



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Junior Certificate 2015

Marking Scheme

English

Foundation Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.

In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

A. Find answers to the following questions:

- 1. What television programme does Michelle O'Doherty work on at TV3? (5)**

Expose (x5 marks)

- 2. Who built the seating area in Joanne O'Riordan's garden? (5)**

Her brother built it. (x5 marks)

- 3. Where does Joanne go when it's wet or cold? (5)**

She goes to her room (x5 marks)

- 4. What two cities does Sinead Kennedy travel between? (5)**

Cork and Dublin (x5 marks)

- B. What impression do you get of Joanne O Riordain from your reading of this passage? Give reasons for your answer. (10)**

Mark ex impression (0 -10)

Expect a personal response or commentary in the context of the information provided in part 3 of the text.

Expect two reasons for full marks

- C How does surfing help Sinead Kennedy to forget her worries? (10)**

- She loves surfing
- She has to concentrate so hard at balancing that she can't think of anything else.

(2 x 5 marks each)

D Which way of relaxing, described in the passage, would appeal to you most? Give reasons for your answer. (10)

Ways of relaxing:

- Walking on the beach
- Listening to music
- Sitting in the garden
- Surfing

Choice (x 2 marks)

Reasons (2 x 4 marks)

Candidates may decide to state **that none of the ways** to relax listed appeal to them.

Mark (ex impression 0-10), candidate must explain why these ways of relaxing do not appeal. The explanation may be implicit or explicit.

**E Think of a place that you like to go to relax.
Write about ten lines explaining why you have picked your chosen place. (10)**

(Mark ex impression 0 -10)

The focus of this response must be the factual explanation as to why the chosen place is relaxing rather than a description of the chosen place.

SECTION 2:**PERSONAL WRITING****60 MARKS**

Write about one page on **ONE** of the following topics.

PICK ONLY ONE TOPIC

- A. My Favourite season
- B. The Journey
- C. The day it all went wrong
- D. Teacher: *This is your last chance to tell me what happened.*
Pupil: *I told you already – it had nothing to do with me ...*
Write the rest of this conversation.
- E. A person I admire
- F. Write a story that has **all** of the following:
- A surprise meeting with an old friend
and
 - A disappointed person
and
 - An exciting ending
- G. *When I turned around there was no sign of Pat ...*
Continue this story.
- H. A day by the beach

Evaluate, by impression, bearing in mind the following equally weighted aspects of the composition:

- Is the writing a clear response to the chosen topic?
- Has the writer managed to shape the response in a purposeful way?
- Is the command of language sufficient to communicate thoughts and feelings with ease and effect?

F **E** **D** **C** **B** **A**
6» **15»** **24»** **33»** **42»** **51»**

ANSWER EITHER A OR B

- A.** Your family has decided to move to another country. Before you leave your school the principal asks you to write a short **article** for the school magazine about your memories of the school and your hopes for the future.

In your **article** you should:

- Say how long you have been at the school
- Describe a special day you remember in the school
- Explain how important your school friends are to you
- Say what you are looking forward to in the future.

Expect article format:

Reward equally:

- Appropriate register and format
- Factual descriptions
- Personal expression and description
- Appropriate tone

OR

- B.** The presenter of your favourite radio show is running a competition asking listeners to name “The Best Song of all Time”. The listener with the best suggestion will win €500 to spend on whatever they want. Write the letter you would send to the presenter, suggesting a song you think is the best song of all time.

In your **letter** you should:

- Name the song you think should win
- Describe what the song is about
- Explain why you think the song you suggest is the best song of all time
- Explain what you would spend the prize money on.

Expect Letter Format:

Reward equally:

- Letter format, salutation and appropriate tone
- Factual details about the song
- Personal expression of opinion as to merits of song
- Factual description

Candidates are expected to follow the instructions for full marks.

Evaluate using the full range of marks.

