

MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2013 series

0685 FRENCH

0685/04

Paper 4 (Continuous Writing), maximum raw mark 50

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 will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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Introduction

Total marks for paper: 50

25 marks per question. Each question is marked over a maximum of 140 words.

1 Communication: 5 marks

Put a stroke in the left hand margin for each of the 5 relevant points.
Record 0 for a failure to score a point.

2 Language: 15 marks

Examiners are required to award ticks beside each Marking Unit which is substantially correct. Errors are not to be indicated. The total number of ticks should be recorded at the foot of the page and converted to a mark out of 15 using the Conversion table at the end of the mark scheme.

3 General Impression: 5 marks

The pro rata mark based on the Language mark should serve as the first guide. This mark should be adjusted up or down by one mark where this is justified by positive qualities, such as unusually good vocabulary or ambitious use of language, or by negative qualities, such as excessive repetition. Indicate positive qualities by a plus sign and negative qualities by a minus sign in the right-hand margin.

0–1 Does not rise above the requirements for the Directed Writing Task in Paper 2.

2 Fairly good use of idiom, vocabulary, structures and appropriate tenses.

3 Good use of the above.

4 Very good use of the above.

5 Excellent use of the above.

Recording of marks

Marks should be recorded at the end of the answer as follows:

Communication	+	Language	+	General Impression	=	Total
E.g. 4/5	+	10/15	+	3/5	=	17/25

Enter each of the two marks on the front of the Script and record the total out of 50.

Please ensure that these marks are checked carefully, especially the conversion of ticks to marks for Language.

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Counting words

- (a) In letters ignore any address or date. Ignore also any title. No marks may be gained for the above.
- (b) Count up to exactly 140 words. Award no more marks thereafter, either for Communication or Language. But see note (e).
- (c) Our definition of a word is a group of letters surrounded by a space. Count the number of words **as it should be**, not necessarily as it is written. A group of letters containing a hyphen or an apostrophe is regarded as one word.

parceque (sic) = two words

parce-que (sic) = two words

l'homme = one word

la dame = two words

Qu'est-ce que c'est? = three words

Il y a = three words

Y a-t-il...? = two words

- (d) All numbers count as one word each whether written as figures or as words.

21 = one word

Vingt et un is treated as one word.

- (e) When the 140th word splits a Marking Unit, award a tick for the unit if correct in spite of (b).

...avec || mon ami. Record a tick for 'avec'.

Plus || tard. Record a tick after 'plus'.

Il a || fini. Record a tick after 'Il a'.

Les petits || enfants. Record a tick after 'petits'.

- (f) Indicate the 140th word by ||.

- (g) Proper nouns count as one word and do not score ticks for language, e.g. Nouvelle Zélande, Etats-Unis, Haute Savoie, Charles de Gaulle, Afrique du Sud, New York, Avenue des Champs Elysées and book and film titles etc.

- (h) In letters count a maximum of 2 words only for the addressee as in *Cher Monsieur Dupont*.

Irrelevant material

In the case of a deliberately evasive answer which consists entirely of irrelevant material exploited in defiance of the rubric, a score of 0/25 is given. These are rare in IGCSE. The genuine attempt to answer the question which fails due to a misunderstanding of the rubric will normally lose Communication marks but will score for Language and Impression.

When part of an answer is clearly irrelevant, include such material in the word count, but bracket it and award no Language marks. (E.g. unless otherwise instructed, bracket and include in the word count an introduction to a question consisting of an unwanted self portrait on the lines of: 'Bonjour. Je m'appelle X. J'ai 16 ans. J'habite Y. etc.'). However, please bear in mind that as long as candidates do not distort the requirements of the rubric, they are allowed to develop their essays in the direction that suits them/their imagination takes them: Examiners should always hesitate before bracketing material as irrelevant, especially if is integrated into an essay which fulfils the requirements of the rubric in other ways, and must consult their Team Leader if they are unsure.

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Repetition of material printed in the rubric

The following list of words lifted **unchanged** from the rubric will not be rewarded with language ticks

Question 1(a) *échange de maisons; attractions touristiques; l'année dernière*

Question 1(b) *un mauvais séjour; l'année prochaine; dans un camping*

Question 2 *une longue promenade; à la campagne*

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MARKS FOR RELEVANT COMMUNICATION

General principles

(a) Do not award Communication Marks when the required elements are expressed in inappropriate time frames:

- e.g. *L'an dernier je voyage en France* = 0 for Communication. *Je voyage* does not receive a tick for Language. (The other elements are marked in the usual way.)

