin with a fourth person. (1)</p> <p>The cost of the Total Tartaruga working holiday (travel, food and accommodation) is more expensive / \$600 (1) and Jamil is not well-off. (1)</p> <p>The trip would take four weeks out of his school holiday (1) but he needs to work and earn money for as much time as he can to pay for university. (1)</p> <p>The work might be less useful than hoped to his future career plans in animal conservation (1) given the online reviews of recent participants commenting they hardly saw any turtles. (1)</p>	4

Question	Answer	Marks
1(d)	<p><b>Explain two reasons why Simon would prefer Total Tartaruga.</b></p> <p><b>Do <u>not</u> refer to Footpath Focus.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>two</u> of the following points or any other valid points.</p> <p>Simon seems keen to have a reasonable level of comfort (1) and he describes the beach cabins as sounding amazing. (1)</p> <p>Simon may get the opportunity to practise his languages (1) as it is expected there will be international visitors among the volunteers. (1)</p> <p>He is keen on <u>sustainable</u> travel and tourism (1) so the solar-powered/ eco resort would satisfy his ethics. (1)</p> <p>Since Simon is a vegetarian, (1) he would most likely approve of the <u>meat-free</u> menu in the resort. (1)</p> <p>He is apparently very good with computers (1) so will have the opportunity to contribute to the work/develop his skills with the spreadsheets and film editing. (1)</p> <p>Simon also likes having fun whilst he is away (1) and the resort offers the opportunity to snorkel/swim. (1)</p>	4
1(e)	<p><b>Using evidence from the extract from the conversation only, suggest why the reader might think that Nicoletta is bossy.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>three</u> of the following or any other valid points.</p> <p>Nicoletta <u>dismisses</u> Jamil's concern about the cost of train travel for Footpath Focus. (1) During their conversation Nicoletta told him there is 'no need to worry'. (1)</p> <p>She uses <u>assertive statements</u> to express her opinion on the relative costs. (1) She states that the cost of flights for Total Tartaruga is 'far too much to spend'. (1)</p> <p>She <u>rejects</u> Simon's desire for a bit of comfort for his holiday. (1) and refers to him as 'shallow'. (1)</p> <p>She uses a rhetorical question to <u>persuade</u> Simon/the other two about the joys of the stars. (1) During their discussion she says, 'Wouldn't you like seeing all those stars, so far from the light pollution of the city...?' (1)</p> <p>She addresses Simon and Jamil <u>by name</u>/with their <u>specific interests</u> (1) in order to persuade them by saying, 'You've always been interested in spirituality and culture, Simon.' (1)</p> <p>She often gives them <u>instructions</u> (1) for example, she tells Jamil that he must bring his guitar for sing-songs round the campfire! (1)</p>	3

Question	Answer	Marks
1(f)	<p><b>Using your own knowledge, state another example of voluntary work which might be worthwhile. Justify your response.</b></p> <p><b>Do <u>not</u> repeat any material from Section A.</b></p> <p>Credit any of the following points or any other valid point.</p> <p>Working with children (1): to nurture future generations at an important stage of their lives/and be a role model. (1)</p> <p>Helping homeless people (1): offering basic support for survival/and the contact a friendly face provides to lonely/vulnerable people. (1)</p> <p>Campaigning for global organisations (1): Possibility to support a cause you believe in/and contribute to the impact of its efforts. (1)</p> <p>Fundraising for a local charity (1): significant help can be given to a smaller charity/ whose work may affect your own area or family. (1)</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(i)	<p><b>From the material identify the <u>exact</u> word or phrase that means: regular sequence (lines 1 to 10)</b></p> <p>Steady rotation</p>	1
2(a)(ii)	<p><b>From the material identify the <u>exact</u> word or phrase that means: established a base (lines 1 to 10)</b></p> <p>set up camp</p>	1
2(a)(iii)	<p><b>From the material identify the <u>exact</u> word or phrase that means: absorbs (lines 26 to 34)</b></p> <p>soaks up</p>	1
2(a)(iv)	<p><b>From the material identify the <u>exact</u> word or phrase that means: (to) take apart (lines 57 to 68)</b></p> <p>(to) dismantle</p>	1
2(b)(i)	<p><b>Suggest the wider consequences for Earth of astronaut Tim Peake's observations from the International Space Station.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>two</u> of the following points and any other valid points.</p> <p>The Earth's atmosphere is (relatively) <u>fragile</u> for human survival. (1)</p> <p>Issues such as air pollution / climate change are crucially important. (1)</p> <p>(The ISS missions) can help to raise awareness of the importance of protecting our home/planet/the Earth. (1)</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)(ii)	<p><b>Suggest why scientists insist that the domestic details of space station life are important (lines 13 to 17).</b></p> <p><b>Answer <u>in about 10 words</u>.</b></p> <p>They demonstrate that people can flourish away from Earth/in inhospitable surroundings. (1)</p> <p>Any content above 10 words will not be credited.</p>	1
2(c)	<p><b>Explain how the break-up of the former Soviet Union offered an opportunity to NASA (lines 18 to 31).</b></p> <p><b>Answer <u>in about 40 words</u>.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>four</u> of the following points.</p> <p>Initial plans for the space station (in the 1980s) looked very <u>expensive</u>. (1)</p> <p>Russian/Soviet space engineers already <u>had experience</u> of extended space missions. (1)</p> <p>To prevent <u>rogue states poaching</u> Soviet experts (as the USSR fractured). (1)</p> <p>The USA/America proposed a <u>joint/international</u> programme. (1)</p> <p>Russian rockets/trips ultimately contributed <u>most</u> to the construction phase. (1)</p> <p>Any content above 40 words will not be credited.</p>	4
2(d)(i)	<p><b>Explain why Professor Ian Crawford believes the high expenditure on the ISS was worth it (lines 36 to 38).</b></p> <p><b>Answer <u>in your own words</u> as far as possible.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>three</u> of the following points.</p> <p>The ISS is a great illustration of (1)</p> <p>a well-known collaboration between countries. (1)</p> <p>Gaining knowledge of <u>survival</u> (1)</p> <p>and study in space (1)</p> <p>should prove to be <u>excellent</u> preparation (1)</p> <p>for renewed <u>future</u> lunar missions (1)</p> <p>and (perhaps), <u>manned missions</u> to the red planet. (1)</p>	3