F	E	D	C	B	A
6»	15»	24»	33»	42»	51»

Answer **ANY THREE** of the Sections 4, 5, 6, and 7 which follow.

SECTION 4

FICTION

60 MARKS

A. 1. What are the names of the two boys in this story? (5)
Marty and Will Woodman
(3 + 2 marks)

2. What is the first question the two boys are asked by the librarian? (5)
She asks them what they want.

(x 5 marks)

B. Which one of the following words best describes how the boys felt in the Library?

Excited or Frightened or Nervous
Give reasons for your answer. (10)

Choice (x 2 marks)

Reasons (2 x 4 marks)

Indicative answers: Excited because they had never been in a library and they had heard stories about Spud Murphy and this made it more exciting.

Frightened because when they entered the library Spud Murphy shouted at them and she looked frightening.

Nervous because they were sent by their mother and would be afraid they would get into trouble if they didn't join. They were nervous because they had never been in a library and had heard scary stories about Spud Murphy.
Etc.

C. Imagine that you are the librarian Spud Murphy. Write a diary entry describing a day at work in the Library. (10)

(Marks 0-10 ex impression)

Candidates are free to interpret the character of Spud Murphy in either a positive or negative light and may use events from the passage as content for the diary entry. Diary format must be used for full marks.

- D. Do you like the way the writer describes Spud Murphy in this extract? Give reasons for your answer. (10)**

Mark ex impression (0-10 marks)

Expect candidates to focus their response on both the descriptions in the extract and their personal engagement with those descriptions. Candidates may agree or disagree but must provide some analysis of the descriptions in the extract to support their opinion.

- E. Think about a Novel or Short Story you have studied. (20)**

Name the Novel or Short Story (x 2 marks)

Describe a surprising event that happens to a character in the novel or short story (0-8 marks)

Description should focus on the element of surprise connected with the event. Expect also a factual description of the event alongside the reason why the chosen event was surprising.

Explain how the character deals with the surprising event. (0-10 marks)

Expect candidates to provide a clear explanation as to how the character deals with the surprising event.

SECTION 5**POETRY****60 MARKS**

A. 1. What is the weather like in Stanza 1? (5)
It is cold, windy and snowing
(2 + 2 + 1 marks)

2. What does the poet decide to do in the final stanza? (5)
The poet decides to stay in bed.
(x 5 marks)

B. What effect does Winter have on people in this poem? (10)
Winter makes:

- Noses red
- Lips sore
- Runny eyes
- Raw Hands
- Causes Traffic jams

Marks (5 x 2 marks each)

C. Which image, do you think, best describes Winter in the poem? (10)
Give reasons for your answer.

Mark ex impression (0-10)

Candidates may choose any image from the poem. Expect at least two reasons or one fully developed response, for full marks.

D. You have been asked to paint a picture based on one stanza in the poem. Which stanza would you choose? Describe the picture you would paint. (10)

Mark ex impression (0-10)

Expect candidate to clearly state choice of stanza and provide a detailed description of the picture they would paint based on this stanza. Candidates are free to interpret the stanza in any way they choose providing that the description has a clear base in the chosen stanza.

E. Think about another POEM you have studied that describes Nature.

Name the poem and the poet (2 x 1 mark)

Describe what takes place in the poem (0-8 marks)

Mark ex impression expecting the candidate to provide a focus on the question asked: A description of the events in the poem.

Choose one image from the poem that you particularly liked and explain what it was you liked about it (0-10 marks)

Mark by impression expecting the candidate to focus their response on their chosen image and to give a personal response as to what it was about this image that they liked.

Candidates must choose a poem that describes Nature

A. 1. **What secret is Sean keeping from his parents?** (5)
That he has a horse, that he has learned to ride the horse.

2. **What has Mary just been offered?** (5)
Mary has just been offered a place at drama school.

B. **What impression do you get of Sean from your reading of this extract? Explain your answer.** (10)

Mark ex impression (0-10)

Indicative answers:

I think Sean is brave, clever and adventurous because he has bought a horse and learned to ride it without any help. Etc.