However reward a Present where a Future context is apparent:

- e.g. *L'an prochain je voyage en France* = 1 for Communication. *Je voyage* receives a tick for Language.

(b) Disallow for Communication the use of the Infinitive or the Past Participle when a finite verb is required:

- e.g. *Je passé les vacances* = 0 for Communication and Language
Je passer les vacances = 0 similarly
Je veux (1) mange (0) = 0 for Communication

However award a Communication mark for 'phonetic versions' such as:

- J'ai passer (sic) les vacances* = 1
Les gens pense/pensait que = 1
Il a commencé à joué = 1 for communication
(Il a commencé à joue = 0 for communication)

Non-phonetic versions do not score for Communication:

- J'ai vendre* = 0
Les gens est = 0
Il et venu = 0
Il a était = 0
C'été = 0

(c) Tolerate and accept for Communication (but not for Language) the use of any past tenses when a past is required, even when a different past tense would be correct. Allow Perfect, Imperfect, Pluperfect or Past Historic. The Past Historic will only be rewarded in a narrative. Ignore inconsistency of the Perfect and Past Historic if it occurs. Accept for Communication the use of a Future when a Conditional would be correct and vice versa.

Disallow the 'historic present' for Communication and Language.

(d) Tolerate and allow for Communication the use of *avoir* with a past participle when *être* is correct:

- e.g. *J'ai resté en France* may score for Communication

However disallow for communication:

- e.g. *Je suis mangé* = 0; *J'étais peur* = 0; *J'avais fatigué* = 0

(e) Bracket and exclude from the word count any letter etiquette when a letter is not asked for.

(f) A Communication mark may only score if it occurs in the first 140 words.

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- (g) When two 'reactions' are required in Question 2 and they are expressed as a list, e.g. *triste et fatigué* or *C'était intéressant et amusant*, award one communication mark only. However, if a verb is used, e.g. *J'étais triste[...]J'étais fatigué*, award two communication marks.
- (h) As with Language marks all errors of accent or punctuation are ignored for Communication marks except for the accent on a past participle of –er verbs:
- e.g. *il a joue* = 0 (as a failed perfect tense)
 - e.g. *il joué* = 0 (as a failed present tense)
- Insist on an accent when an adjective is also a past participle:
- e.g. *il était (1) fatigue* = 0
- Tolerate a grave accent for an acute accent:
- e.g. *il a jouè* = 1
- (i) Accept *fatigué* for communication of a reaction in Question 2.
- (j) Disallow for communication of a reaction: *shocké/shockant*, *shoqué/shoquant* and *chocké/chockant*.
- (k) Reward for communication (and language):
- the use of *excité* and *excitant* to say 'excited'/'exciting'
 - *réellement* for *vraiment*

Specific instructions for individual questions

- Award a maximum of 5 communication marks per question.
- Points may occur in any order.
- Indicate the award of a communication mark with a Roman numeral ('I', 'II', 'III' etc.) in the left margin at the first point in the essay where the mark can be awarded.
- Enter 0 when an attempted answer fails or a task is not attempted.

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QUESTION 1(a): un échange de maisons

Although the addressee is Madame Gant, tolerate and tick *tutoiement*. Where both *tu* and *vous* are used inconsistently, award ticks for language (*vous* could refer to Madame Gant + her family).

(i) (Show mark as 'I' in left margin)

Accept *Ma / Notre famille a fait... / Nous avons fait... + un échange de maisons (l'année dernière)* = 1 mark

(*L'année dernière* may be omitted)

(ii) **Any one positive opinion or aspect** (show mark as 'II' in left margin)

Expect a past tense commenting on their own experience, but a general comment about house exchanges might be in a present tense e.g. *Les échanges de maisons sont intéressants (parce que...)*

- Accept opinions, e.g. *Cette expérience était intéressante / C'était intéressant / C'était bon/bien / J'ai aimé cette expérience*

Reward anything sensible, even if it is not clear whether the candidate intends the observation to be positive:

- Accept aspects such as activities which were enjoyed, e.g. *Nous avons nagé dans la piscine*
- Accept *C'était au bord de la mer / C'était près des magasins*
- Accept *La maison était magnifique / C'était moins cher que l'hôtel / Il y avait un terrain de sports tout près / Il y avait une piscine dans le jardin* etc.

