

Cambridge IGCSE™

DRAMA

0411/12

Paper 1 Written Examination

May/June 2025

MARK SCHEME
Maximum Mark: 80



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 International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2025 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit
 is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme,
 referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these
 features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The
 meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
?	Unclear
BOD	Benefit of the doubt
✓	Tick, correct
TV	Too vague
SEEN	Indicates that the point has been noted, but no credit has been given.
EVAL	Evaluation
NAR	Lengthy narrative

Question	Answer	Marks		
1	Suggest a costume for the actor playing the role of either GWENDOLYN PIGEON or CECILY PIGEON when they enter at line 328. Why would this be appropriate?			
	We are told relatively little about GWENDOLYN PIGEON and her sister, CECILY PIGEON, so there is scope for some interpretation in terms of costume design. They are of similar age, both in their young thirties, one a divorcee and the other a widow. They enjoy life and they work in a gym where they do 'wonderful things' with people's bodies. They speak in a manner that represents a stereotypical American view of Britishness in the 1960s. Allow any interpretation that has coherence and reflects the text.			
	A suggestion of an appropriate costume. 1 Mark			
	A statement as to why this would be appropriate.			

Question	Answer		Marks
2	Read from line 260 ['Felix just stares ahead'] to line 312 ['rings']. Give three different pieces of performance advice playing the role of OSCAR MADISON.		3
	This passage is typical of the high-octane interactions between OSCAR and FELIX that appear throughout the extract. In this passage, however, the energy builds up from FELIX's annoyance at OSCAR being an hour late and the dinner being spoiled leading to OSCAR's robust response to this. Allow credit for any suggestions that would emphasise this, especially when accompanied by, for example, facial expressions, tone of voice, timing, pauses, physical proximity etc. Allow any three appropriate pieces of performance advice for the actor playing OSCAR MADISON.		
	A piece of performance advice for the actor playing OSCAR MADISON.	1 Mark	
	A second piece of performance advice for the actor playing 0SCAR MADISON.		
	A third piece of performance advice for the actor playing OSCAR MADISON.	1 Mark	
1			

Question		Answer		Marks
3		assage from line 14 ['An ice-cold drink for Murra ou two hundred dollars for your gun'].	ay'] to line 47	5
	How would behaviour	d you play the role of FELIX UNGAR to show his?	s obsessive	
	fixated on e received ar some aspe which could apartment,	FELIX UNGAR is presented as a neurotic, highly obsessive individual who is fixated on everything being precise and in its place. The apartment has received an extreme makeover and its clean, characterless sterility reflects some aspects of FELIX's personality. There are many possibilities, some of which could be inferred from the passage, such as FELIX's darting about the apartment, others that are explicit such as the placing of the coasters, the ash tray, the sandwiches.		
	Band 1			
	Band 2	A broad explanation of how to play the role of FELIX UNGAR to show his obsessive behaviour.	2–3 marks	
	Band 3 A general description of FELIX UNGAR's 1 mark character.			
	Band 4	No creditable response.	0 marks	

Question		Answer		Marks	
4	[storms	Read the passage from line 162 [Comes to the doorway] to line 241 [storms off towards his bedroom.]. How could the actors playing FELIX UNGAR and OSCAR MADISON emphasise their differences in this passage?			
	This passage introduces the PIGEON sisters and OSCAR seeks to persuade FELIX to invite them on a double date for dinner. FELIX is still reeling from his marital separation while OSCAR is keen to move on to something new. The dialogue is punchy and rapid-fire with the objective of arranging a date with the women. FELIX is extremely cautious with money and does not want to go out to eat. More significantly, FELIX is still obsessed with his former wife (Frances) and he feels guilty about potentially meeting other women. OSCAR has been divorced for a while and can't wait to move on.				
	Band 1	Band 1 A detailed explanation of how to emphasise the differences between the two characters, supported by close reference to the passage.			
	Band 2 A broad explanation of how to emphasise the differences between the two characters, supported by some reference to the passage.				
	Band 3 A general description of the differences between the two characters.				
	Band 4	No creditable response.	0 marks		

