

Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Corr na Madadh, Baile Átha Luain, Co. na hIarmhí
Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Clarification Note in relation to component marks for Ordinary level Language subjects

We have received requests for clarification from candidates taking ordinary level language subjects in relation to their component marks. The marks that you see on screen in the case of the written and the aural are weighted marks that give you full credit for your examination performance. Ordinary level language subjects are marked out of 500 marks. This is because the syllabus for the modern languages (ordinary level) sets out marking allocations as follows;

Oral component 20%

Aural component 25%

Written component 55%

At Higher level the oral is worth 25% of the total grade. As the Oral component is common to both Higher and Ordinary level, the mechanism for achieving the value of 20% for the oral at Ordinary level is to scale the marks in the written and the aural components. A weighting of 1.25 is applied to the actual mark achieved by a candidate in the case of written and aural components and the subjects are then graded out of 500.

The mark you see when you access the component marks on the Candidate Self-Service Portal is the weighted mark rather than the actual mark achieved and shown on your examination script. The mark that you achieved in each of these components is actually lower than the mark that you can see on screen.

An example of this is shown below.

Component	Mark on Screen	Actual mark achieved (before the weighting)	Weightings
Grade	O3	O3	
Written	210 (out of 275)	168 (out of 220)	210 (168 X 1.25)
Aural	100 (out of 125)	80 (out of 100)	100 (80 X1.25)
Oral	66 (out of 100)	66 (out of 100)	66 (No weighting)
Totals Marks	376 (out of 500)	314 (out of 420)	
%	75%	75%	

The most important point to note is that you have received full credit for your performance in all components of the examination.