(iii) **Why you want to go to Paris** (show mark as 'III' in left margin)

- Accept *Je voudrais / veux aller à Paris (parce que / car) c'est une belle ville* (or anything similar) / *Je veux voir la Tour Eiffel* etc.
- Accept *Je voudrais / veux aller à Paris + pour* with a suitable infinitive, e.g. *pour perfectionner mon français*

(*Je voudrais aller à Paris parce que* may be omitted and any errors in stating this should not invalidate the reason.)

(iv) **Description of candidate's house/apartment** (show mark as 'IV' in left margin)

Accept any reasonable description of house, e.g.:

- *Notre maison/appartement est... + an adjective* (e.g. *très grand(e)*)
- *Notre maison/appartement est... + au bord de la rivière*
- *Il y a 3 chambres dans notre maison/appartement* etc.

(v) **Activity / attraction** (show mark as 'V' in left margin)

- Reward mention of any one activity or attraction, e.g. *Il y a un centre sportif / Il y a un musée (près de chez nous) / On peut visiter le château / On peut aller au ciné / Le parc est tout près / Je vais au parc / Les gens vont au bord de la rivière*

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QUESTION 1(b): un mauvais séjour dans un camping

Tolerate and reward for language *aller au camping* (even if we suspect they mean 'to go camping')
They could possibly mean to go to the campsite.

(i) When the candidate returned from holiday (show mark as 'I' in left margin)

- Reward *Je suis rentré(e) hier / Nous sommes rentré(e)s (de vacances) hier / Je suis rentré(e) il y a deux jours* or any time in the past, e.g. *la semaine dernière*
- Also *Nous sommes de retour depuis...*

NB The *vacances* need not be the camping holiday in question

(ii) Any problem (show mark as 'II' in left margin)

Insist on past tense.

- Reward *Le terrain était trop petit / sale / horrible / Il a fait mauvais temps / Il n'y avait pas de piscine / Il y avait beaucoup de moustiques / Il y avait trop de gens / C'était tout près de l'autoroute* etc.
- The problem may not have occurred at the campsite but must relate to the time spent at the campsite, e.g. allow *Papa était malade / L'auto est tombée en panne / Quelqu'un a volé notre argent* etc.

(iii) REASON for liking camping or not (show mark as 'III' in left margin)

Expect a present tense but there is a case for a past tense, e.g. *Je n'ai pas aimé faire du camping parce que* + a past or present OR '(I like camping but this time) the weather was awful'

- Reward with 1 mark statements such as *J'adore le plein air / Il fait trop froid pendant la nuit / À cause des insectes*

(*J'aime / n'aime pas faire du camping parce que* may be omitted and any errors in stating this should not invalidate the reason.)

(iv) Next year's holiday destination (show mark as 'IV' in left margin)

- Reward a future, e.g. *Nous passerons les vacances + location / Nous allons passer les vacances + location*.
- Also reward expressions such as *Je voudrais / Je veux / Nous voudrions / Nous voulons passer les vacances + location*
- Also reward *L'année prochaine je veux aller en Italie* with no mention of holidays (it is understood)

The present is accepted if the future context is clear, e.g. *L'année prochaine nous passons les vacances à Paris*

(v) Reason why (show mark as 'V' in left margin)

- Reward any reason. This may be linked to (iv) with *parce que* or may be a separate sentence.

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(iv) and (v) combined may score 2 communication marks, e.g.

- *Je voudrais passer les vacances dans les Alpes (parce que) j'adore faire de la montagne le paysage est magnifique = 2 marks*
- Or an infinitive may serve in (v) as in *Je voudrais passer mes vacances à Munich pour apprendre l'allemand = 2 marks*

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QUESTION 2: lost on a walk

Bracket and ignore in the word count at the start of the story:

- *L'année dernière* and *faire une longue promenade à la campagne avec des amis* (copied from the rubric)

However, include in word count and tick for language *Je suis parti(e)* and *Nous nous sommes perdu(e)s* if they occur, e.g. *(L'année dernière) je suis parti* (✓ for correct subject + verb) *(faire une longue promenade à la campagne avec des amis). Nous nous sommes perdus* (✓ for correct subject + verb)

Bracket and ignore in the word count if the printed introduction occurs as a whole phrase anywhere in the essay

- *Soudain j'ai compris que nous étions complètement perdus*

However, include in word count and tick for language individual elements of this phrase if they occur in the body of the essay, e.g. *Nous étions* (✓) *complètement* (✓) *perdus* (✓)

If the candidate doesn't understand *perdu* but answers in the spirit of the question, go along with the candidate, and award communication marks (and language ticks).

Where candidates write a lengthy account of events prior to getting lost which is only marginally relevant to the question, the examiner should consider reducing the Impression mark by 1. If in doubt you should consult your Team Leader.