Question		Answer		Marks	
5		our set design for the opening of the extract. J		5	
	There are relatively few indications of the details of the apartment, apart from that it is now extremely clean. Allow any set design description that can be supported from the passage. Annotated diagrams may be included. Responses should focus on set design. Other aspects such as lighting and sound can only be credited if they are being used to enhance the set. Otherwise, no credit allowed.				
	Band 1	Band 1 A practical understanding of set design justified 4–5 marks by reference to the extract.			
	Band 2 Some understanding of set design justified by general reference to the extract.				
	Band 3	Band 3 Identifies a set design possibility from the extract. 1 mark			
	Band 4	No creditable response.	0 marks		

Question		Answer		Marks
6	Read the p	eassage from line 467 ['Takes snapshot out of we extract.	/allet'] to the	10
		d you direct this passage to reveal <u>both</u> the sadi the situation?	ness <u>and</u> the	
	This is the climax of the extract and a number of themes collide, each of them with the possibility of creating pathos, comedy or sorrow. Allow all directorial suggestions that would maximise the dramatic impact of these. NB: If candidates refer to only one aspect, restrict the mark to a maximum of Band 3.			
	Band 1	Offers detailed insight into the passage and provides a perceptive discussion of how to direct it to reveal both sadness and the humour.	9–10 Marks	
	Band 2	Offers insight into the passage and provides a range of practical ideas about how to direct it to reveal both sadness and humour.	7–8 Marks	
	Band 3	Shows understanding of the passage and provides some specific examples of how to direct it.	5–6 Marks	
	Band 4	Shows some understanding of the passage and provides some general suggestions as to how to direct it.	3–4 Marks	
	Band 5	Makes general points about the passage.	1–2 Marks	
	Band 6	No creditable response.	0 Marks	

SECTION B

Question		Answer		Marks
7		e playing the role of ALICE, how would you sho in Wonderland?	w her	10
	Make clos	e reference to specific lines from the extract in	your answer.	
	ALICE's actions in Wonderland are all framed by her bewilderment as to what is going on, her belief that everyone she meets is crazy, and the strange things that happen in the croquet match. She takes part in the croquet match in the belief that there is some connection between meeting the QUEEN and being reunited with her MUM, which is reinforced by the other-worldly voice of her MUM at the end of the extract. Allow credit for discussion that explains how this could be achieved through facial expressions, vocal tone, variation of physical proximity, exaggerated gesture and any other appropriate suggestion.			
	Band 1	Shows detailed and perceptive insight into how to play the role of ALICE, with close reference to the extract.	9–10 Marks	
	Band 2	Shows understanding of how to play the role of ALICE, with reference to the extract.	7–8 Marks	
	Band 3	Shows broad understanding of how to play the role of ALICE, with some reference to the extract.	5–6 Marks	
	Band 4	Shows moments of understanding of how to play the role of ALICE, with occasional reference to the extract.	3–4 Marks	
	Band 5	Shows limited understanding of how to play the role of ALICE with little or no reference to the extract.	1–2 Marks	
	Band 6	No creditable response.	0 Marks	

Question	Answer		Marks
8	What challenges would you face in creating a set design production of this extract and how would you address the setting for the extract is a large croquet pitch outside the proceeds to allow space for the mobile commentary box, the player commentary area for the COMMENTATORS and the area when is located. Allow credit for creative solutions as to how these car a stage-space.	em? coalace. This ers, the re the QUEEN	15
	 Shows a sophisticated practical understanding of set design A comprehensive and effective explanation of how to approach the challenges of creating set design. Excellent, practical suggestions, applied with sustained and detailed reference to the extract. 	Band 1 13–15 Marks	
	 Shows detailed practical understanding of set design An assured and mainly effective explanation of how to approach the challenges of creating set design. Practical suggestions with detailed references to the extract. 	Band 2 10–12 Marks	
	 Shows broad practical understanding of set design A generalised explanation of how to approach issues of the challenges of creating set design. Some practical suggestions with some appropriate reference to the extract. 	Band 3 7–9 Marks	
	 Shows some practical understanding of set design A variable explanation of how to approach the challenges of creating set design. A few practical suggestions with occasional reference to the extract. 	Band 4 4–6 Marks	
	 Shows limited practical understanding of set design A confused, incomplete or narrative description of one or more aspects of set design. Minimal suggestions as to how to approach the extract. 	Band 5 1–3 Marks	
	No creditable response.	Band 6 0 Marks	

