

GCSE 2004

June Series



Mark Scheme

German A (Full Course)

(Writing)

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

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WRITING TESTS - FOUNDATION AND HIGHER TIERS**PART ONE****Principles of Marking**

- All marking is to be done in accordance with the published Criteria for Assessment.
- The stress is on effective communication. Credit should be given for the language successfully conveying the target message without ambiguity.
- There is no need to count the number of words used to answer each question. The sole criterion is completion of the tasks set.

MARK ALLOCATION

Foundation	Communication	Quality of Language	Total
List	2		2
Message	12	8	20
Letter	8	12	20
Total	22	20	42

Higher	Communication	Quality of Language	Total
Letter	8	12	20
Question 2	8	12	20
Total	16	24	40

FOUNDATION TIER QUESTION 1 - List Question

This question will be assessed for Communication only.

Marks	Degree of Communication
1	1 - 2 words correct, without ambiguity.
2	3 - 4 words correct, without ambiguity.

Maximum mark - 2

QUESTION 2 - Message Question

This question will consist of six tasks and will be assessed for Degree of Communication and Quality of Language.

DEGREE OF COMMUNICATION

For each of the six tasks, the following criteria will be used.

Marks	Degree of Communication
0	Required message not communicated.
1	Comprehension difficult or ambiguous. Some relevant information conveyed.
2	Required message conveyed without ambiguity even if not totally correct.
6 x 2 = 12 marks	

QUALITY OF LANGUAGE

A global mark out of 8 will be awarded. The mark awarded for Communication will determine the mark range available for Quality of Language according to the following criteria.

Marks awarded for Communication	Marks available for Quality of Language	Quality of Language
0 - 1	0	Inaccuracy is almost always a barrier to communication.
2 - 4	1 - 2	Some of the messages are intelligible but the frequency of serious error makes communication difficult.
5 - 6	3 - 4	Several of the messages are intelligible, despite frequent error which creates ambiguity and requires effort from the reader.
7 - 8	5 - 6	Errors occur regularly but most intended messages can be understood, with hesitation but without undue difficulty.
9 - 12	7 - 8	Despite various errors, the piece is more accurate than inaccurate; intended meanings are usually clear.

Maximum mark 12 + 8 = 20

QUESTION 3 - Letter Question

This question will consist of eight tasks and will be assessed for Degree of Communication, Range/Complexity and Accuracy, giving a maximum mark of 20.

DEGREE OF COMMUNICATION

- The assessment of Communication depends upon recognising an attempt to write something about the task.
- You should not take into account the quality of the language used, unless it interferes so much that communication would not take place.
- Candidates will be expected to go beyond the minimum level of response in order to score at least 3 marks. This means that the candidate will have added an additional detail (hereafter called a **Development**), which goes beyond the minimum required by the task.
- For a Development to be accepted, the quality of language should be the same as that which is required for a Communication task.
- Developments cannot be credited for a task which has been rejected.
- There can be only **one** Development per task in this question.

Tasks to Marks - Degree of Communication

Tasks	Marks	Requirement	Degree of Communication
0	0		Nothing of merit; fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.
1	1		Communicates <i>a little</i> basic information (e.g. simple facts).
2 – 8 (0 Dev)	2		
3 - 8 (1 Dev)	3		<i>Some</i> basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (e.g. description, simple opinion).
3 - 8 (2 Dev)	4		
5 - 8 (3 Dev)	5	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	Communicates clearly <i>quite a lot</i> of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.
5 - 8 (4 Dev)	6	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	
7 - 8 (5 Dev)	7	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	Communicates <i>a lot</i> of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.
7 - 8 (6 Dev)	8	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	

QUALITY OF LANGUAGE

- Marks will be awarded out of 6 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The marks will be added to make a total out of 12 for Quality of Language.
- The mark awarded under Range/Complexity must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- The mark awarded under Accuracy must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy.
- For the award of 4 marks or more under Range/Complexity there must be at least one reference to each of past, present and future events.

Range / Complexity	Marks	Accuracy
Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	0	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	1	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	2	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	3	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	4	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicates descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	5	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	6	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

The maximum mark for the Foundation Tier Paper is 42.

HIGHER TIER**QUESTION 1**

This question is the same as that set for Foundation Writing Question 3. It should therefore be marked in accordance with the instructions given for Foundation Tier Question 3.

QUESTION 2

This question will consist of *four* tasks and will be assessed for Degree of Communication, Range/Complexity and Accuracy, giving a maximum of 20.