(i) What happened (show as 'I', 'I' and 'I' in the left margin)

- Award 3 marks for 3 events expressed in successful past tenses
- The events must occur after they realised they were lost

This is an open ended task and anything which could reasonably have happened and which the candidate chooses to tell us must be rewarded.

Treat as an event something that moves the story forward:

- 'It was a lovely day' is descriptive and does not score for communication
- But 'It started to rain' / 'The sun came out' = 1 communication mark
- *J'avais oublié mon portable* / *Je n'avais pas mon portable* do not move the story forward and do not score for communication
- **But** *Je me suis rendu compte que j'avais oublié mon portable* / *je n'avais pas mon portable* / *Mon portable ne fonctionnait pas* = 1 communication mark

(ii) Reactions (show as 'II', 'II')

- Award 2 marks for 2 reactions. These may occur at any point in the story
- They are usually obtained for such as: *J'avais peur* / *J'étais surpris* / *C'était horrible* etc.
- Allow reactions of the narrator, the group or other members of the group

Expect past tenses, as indicated by the rubric. However, we will accept a present in such cases as 'we are happy now to be back home' or a future, as in 'we will never again go walking without a map'

Remember:

- *C'était amusant. C'était curieux* = 2 communication marks (each statement has a verb, even if it is the same one)
- *C'était amusant et curieux* = 1 (a list with one verb)

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LANGUAGE MARKS

General comments

This positive marking scheme is intended to reward both accuracy and ambition. No marks are deducted for errors.

Marking units

A tick is awarded for a correct Marking Unit of which each element is correct. The tick is recorded over the scoring word e.g. *mon* (1) *ami*.

A Marking unit may consist of the correct use of any of the following items:

- A noun or pronoun + verb. Extra marks are available for the use of negative expressions and the interrogative.
- A verb used as an infinitive, with or without a preposition
- A noun or pronoun + adjective or adjectival phrase or partitive
- A noun or pronoun + preposition or prepositional phrase
- Any pronoun other than subject pronouns and reflexives
- All adverbs (except *très* and *bien*)
- All conjunctions (except *et* and *mais*)

See below for details.

Inaccuracies in the use of Accents, Hyphens and Punctuation are ignored.

E.g. *Mon pere* = 1 tick. *Son grandpere* = 1 tick. *Aujourdhui* = 1 tick. *Il ma vu* (sic) = 2 ticks
L'ami Anglais = 1 tick. *Il à tête phoné* (sic) = 1 tick. *Il a du partir* = 2 ticks.

An exception is made with *-er* verbs and *être* (*été*). We insist on the accent on the past participle in a compound tense and the absence of such an accent in the present tense.

E.g. *Il a parle* = 0. *Il parlé* = 0. *Il a parlé/parlé* = 1. *Il a éte* = 0

Insist on accents on past participles used as adjectives, e.g. *Il est (1) casse (0)*. *Il est (1) fatigue (0)*.

Tolerate a grave accent for an acute accent: e.g. *il a jouè* = 1

No credit is given in cases such as *...que il* or *...de Alain*, though *qu'il* for *qu'il* is tolerated.

Units containing consequential errors are not rewarded.

E.g. *le voiture bleu s'est arrêté* = 0

However, if two marks or more are lost due to a minor error of spelling or a faulty gender, the Examiner should place + in the right hand margin and take it into account when awarding the Impression Mark.

Misspelling of proper nouns in the case of a person's name or a town or place other than a country should be tolerated.

E.g. *...avec Piere* = 1. *...à Lyons* = 1. However, *...en Angletere* = 0

Allow the use of *tu* or *vous* in informal letters. In the case of inconsistencies, reward the most frequently used. Disallow the use of *tu*, *ton* etc. in formal letters. Also disallow glaringly inappropriate register.

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Allow the use of the past historic in narratives in Question 2 and tolerate inconsistencies (inconsistency with the perfect tense). Disallow obvious accidental past historic, e.g. *il dit* in isolation. Treat inconsistency with – in the right hand margin. Disallow the past historic in Question 1.

Letter etiquette

Reward with a tick for Language, the use of *Monsieur* or *Madame* at the start of a formal letter. Also award one tick for *Cher Monsieur* or *Chère Madame* in a formal letter and *Cher Alain* etc. in an informal letter. Multiple addressees (*Cher Monsieur, Chère Madame*) gain one tick only. Greetings such as *Salut* or *Bonjour* gain ticks in informal letters only and formal endings (*Veillez agréer* etc.) do not score in informal letters.

