



FUNCTIONAL SKILLS CERTIFICATE

Functional English

47201

COMPONENT 1 READING LEVEL 1

Mark scheme

March 2017

Version: 1.0 Final

Mark schemes are prepared by the Lead Assessment Writer and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all associates participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every associate understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each associate analyses a number of students' scripts. Alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, associates encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Lead Assessment Writer.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

Further copies of this mark scheme are available from aqa.org.uk

Level of response marking instructions

Level of response mark schemes are broken down into levels, each of which has a descriptor. The descriptor for the level shows the average performance for the level. There are marks in each level.

Before you apply the mark scheme to a student's answer read through the answer and annotate it (as instructed) to show the qualities that are being looked for. You can then apply the mark scheme.

Step 1 Determine a level

Start at the lowest level of the mark scheme and use it as a ladder to see whether the answer meets the descriptor for that level. The descriptor for the level indicates the different qualities that might be seen in the student's answer for that level. If it meets the lowest level then go to the next one and decide if it meets this level, and so on, until you have a match between the level descriptor and the answer. With practice and familiarity you will find that for better answers you will be able to quickly skip through the lower levels of the mark scheme.

When assigning a level you should look at the overall quality of the answer and not look to pick holes in small and specific parts of the answer where the student has not performed quite as well as the rest. If the answer covers different aspects of different levels of the mark scheme you should use a best fit approach for defining the level and then use the variability of the response to help decide the mark within the level, ie if the response is predominantly level 3 with a small amount of level 4 material it would be placed in level 3 but be awarded a mark near the top of the level because of the level 4 content.

Step 2 Determine a mark

Once you have assigned a level you need to decide on the mark. The descriptors on how to allocate marks can help with this. The exemplar materials used during standardisation will help. There will be an answer in the standardising materials which will correspond with each level of the mark scheme. This answer will have been awarded a mark by the Lead Examiner. You can compare the student's answer with the example to determine if it is the same standard, better or worse than the example. You can then use this to allocate a mark for the answer based on the Lead Examiner's mark on the example.

You may well need to read back through the answer as you apply the mark scheme to clarify points and assure yourself that the level and the mark are appropriate.

Indicative content in the mark scheme is provided as a guide for examiners. It is not intended to be exhaustive and you must credit other valid points. Students do not have to cover all of the points mentioned in the Indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

An answer which contains nothing of relevance to the question must be awarded no marks.

Reading Level 1 Marking Key

Source	Level	Qu	Key	Standards
A	1	1	B	Identify main points
Source	Level	Qu	Key	Standards
A	1	2	A	Read and understand texts in detail
Source	Level	Qu	Key	Standards
A	1	3	D	Read and understand texts
Source	Level	Qu	Key	Standards
A	1	4	B	Identify main points
Source	Level	Qu	Key	Standards
A	1	5	C	Read and understand texts in detail
Source	Level	Qu	Key	Standards
A	1	6	D	Identify suitable response

Question 7	Your school or college is holding a Disability Awareness Day about blind and partially sighted people. You have been asked to find out some information about Guide Dogs for the Blind. Select all the information from Source B. You should include: a) four facts about who is allowed to own a guide dog. b) four pieces of information Source B provides to people who want to care for a guide dog mum.	
Mark Scheme	Standard	Marks
- Award one mark for each of four facts about who is allowed to own a guide dog up to a maximum of 4 marks. <i>Award one mark for each of four things you would need to know if you wanted to volunteer to care for a breeding guide dog up to a maximum of 4 marks.</i> NB. - Candidates may not present the four points for 7a and the four points for 7b neatly on the lines provided. Instead they may ‘bunch’ the points. This is allowed within each part of the question up to a maximum of 2. - The maximum mark is 4 for each part even if more than four valid points have been made. - Points that belong in 7a but appear in the answer to 7b and vice-versa are not to be rewarded. - Examiners are reminded that slashes (/ or //) indicate alternative options, only one of which can be accepted. Emboldened or underlined text must be included in the answer. Brackets indicate optional content. 7a) - Blind/partially sighted/partially blind people//the blind //people/those with damaged/impaired vision/sight Do not accept poor vision/eyesight//short-sight - Don't need to be officially registered blind/partially sighted - No upper age limit/can be in 70s, 80s or 90s - Guide dog owners can be under 16/teenagers Do not accept “We also work with those under the age of 16.” - Don't need any previous experience (of keeping/caring for a dog) 7b) - You will receive 24 hour support/advice - The dog will be mated once a year at the breeding centre - The dog will give birth in your home - The puppies will stay with their mum for 6 weeks - You need a car - You need to live close to the our breeding centre/the National Breeding Centre (in Leamington Spa) - You should not be in full time work	Utilise information contained in texts Understand texts in detail Respond to texts	Up to 4 marks Up to 4 marks

Nothing relevant to award/entire text for this section copied			0 marks
Question 8	Look at the way Source B has been presented. List two ways it has been presented and say why each one would make it easy for people to understand.		
Mark Scheme		Standard	Marks
- Award up to two marks for each response up to FOUR marks. Candidates may express the ideas below in their own words. - Candidates may 'bunch' their answers. This is allowed. - There must be a valid link between the chosen presentational device and the reason why it would 'make it easy for people to understand', to get the two marks. Colour: colour per se is a presentational device. 'The text uses colour/is colourful' = 1. When attached to another device, it is being used as a qualifying adjective and is not to be awarded as a separate presentational device – 'coloured heading' = 1(mark awarded for identification of "heading") Pictures & Colour: All comments must refer to the specific picture/colour in the text. Comments which could apply to any text are not to be accepted. <i>Apply the following test:</i> <i>If the named device appears in the text, award 1 mark.</i> <i>If the explanation/reason which follows shows no evidence that the candidate is commenting on this particular text, withhold the 2nd mark.</i> - Do not accept 'The picture tells you what the text is about.' - Examiners need to identify the difference between a statement of what is there and a comment on why it makes it easier to understand. - Do not accept a simple description or account of what is in the picture as an explanation of why it makes it easier to understand the text. Presentational devices in Source B: <i>Do not accept Title/Heading/Bullet points</i> - Guide Dogs for the Blind logo makes the text look authentic and reminds us of the care and compassion of the organisation. - Picture of blind man with dog is heartwarming, reminds of companionship and love of dog. - Further picture of training guide dog in harness makes the job look worthy and attractive/reminds people of how lovely the dogs are. - Sub-headings/headings/sub-titles/titles break up the text/help the reader to find specific information. Also accept "titles at the beginning of each paragraph". - Use of colour blue throughout is calm and reflects logo. - Little icons of dogs accompany sub-headings to maintain theme of source/add extra appeal. - Paragraphs/sections break up the text and make it easier to read.		Identify how texts are presented Respond to texts	Up to 4 marks
Nothing relevant to award			0 marks