I think Sean is stupid, foolish etc, because he has a horse and is riding the horse and could get hurt and has no way of looking after the horse properly and he is not doing well in school. Etc.

C. **You have been asked to film this scene for television.**

Describe the setting you would use for the scene

Setting is in a public park. Expect candidates to choose this or the equivalent public venue. (x 4 marks)

Describe what Sean and the horse should be doing at the start of the scene.

Description of action as appropriate to the context of the extract (x 4 marks)

What tone of voice should the actor playing Mary use when she first sees Sean?

Tone: Surprise. (x 2 marks)

D. **Sean and Mary return home. They decide to tell their parents their secrets. Write about ten lines of the conversation you think would take place. (10)**

Expect candidates to focus their response on both the revelation of the two secrets and the reaction of their parents to this.

Conversation format **must** be used.

Mark ex impression (0 – 10)

E. Think about a PLAY or FILM you have studied where a character felt either:

Excited or Frightened (20)

Name the play or film (x 2 marks)

Describe the character who felt excited or frightened in the play or film

Expect a detailed description of the character (0 – 5 marks)

Describe the part of the play or film when this character felt excited or frightened.

Expect candidates to focus their response on the part of the play or film where the chosen feeling is made explicit. (0 – 5 marks)

Did this part of the play or film change the character in any way?

Give reasons for your answer.

Expect an analysis of how the chosen part either changed or did not change the character. The focus of the response must be on **change**. (0 – 8 marks)

Look carefully at the poster on Page 2 of Paper X

A. 1. What telephone numbers should you dial in an emergency? (5)
112 or 999 (x 5 marks)

2. What does it mean if there is no flag flying at the beach? (5)
No lifeguard on duty (x 5 marks)

B. Look carefully at the nine pictures for the safety tips on Page 2 of Paper X.
Choose one of the pictures. Describe the picture and explain the safety tip. (10)

Expect candidates to provide a detailed description of the chosen picture and explain clearly the safety tip or message promoted by the picture.

C. Which one of the following do you think would be the best place to display this poster?

On the internet or In a magazine or In a Library
Give reasons for your answer. (10)
Choice (x 2 marks)
Reasons (2 x 4 marks)

D. Imagine that safety tip number ten on the poster is:

Never swim too soon after eating.

Describe the picture you would use with this safety tip (10)

Mark ex impression (0-10)

Expect a detailed description of the picture. The picture must clearly convey the stated safety tip. Candidates must provide a written description, not a drawing.

E. You have been asked to create an advertisement for radio to encourage people to be safe:

At school or In the home or On the internet (20)
State which one you are choosing for your advertisement.

Choice (x 1 mark)

Write a slogan to be used in the radio advertisement.

Slogan must be appropriate both to safety message and radio format
(x 5 marks)

Write the rest of the script for the radio advertisement.

Script must be appropriate to format and must relate to safety message
(x 10 marks)

Describe the music or sound effects you would use in the radio advertisement.

Music or sound effects appropriate to message in chosen advertisement
(x 4 marks)

Note: candidates are free to comment on any aspect relating to safety at school, in the home or on the internet provided that the aspect is clearly stated.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION.

Candidates granted a spelling and punctuation waiver / use of a scribe / use of a laptop (spell check enabled) require a Modified Marking Scheme to be applied to:

Section 2-Personal Writing

Section 3- Functional Writing.

Marks awarded to these sections will be divided by 9 and multiplied by 10. So, for example, if a candidate's script is marked using the modified marking scheme and a score of 36 out of the total 60 is awarded to either Section 2 or Section 3, this mark will be divided by 9 and multiplied by 10 — i.e. $36 \div 9 = 4 \times 10 = 40$. The candidate is awarded 40 (not 36) out of 60. A candidate who has been granted a spelling and punctuation waiver does not have his / her spelling and punctuation considered when marks are being awarded.