In addition award ticks for Language up to a maximum of 5 for prelearnt preamble such as:

Merci de ta lettre qui m'a fait grand plaisir (Max 5)

Thereafter ignore everything not related to the task set.

NB These *politesses* may occur at the end of the letter. If they do, reward to a maximum of 5.

Bracket and do not reward 'letter etiquette' for Language when a letter is not required.

Disallow for Language the use of *tutoiement* in formal letters. Tolerate and accept the use of *vous* in informal letters. In cases of inconsistency with *tu/vous* reward the most frequent.

Letter ending

Allow a maximum of 3 ticks for all formal and informal *politesses*:

Veillez agréer l'expression de mes salutations distinguées etc.
Réponds-moi bientôt. Je t'embrasse, etc.

Mark for language in the normal way up to a maximum of 3 ticks. This is in addition to the marks awarded for the *politesses* described above.

Regard *Je vous remercie d'avance (de...)* as part of the closing *formule*.

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Tolerances

When a verb is governed by multiple subjects, tolerate if either is correct.

E.g. *Le femme et son mari (1) sont partis (1)*

When an adjective or a preposition is dependent on two or more nouns, tolerate if one is correct.

E.g. *Le femme et l'homme étaient (1) fatigués (1)*
...avec (1) le femme et l'homme

When an incorrect subject governs two verbs (each correct), the second is ticked.

E.g. *Le femme est sortie et a regardé (1)*

When a sentence begins with *Aussi* which is intended to mean 'Also' it should be ticked. However *Parce que...* (= *puisque*) will not be tolerated at the beginning of a sentence.

No credit is usually given to the occasional correctly spelt item in a sequence which makes no sense in French. However, recognisable discrete items such as *mon père* may be rewarded in such a context.

When the gender of the writer is variable, tick only the most frequent. Always accept the declared gender of the writer when marking agreements and ignore the name on the front of the script and at the end of the letter.

Accept the use of either *tu* or *vous* in informal letters, but do not reward *tu* in formal letters. Do not tolerate inconsistency of *vous* and *tu*. Reward the most frequent.

Reward the use of *excité* and *excitant* to say 'excited'/'exciting' both for language and communication.

Allow *réellement* for *vraiment*.

Accept *fatigué* for communication of a reaction in Question 2.

Reward both *sympa* and *sympas* as plural forms.

Reward the use of either *c'est* or *il est* in:

Il est (1) possible (1) que (1)... or de (1)... with an infinitive
C'est (1) possible (1) que (1)... or de (1)... with an infinitive

In Question 2 reward as a narrative tense either the perfect or the past historic and tolerate inconsistencies. However do not reward 'accidental past historic' such as *il dit* when all other tenses are perfect tenses.

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A VERBS

1 Subject (noun or pronoun) + any finite verb correct = 1 (if all elements are correct)

j'ai un ami	= 1	j'ai mangé	= 1	L'enfant a pleuré	= 1
je aime	= 0	je me suis levé	= 1	L'arbo est tombé	= 0
elle est allée	= 1	elle est allé	= 0	Le porte s'ouvre	= 0
j'ai mange	= 0	elle s'est couché	= 1	Il sont arrivés	= 0
nous avons chanté et dansé	= 1 + 1				

Insist on correct agreement in cases such as:

je les (1) ai trouvés (1)	la voiture que (1) papa a achetée (1)
je les (1) ai trouvé (0)	la voiture que (1) papa a acheté (0)

2 Imperative = 1

Viens! = 1 Dépêchez-vous! = 1 Ne touche pas = 2

3 Participle (past or present) = 1

En arrivant = 1	une fois arrivé il... = 1
However ...Ayant fini = 2	

4 Verb + infinitive = 1 + 1

je veux (1) sortir (1)	il a décidé (1) de sortir (1)
je veut (0) sortir (1)	il a décidé (1) à sortir (0)
je veux (1) sortier (0)	

5 Preposition + verb = 1

sans hésiter = 1	avant d'entrer = 1
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However, an exception is made: Il est en train de jouer = 3
 après avoir fini = 2 après avoir parler = 1
 après s'être levé = 2

NB Avant de partir (0) le téléphone a sonné (1) (Unrelated)

6 Inversion = 1 + 1

'Bonjour' (1) a-t-il dit (2)	Correct verb + inversion 1 + 1
'Bonjour' (1) a-t-il dis (1)	Incorrect verb + inversion 0 + 1
'Bonjour' (1) il a dit (1)	Correct verb form + no inversion 1 + 0
Peut-être (1) viendra-t-il (1 + 1)	

7 Passive

Reward by usual rules:

Elle a été (1) attrapée (1)	Elle a été (1) attrapé (0)
Nous avons été (1) suivis (1)	Nous avons étés (0) suivis (1)

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8 Negatives

Reward a negative expression with one tick when correctly placed provided that the verb is appropriate.

