



GCSE FRENCH 8658/RF

Paper 3 Reading Foundation Tier

Mark scheme

June 2025

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 Examiner.

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.

No student should be disadvantaged on the basis of their gender identity and/or how they refer to the gender identity of others in their exam responses.

A consistent use of 'they/them' as a singular and pronouns beyond 'she/her' or 'he/him' will be credited in exam responses in line with existing mark scheme criteria.

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

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Listening and Reading tests

General principles of marking

Non-verbal answers

Follow the mark scheme as set out.

Verbal answers (English or target language)

1. The basic principle of assessment is that students should gain credit for what they know, understand and can do; provided their written response communicates the required message without ambiguity, it will get the mark. The following guidance should be borne in mind when marking.

- (a) Credit should be given for all answers which convey the key idea required intelligibly and without ambiguity. This applies whether the answer is in English or target language. A separate assessment of spelling, punctuation and grammar is not required because of the nature of the answers. However, these aspects are an integral part of assessing communication and marks cannot be awarded where errors in spelling, punctuation or grammar lead to a failure to communicate the required information **without ambiguity**.
 - (b) Where a student has given alternatives or additional information in an answer, the following criteria should be applied: - if the alternative/addition does not contradict the key idea/make it ambiguous, **accept** - If the alternative/addition contradicts the key idea or makes it ambiguous, **reject**.
 - (c) Where numbered lines are given within a question/section of a question, credit should be given for correct answers, no matter which line they appear on.
 - (d) Where a question has more than one **section (eg (i) and (ii))**, a candidate may include as part of the answer to one section the information required to answer another section. Eg, in Listening, information required to answer section (ii) might be given as part of the answer to section (i). In such cases, credit should be given for having answered section (ii), provided that no incorrect answer has been given for that section in the correct place on the question paper.
2. In questions where students are asked to give for example a list of three items, only the first three items they write down should be considered for assessment purposes.
3. No mark scheme can cover all possible answers. When in doubt, look for the key idea.
4. Where a student has crossed out an answer and what was underneath remains legible then it should be marked. When part of an answer is crossed out, then only what remains should be considered.
5. .../.. means that these are acceptable alternative answers in the mark scheme. (.....) means that this information is not needed for full marks to be awarded.
6. In questions which are T/F/? or √/X/? in either Section A or Section B, a mix and match approach should be tolerated and credit given where it is clear and unambiguous (eg consistent use by the candidate). If candidates write 'True' instead of 'V' for Vrai in Section B, this should also be credited despite the wrong language being used.

7. The following general principles should be applied in relation to answers in the target language in Section B:

- (a) Incorrect personal pronouns – accept (unless this causes ambiguity).
- (b) Incorrect possessive adjectives – accept (unless this causes ambiguity).
- (c) Wrong gender – accept (unless this causes ambiguity).
- (d) Infinitive – will normally communicate without ambiguity, so should be accepted.
- (e) Wrong tense – accept as long as student comprehension is not in question.
- (f) Minor spelling errors – accept as long as the answer is understandable with no ambiguity. In Section B, this means that even if the spelling error results in the creation of a word in another language, including English, then provided it is a recognisable attempt at a spelling in the target language, it will be credited.

tc = *tout court* ie with no addition or qualification

Question	Accept	Mark
01.1	A (Going shopping)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
01.2	E (Trying the food)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
01.3	F (Visiting the coast)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
01.4	B (Going to musical events)	1

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
02.1	love/romantic (romcom)	romance/romantique	amour	1

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
02.2	horror/scary/frightening	horrific/horreur	thriller/suspense	1

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
02.3	comic/comedy/funny/amusing	humour/fun/comédie/comedie		1

Question	Accept	Mark
03.1	B C (in any order) B (She enjoys art at school.) C (She needs to improve her IT skills.)	2

Question	Accept	Mark
03.2	D A (in any order) D (He wants to work with children.) A (He wants to do a job which is often done by women.)	2

Question	Accept	Mark
04.1	L (Louis)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
04.2	J (Jules)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
04.3	E (Edouard)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
04.4	L (Louis)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.1	F (false)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.2	T (true)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.3	F (false)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.4	NT (not in the text)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.5	F (false)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.6	F (false)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
05.7	T (true)	1

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
06.1	Advantage less likely to be ill/sick	protects against illness/diseases	illness tc reduces stress	1
	Disadvantage makes you sad	depressed	sad tc makes you think	1

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
06.2	Advantage sleep better	helps you sleep		1
	Disadvantage makes you dehydrated/thirsty	you lose a lot of water	makes you hot	1

Question	Accept	Mark
07	<p>A D F (in any order)</p> <p>A (Joëlle was born in Guadeloupe.)</p> <p>D (Joëlle's first album was very successful.)</p> <p>F (Bags will be searched when going into the concert.)</p>	3

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
08.1	<p>She hasn't bought clothes</p> <p>She has not gone on holiday</p> <p>in any order</p>	<p>present tense accepted eg she can't/she could not afford new clothes</p> <p>She had to cancel her holiday/cannot travel/go away</p>		2

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
08.2	<p>Her <u>pension</u> will be (only) 450 euros</p> <p>Must have idea of receiving or being given money</p> <p>She won't be able to buy (birthday) presents (for her grandchildren)</p> <p>in any order</p>	<p>Small <u>pension</u>/her pension will be small/she won't be able to manage/make ends meet on her pension</p> <p>(Birthday) presents will be too expensive</p>	<p>She has only has 450 (euros) tc/she has not enough money (no idea of receiving money)</p> <p>presents tc</p>	2

Question	Accept	Mark
09.1	P (positive)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
09.2	P + N (positive and négative)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
09.3	P + N (positive and négative)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
09.4	N (négative)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
09.5	N (négative)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
10	<p>B E A F (in this order)</p> <p>B (devenir)</p> <p>E (promener)</p> <p>A (demander)</p> <p>F (refuser)</p>	4

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
11.1	la nourriture des produits de santé	des médicaments	Copying whole sentences	2

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
11.2	(ils sont) capturés (par des criminels) (ils sont) vendus		Copying whole sentences	2

Question	Accept	Mark
12.1	F (le théâtre et les spectacles ?)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
12.2	E (les plats régionaux et les spécialités locales ?)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
12.3	A (les musées?)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
12.4	B (les ordinateurs et tablettes ?)	1

Question	Accept	Mark
12.5	C (les vêtements et les textiles ?)	1

Question	Key idea	Accept	Reject	Mark
13	Je passe une semaine	I'm spending a/one week/the week/my week/ I spend a week	Wrong tense I pass	1
	au bord de la mer.	at the seaside/on the coast/by the sea. Ignore wrong preposition eg in/on the seaside/at the sea	on the beach. In the sea.	1
	Aujourd'hui, je vais	Today, I'm going/I go/I will go		1
	à un restaurant assez cher	to a quite/a fairly expensive/dear restaurant	assez omitted	1
	où j'espère manger du poisson.	where/in which I hope to eat (some) fish.	I want to eat/I will eat	1
	Il a fait chaud hier.	It was hot/warm <u>yesterday</u> .	wrong tense it was warm here	1
	Je ne veux pas	I do not want to/I don't want to		1
	rentrer chez moi	go back to mine/go home/return home/to my house		1
	car le collège est si ennuyeux.	because/since school/college is <u>so</u> boring/tedious.	so omitted	1

Total marks = 60