Question	Answer	Marks
2(d)(ii)	<p><b>Explain why Professor Lord Martin Rees takes the opposite view (lines 39 to 44).</b></p> <p><b>Answer <u>in your own words</u> as far as possible.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>two</u> of the following points.</p> <p>One would not be able to defend (1)  the <u>massive</u> costs of constructing the ISS (1)  In terms of (science), any gains have been minimal. (1)  We know some more (1)  regarding the way we respond to (1)  extended times in space (1)  and we have cultivated a small number of crystals (1)  in an environment without gravity. (1)  The ISS exclusively comes to people’s attention when (1)  lavatories stop working (1)  or an astronaut performs a song (1)  on his guitar, weightless in the air. (1)</p>	2
2(d)(iii)	<p><b>Explain why Professor Anu Ojha, despite his initial doubts, is convinced of the success of the ISS (lines 47 to 48).</b></p> <p><b>Answer <u>in your own words</u> as far as possible.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>two</u> of the following points.</p> <p>We now have the knowledge to construct (1)  large facilities/installations in space (1)  and to survive in space for extended lengths of time (1)  as well as coping with every type of event (1)  which has occurred. (1)</p>	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(e)(i)	<p><b>Explain what has been learned about the impacts of prolonged periods of zero gravity on the human body (lines 50 to 53).</b></p> <p><b>Answer <u>in about 20 words</u>.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>two</u> of the following points.</p> <p>Recovering an astronaut's <u>lost bone density</u> can take <u>many years</u>. (1)</p> <p>Using treadmills / weight machines / gym equipment <u>prevents</u> the worst muscle loss. (1)</p> <p>Any content above 20 words will not be credited.</p>	<b>2</b>
2(e)(ii)	<p><b>Explain why this knowledge will be significant for NASA's future cutting-edge space missions.</b></p> <p>Credit any <u>two</u> of the following points or any other valid point.</p> <p>NASA's future missions involve sending humans into space for extended periods in zero gravity. (1)</p> <p>NASA will be better prepared for such missions. (1)</p>	<b>2</b>
2(f)	<p><b>In your opinion, from the three examples of 'private enterprise' interested in taking over the ISS, which one is most likely to be successful?</b></p> <p><b>Justify your response.</b></p> <p><b>Do <u>not</u> refer to the other two examples.</b></p> <p>No mark for the choice but credit any valid points in justification, up to a <u>maximum of three</u>.</p> <p>The Texas-based company: the construction of a module sounds like a <u>longer-term investment</u> (1) and the <u>research element</u> is in line with the original goals of the ISS (1) and links with NASA/existing stakeholders may be easier to establish/maintain. (1)</p> <p>The film project: Very <u>high-profile names</u> (actor and director) are involved (1) so the film is likely to attract their millions of fans, (1) the film is likely to be a very <u>high-end production</u> (1) and have <u>the most exposure internationally</u>. (1)</p> <p>The reality TV show: Reality TV shows establish a path to 'space tourism' as something <u>achievable</u> (1). <u>Such a prize</u> is 'a first' (1) so would be of massive <u>commercial interest/benefit to the TV company and any sponsors</u>. (1)</p>	<b>3</b>