Ils ne jouent pas = 2	Je n'ai pas fini = 2
Elle ne fait rien = 2	Je n'ai vu personne = 2
Elle ne écoute pas = 1 (for verb)	Je ne parles pas = 1 (for negative)
Je ne mange ni viande ni poisson = 3	

If the wrong tense is used involving the confusion of a simple tense and a compound tense the negative should not be ticked.

Il ne jouait pas (when the perfect tense is required) = 0

However: Il n'a pas joué = 1 for the negative (when a Pluperfect is required)
 Similarly: Il ne vient pas = 1 for the negative (when a Future is required)

A negative may be rewarded when it stands alone.

Personne. (1) Jamais. (1) Rien. (1)

9 Interrogatives

Award one tick for an interrogative, even if the verb is faulty.

(i) Tu viens? = 2 (1 tick for correct verb, 1 for interrogative, provided the '?' is there)
 Tu viens. = 1 (1 tick for correct verb with no evidence of interrogative)
 Tu ne viens pas? = 3

(ii) Viens-tu? = 2 (1 tick for correct verb, 1 tick for inversion)
 Viens-tu. = 2 (punctuation not penalised normally)
 Est-ce que (1) tu viens? (1) (1 tick for interrogative element (est-ce que), 1 for correct verb (tu viens))

(iii) Interrogative adverbs score 1 tick separately.

Où? = 1 Quand? = 1 Comment? = 1 Pourquoi? = 1 Combien? = 1

Où (1) vas-tu (1+1)? = 3 (1 tick for interrogative, 1 for correct verb, 1 for inversion)

(iv) Pourquoi (1) ris-tu? (2) (1 tick for interrogative, 1 for correct verb, 1 for inversion)
 Pourquoi (1) tu ris? (1) (1 tick for interrogative, 1 for correct verb, no inversion)
 Pourquoi (1) est-ce que (1) tu ris? (1)

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3 Noun/pronoun + adjective = 1

Le petit bateau = 1 Il est heureux = 2
 La petit(e) bateau = 0

Treat as common adjectives all possessives, interrogatives, demonstratives and partitives.

mon ami = 1 quel homme(?) = 1 ce chapeau = 1
 du gâteau = 1 des enfants = 1 de la chance = 1
 de l'argent = 1 Je n'ai plus/pas (2) d'argent (1) = 3

NB de petits villages = 2 des petits villages = 1 (one error)
 (Not strictly logical but this seems the kindest way to treat this)
 des petites villages = 0 (two errors) de petites villages = 1 (one error)

A noun/pronoun + adjective unit is not invalidated by an adjacent faulty element:
 E.g. avic mon ami = 1 mon ami arrives = 1 mon ami anglaise = 1

4 Expressions of quantity + noun = 1

Both elements must be correct.

un kilo de cerises = 1 un kilo de pomme = 0 une kilo d'oranges = 0
 un paquet de café = 1 un paquet du café = 0 beaucoup d'argent = 1
 combien de mes amis(?) = 2 assez de courage = 1
 la plupart des gens (1) sont (1) heureux (1) BUT le plupart (*sic*) des gens (0) sont (1)
 heureux (1)

Quantities with prepositions, adjectives and verbs:

avec beaucoup (1) de (1) petits (1) enfants = 3 a tick is given for 'avec beaucoup' (both elements correct); there is also a tick for 'beaucoup de ... enfants' (both correct) and a tick for a correct adjective ('petits')

avec beaucoup (1) de (1) petit enfants = 2
 avec beaucoup (1) des petits (1) enfants = 2
 avec beaucoup (1) de enfants = 1
 avec beacoup de petits (1) enfants = 1
 avec beaucoup (1) de petits efants = 1
 beaucoup de gents sont arrivés = 0
 beacoup de gens sont arrivés = 0

N.B. no credit is given to a noun + number.
 deux enfants = 0

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C ADJECTIVES

1 Noun/pronoun + adjective = 1

Each element must be correct for the unit to gain a tick. The adjective must be in the correct form and position. See above in (B).