DEGREE OF COMMUNICATION

- The assessment of Communication depends upon recognising an attempt to write something about the task. All responses should be self-contained and comprehensible without reference to the rubrics.
- Candidates will be expected to go beyond the minimum level of response in order to score at least 2 marks. This means that the candidate will have added an additional piece of information, in the form of a phrase or clause (hereafter called a **Development**), which goes beyond the minimum required by the task.
- For a Development to be accepted, the quality of language should be the same as that which is required for a Communication task.
- Developments cannot be credited for a task which has been rejected.
- There can be *up to two* developments per task in this question.

Tasks to Marks - Degree of Communication

Tasks	Marks	Requirement	Degree of Communication
0	0		Nothing of merit; fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.
1 – 4 (0 Dev)	1		Communicates <i>a little</i> basic information (e.g. simple facts).
1 - 4 (1 Dev)	2		
2 - 4 (2 Dev)	3		<i>Some</i> basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (e.g. description, simple opinion).
2 - 4 (3 Dev)	4		
3 - 4 (4 Dev)	5	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	Communicates clearly <i>quite a lot</i> of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.
3 - 4 (5 Dev)	6	Must include an opinion, if not, revert to 4 marks	
4 (6 Dev)	7	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	Communicates <i>a lot</i> of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.
4 (7 - 8 Dev)	8	Must include justification of an opinion, if not, revert to 6 marks	

QUALITY OF LANGUAGE

- Marks will be awarded out of 6 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The marks will be added to make a total out of 12 for Quality of Language.
- The mark awarded under Range/Complexity must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- The mark awarded under Accuracy must not be more than **one mark** higher than the mark awarded for Degree of Communication.
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy.
- For the award of 4 marks or more under Range/Complexity there must be at least one reference to two of past/present/future events.

Range / Complexity	Marks	Accuracy
Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	0	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	1	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	2	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	3	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	4	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicates descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	5	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	6	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

The maximum mark for the Higher Tier paper is 40.

PART 2

The criteria for assessment and the general marking instructions are given in Part 1 of the mark scheme.

The following information relates to the tasks set in the 2004 German Writing Tests. Details of how marks are awarded to the tasks are contained in Part 1.

Foundation Tier**Question 1****(2 marks)**

There is one task

Blause Rocke Schue Schuen	Bause Karvotte Shue Shirt
------------------------------------	------------------------------------

1	Nouns describing items of clothing. Some flexibility may be needed	
	Accept	Do not accept.

Note: 0 marks = 0 understandable words

1 mark = 1-2 words correct without ambiguity

2 marks = 3-4 words correct without ambiguity

Question 2**(20 marks)**

There are 6 tasks:

1	Who you are with.		
	2	1	0
	<i>Ich bin mit Frank</i>	<i>Mit Frank</i>	<i>Frank</i>

2	You're going shopping.		
	2	1	0
	<i>Ich gehe einkaufen</i> <i>Ich gehe Shopping</i>	<i>Einkaufen gehen</i>	<i>Shopping</i> <i>Einkaufen</i>

3	What you'd like to buy.		
	2	1	0
	<i>Ich möchte Sportschuhe kaufen</i>	<i>Kaufen Sportschuhe</i>	<i>Sportschuhe</i>

Accept '*Ich kaufe ein Vanilleeis*' etc.

4	When you'll be in the Eiscafé.		
	2	1	0
	<i>Ich bin um drei im Eiscafé</i>	<i>Eiscafé um drei</i>	<i>Um drei</i>

5	Suggestion to meet in the Eiscafé.		
	2	1	0
	<i>Treffen wir uns im Eiscafé</i>	<i>Treffen Eiscafé</i>	<i>Eiscafé</i>

6	Suggestion of something else to do		
	2	1	0
	<i>Gehen wir ins Kino</i>	<i>Ins Kino gehen</i>	<i>Ins Kino</i>

Foundation Question 3 / Higher Question 1**(20 marks)**

There are eight tasks:

- 1 **Reaction to the e-mail**
E-mail should be referred to. Development (Dev) could be an added word.
Vielen Dank für die letzte E-Mail D1
- 2 **Information about the school day**
Comments must refer to schoolday/routine Dev could be an added word or added information.
Der Schultag beginnt um zwanzig vor neun und endet um Viertel nach drei. D2
- 3 **Opinions on school**
One opinion about what is good needed. Justification essential. Dev could be an added word, information or opinion.
Ich mag meine Lehrer, weil sie nicht zu streng sind. Aber ich hasse meine Schuluniform. D3
- 4 **Preferred school subjects**
A positive opinion must be expressed about at least two subjects. Reason not essential. Dev could be third subject or reason.
Meine Lieblingsfächer sind Englisch, Geschichte und Deutsch natürlich. D4
- 5 **Plans for next year**
Reference to next year needed. Dev could be added detail.
Ich bleibe nächstes Jahr in der Schule. Ich möchte Englisch, Deutsch und Geschichte lernen. D5
- 6 **Description of film**
Ref needed to one detail. Dev could be added detail.
Ich habe den 'Herr der Ring' Film letztes Wochenende gesehen. Er ist sehr gut. D6
- 7 **Reference to seeing brother**
Past tense essential. Reference to time essential. Dev could be added detail.
Ich habe meinen Bruder letzten Monat gesehen. Er war für ein Wochenende hier. D7
- 8 **Question about Christoph's sister**
One question needed. Dev could be second question or added information.

Higher Question 2**(20 marks)**

There are four tasks:

- 1 **Description of old and new part-time job and opinion on new job**
One detail needed about old and new job and one opinion needed. Justification essential. Dev could be added information and/or opinions.
Mein alter Job war im Supermarkt. Ich arbeite jetzt im Restaurant. Es ist besser, weil ich abends arbeite. Und ich bekomme mehr Geld. D1
- 2 **Details about problems with parents**
Two problems or two aspects of the same problem needed. Dev could be added detail.
Meine Eltern meckern, wenn ich zu spät nach Hause komme. Und sie hassen meine Kleider. Abre ich kann immer mit ihnen reden. D2
- 3 **Current sporting activity and future activity to stay fit**
Ref needed to current and future activities. Dev could be added information.
Ich treibe nicht viel Sport im Moment. Ich gehe ab und zu schwimmen. In der Zukunft möchte ich auch Tennis spielen, um fit zu bleiben. D3
- 4 **Information about what happened at Easter**
Past reference essential. Reference needed to appropriate time of year. Reference needed to one activity. Dev could be added information.
Zu Ostern haben wir meine Tante in Liverpool besucht. Es war aber nicht so gut, weil es viel geregnet hat. D4

COURSEWORK

Each piece of work is assessed according to the following assessment criteria. Candidates submit three pieces of work, drawn from three different Themes.

Marks	Degree of Communication
0	Nothing of merit; fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.
1 - 2	Communicates a little basic information (e.g. simple facts).
3 - 4	Some basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (e.g. description, simple opinion).
5 - 6	Communicates clearly quite a lot of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.
7 - 8	Communicates a lot of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.

In each mark band, the higher of the two marks is awarded if there is strong evidence of the criteria in that band. If the evidence is more limited, the lower mark is awarded.

Quality of Language

Range / Complexity	Marks	Accuracy
Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	0	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	1	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	2	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	3	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	4	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicates descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses, are used more regularly and with increasing success.	5	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	6	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

Marks will be awarded out of 6 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The marks will be added to make a total out of 12 for Quality of Language. The Quality of Language marks will then be added to the Communication marks to give a total of 20 for each piece of work.

Additional Guidance on Application of Assessment Criteria

COMMUNICATION

- The mark for Communication determines the maximum mark for Quality of Language. Once the Communication mark has been awarded, the mark for Range/Complexity and the mark for Accuracy may not be more than one mark higher (e.g. 3 + 4 + 4).
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy (e.g. 1 + 0 + 0 would not be possible).
- If a mark of 0 is awarded for Communication, no marks can be awarded for Range/Complexity or Accuracy.
- For the 5-6 band ‘descriptions and accounts’ are regarded as one concept.
- Candidates will have access to the 7-8 band provided there is at least one minimal example of each of ‘narration of events’, ‘full descriptions’, ‘justification of ideas’.

QUALITY OF LANGUAGE

- The marks awarded for Range/Complexity and Accuracy are not interdependent.
- To score 4 marks or more for Range/Complexity candidates must refer successfully to a minimum of two time frames in each piece of work and refer to all three time frames across the three pieces as a whole. (The number of time frames used is assessed under Range/Complexity only and not under Accuracy. A candidate, therefore, producing only 1 time frame in a piece of work would be limited to a maximum mark of 3 for Range/Complexity, but could score 4 marks or more for Accuracy though this would probably be rare).

GENERAL

- For candidates supplied with a template (whereby they only have to insert appropriate vocabulary items in order to complete the assignment) the mark awarded will be at best 2 + 1 + 1.
- Candidates writing the minimum recommended word length have access to the full mark range.