Question	Answer		Marks	
9	How would you direct the actors playing COMMENTATOR 1 and COMMENTATOR 2 to achieve dramatic impact on the audience? Make close reference to specific lines from the extract in your answer.			
	The COMMENTATORS are a dramatic means for building up the tension, commenting on the action, and moving it along. They are allocated a 'mobile commentary box', which allows a great deal of scope for the style of performance, but they need not be bound by that. There is also considerable potential for the two actors to build on each other's performance in pacing, pick-up of lines, physical proximity, etc. Allow any workable suggestions that can be justified from the text.			
	 Shows a sophisticated practical understanding of how to direct the actors A comprehensive and effective explanation of how to direct the two actors in order to achieve dramatic impact. Excellent, practical suggestions, with sustained and detailed reference to the extract. 	Band 1 13–15 Marks		
	 Shows detailed practical understanding of how to direct the actors An assured and mainly effective explanation of how to direct the two in order to achieve dramatic impact. Practical suggestions, with consistently appropriate reference to the extract. 	Band 2 10–12 Marks		
	 Shows broad understanding of how to direct the actors A competent explanation of how to direct the two actors in order to achieve dramatic impact. Some practical suggestions, with some appropriate reference to the extract. 	Band 3 7–9 Marks		
	 Shows partial understanding of how to direct the actors A variable explanation of how to direct the two actors in order to achieve dramatic impact. A narrow range of practical suggestions, with occasional reference to the extract. 	Band 4 4–6 Marks		
	 Shows little understanding of how to direct the actors A confused, incomplete, or narrative description of how to direct the two actors in order to achieve dramatic impact. Minimal reference to the extract. 	Band 5 1–3 Marks		
	No creditable response.	Band 6 0 Marks		

SECTION C

Question		Answer		Marks
10		e challenges that you faced in developing your sed piece and how you addressed them.	stimulus for	10
	The focus	of this question is on the <u>devising process</u> .		
	There are many challenges in creating a stimulus from an idea on paper or an image. This question focuses on the way in which the group engaged in the process of developing the piece to the point of performance. Allow credit for discussing challenges and offering solutions.			
	Band 1 A detailed and perceptive explanation of the challenges and how they addressed them; a wide range of appropriate examples.			
	Band 2	An explanation of the challenges and how they addressed them; a range of appropriate examples.	7–8 Marks	
	Band 3	An explanation of some challenges and how they addressed them; some supporting examples.	5–6 Marks	
	Band 4	Comments on the challenges involved; a few simple examples.	3–4 Marks	
	Band 5	Identifies one or two challenges and/or examples.	1–2 Marks	
	Band 6	No creditable response.	0 Marks	

Question	Answer		Marks	
11	Evaluate the effectiveness of your use of the performance space in communicating your devised piece to the audience.			
	The focus of this question is on the <u>performance of the devised piece</u> .			
	Some candidates may have had little choice as to where they performed their devised piece. The question is not about the suitability of the performance space, but the opportunities and challenges it presented. Candidates should evaluate how the use of the performance space helped them to communicate with the audience.			
	 Shows a sophisticated evaluation of their use of the performance space A comprehensive and detailed evaluation of the use of the performance space. Excellent, practical evaluation of how the performance space was used; sustained and detailed reference to the devised piece. 	Band 1 13–15 Marks		
	 Shows detailed evaluation of their use of the performance space An effective evaluation of the use of the performance space. Well-formulated practical evaluation of how the performance space was used, although there may be scope for further refinement; consistent and appropriate reference to the devised piece. 	Band 2 10–12 Marks		
	 Shows competent evaluation of their use of the performance space An adequate evaluation of the use of the performance space. Competent practical evaluation of how the performance space was used; some appropriate reference to the devised piece. 	Band 3 7–9 Marks		
	 Shows limited evaluation of the use of the performance space A limited evaluation of the use of the performance space. An attempt at evaluation of how the performance space was used; occasional reference to the devised piece. 	Band 4 4–6 Marks		
	Reviews the use of the performance space A review of how the performance space was used. Minimal evaluation of how the performance space was used; little or no reference to the devised piece.	Band 5 1–3 Marks		
	No creditable response.	Band 6 0 Marks		