le beau jardin = 1	le jardin est beau = 2	
il est beau = 2	il sont beaux = 0	il beau = 0
des oiseaux bleus = 2	ces petits oiseaux bleus = 3	les bleus oiseaux = 0
la jour est beau = 0 (gender invalidates)		la belle jour = 0
le beau cheval = 0	il est (1) fatigüe (0) = 1	

2 Noun + adjectival phrase = 1

la salle de bains = 1	la salle à manger = 1	le salle à manger = 0
la chaise en bois = 1	les pommes de terre = 1	un salle de classe = 0
une sale de classe = 0		

3 Faulty adjectives do not invalidate other units

ses (1) jolis fleurs = 1 le petite train arrive (1) = 1 aux (1) grand magasins = 1

4 Adjectives used as nouns = 0

les riches = 0 les Français = 0 l'important (0) c'est (1)

5 Comparatives and superlatives

aussi... (que) = 1 plus... (que) = 1 moins... (que) = 1

Il est (1) plus grand (1) que (1) Papa
 Il est (1) aussi grand (1) que (1) moi (1)
 Il est (1) moins grand (1) que (1) moi (1)

Il n'est (1) pas (1) si grand (1) que (1) Papa = 4
 Pierre est (1) petit (1) mais Paul est (1) plus (1) petit (1) = 5

Il est (1) meilleur (1) que (1) l'autre = 3
 l'homme le plus riche = 2 les plus riches = 1

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D PRONOUNS

All pronouns other than subject pronouns (je, tu, il, elle, nous, vous, ils, elles, on, ce) reflexives are ticked when used correctly.

1 Object Pronouns = 1

Il me regarde = 2	Il t'a vu = 2
Il a vous parlé = 1 (for the verb)	Je le lui vends = 3
Il lui écoute = 1 (for the verb)	Il nous cherches = 1 (for the pronoun)
Je les ai vu = 1 (for the pronoun)	Je vais les voir = 3
Il la veut voir = 2 (for verbs)	Je te le donne = 3
Je le te donne = 1 + 1 = 2	
Il m'invitent = 1 (even if a compound tense would be correct)	
Il la vue = 2 (when 'il l'a vue' is the meaning) providing the pronoun would be feminine according to the context (ignore omission of the apostrophe – we do not take account of punctuation)	

2 y and en = 1

J'y vais = 2	J'en ai acheté = 2	J'en ai trois = 2
See (H) Expressions for Il y a...		

3 Disjunctive or Emphatic Pronouns = 1

chez moi = 1	comme moi = 1
avec moi = 1	avec moi = 0
Et toi (1) tu peux (1) venir (1)	moi-même = 1

4 Demonstrative Pronouns = 1

celui, celle, ceux and celles = 1		
Mon cheval et celui de Pierre = 3	Celle-là = 1	Ceux que j'ai achetés = 3

5 Possessive Pronouns = 1

le mien, le tien etc. = 1

6 Relative Pronouns = 1

Reward qui, que (qu'), dont, ce qui, ce que, lequel etc. = 1

le chien qui (1) dort (1) = 2	la chien qui (1) dort (0) = 1
le livre que il veut (1) (for verb)	Dis-moi ce qui se passe = 4
dans lequel = 1	Le monsieur qui (1) parle (1)
Le monsieur qui (1) parle (0)	Le monsieur que s'appelle (1) Dubois

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F ADVERBS

All adverbs and adverbial phrases used correctly gain one tick except 'très' and 'bien'.

Il parle trop vite = 3	Il ne conduit pas assez vite = 4
d'habitude = 1	comme d'habitude = 2
Il habite très loin = 2	près d'ici = 1 (one idea)
tout près = 1	ici/là = 1
pas/non loin d'ici = 2	

Treat Comparatives and Superlatives of Adverbs in the same way as Adjectives. See under C.

G CONJUNCTIONS

All conjunctions used correctly receive a tick except 'et' and 'mais'.

pendant qu'il attendait... = 2	parce que = 1
comme il voulait sortir... = 3	Elle sait que = 2
Il dit qu'il viendra = 3	

H EXPRESSIONS

1 Time

dimanche	= 1	le soir (in the evening)	= 1
le dimanche	= 1	de bonne heure	= 1
dimanche prochain/dernier	= 1	en ce moment	= 1
dimanche matin	= 1	à ce moment-là	= 1
tard/tôt	= 1	à dix heures	= 1
trop tard/plus tard	= 1	à 10 h	= 1
(à) demain	= 1	à 10 h et demie	= 2
(à) tout à l'heure	= 1	à 10.00	= 0
(à) bientôt	= 1	il est dix heures	= 2
hier/hier soir	= 1	à dix heures vingt	= 2
demain/demain matin	= 1	à dix heures et quart	= 2
le lendemain (matin)	= 1	à/après/avant/vers dix heures et demie	= 2
tant pis	= 1	à dix heures moins le quart	= 2
de temps en temps	= 2	une demi-heure	= 0
tout de suite	= 1	le 6 juin (in the body of the answer)	= 1
peu après	= 1	sur le 6 juin	= 0
de nos jours	= 1	en même temps	= 1

2 Weather

Treat expressions with 'faire' by usual rules as follows:

Il fait (1) beau/froid/chaud/gris etc. (1) = 2	C'est beau/froid/chaud/gris etc. = 1
Il fait du vent/soleil etc. = 2	Il fait un temps splendide etc. = 2
Il pleut à verse = 2	Il pleut = 1
C'est (0) chaud (1) when 'il fait chaud' is intended	Il y a du brouillard etc. = 2

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3 Avoir expressions

Il a vingt/20 ans = 1
 Je besoin = 0
 J'avais (0) content (1)

J'ai faim/froid/chaud/besoin etc. = 2
 Un accident a eu lieu = 2
 J'étais (0) peur (1)

4 Miscellaneous

à ce qu'il me semble = 2
 à ma grande surprise = 2
 à ma surprise = 1
 à mon avis = 1
 à mon avis (0) je pense (1) que (1) = 2
 à quelle heure... (?) = 1
 à toute vitesse = 1
 aussitôt dit aussitôt fait = 1+1 = 2
 aussitôt que possible = 2
 bien sûr/bien entendu = 1
 ça dépend = 1
 ça (en) vaut la peine = 2
 ça m'est égal = 2
 ça ne me dit rien = 2
 ça ne (me) fait rien = 2
 ça va sans dire = 2
 c'est à dire = 1
 c'est dommage = 2
 comme ça = 1
 comme ci comme ça = 2
 comme d'habitude = 2
 comme moi = 1
 (Comment) ça va(?) = 2
 Comment vas-tu(?) = 2
 comme si = 1
 comme toujours = 2
 de bonne/mauvaise humeur = 2
 depuis longtemps = 2
 Eh bien = 1
 en ce qui (me) concerne = 2
 en plein air = 1
 en pleine forme = 2
 en tout cas = 1
 il y a = 1
 j'en ai marre = 2
 je vous en prie = 2
 Le Grand Meaulnes (book title) = 0
 le plus tôt possible = 2
 même si = 2
 merci (beaucoup) = 1
 merci de la lettre = 2
 moi aussi = 1
 n'est-ce pas? = 1
 n'importe quoi = 1
 pas mal de choses = 1
 peut-être = 1
 plus ou moins = 1
 que faire(?) = 2
 quand même = 1
 quoi de neuf? = 2
 rue de la paix (place name) = 0

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s'il te/vous plaît	= 1
super/hyper chouette etc.	= 1
(tout) d'abord	= 1
un (petit) peu	= 1

NB. Non, oui and etc. = 0

Where a set phrase which carries 2 ticks contains one error, award 1 tick, e.g. 'de temps en temp (sic)' = 1

Accept and tick such items as 'un parc avec une piscine'.

5 Proverbs

Tout est bien qui finit bien = max 2

Mieux vaut tard que jamais = max 2

6 Greetings and expletives

Bonjour/Au revoir/Salut etc. = 1

Mon dieu/Zut (alors)!/Oh là! là! etc. = 1

Treat valedictions as language. (Max 3)

In the case of immediate repetition of an identical item such as 'Merci. Merci' or 'Quelle horreur! Quelle horreur!' reward the first instance only.

Treat as valedictions such phrases as: Merci de votre temps, Répondez moi vite and J'attends ta réponse (Max 3).

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CONVERSION TABLE

The pro rata mark based on the Language mark should serve as the first guide. This mark should be adjusted up or down by one mark where this is justified by positive qualities, such as unusually good vocabulary or ambitious use of language, or by negative qualities, such as excessive repetition. Indicate positive qualities by a plus sign and negative qualities by a minus sign in the right-hand margin.

Number of ticks Maximum 60	Mark out of 15 (for Accuracy of Language)	Pro rata (General Impression) Max 5
60+	15	5
55–59	14	5
51–54	13	4
48–50	12	4
45–47	11	4
42–44	10	3
38–41	9	3
34–37	8	3
30–33	7	2
26–29	6	2
22–25	5	2
19–21	4	1
15–18	3	1
11–14	2	0
7–10	1	0
0–6	0	0