

B1 – Speaking Mark Scheme

Part 1 - Personal information

A learner should be awarded one mark for every accurate response. Grammar and pronunciation is not assessed at this stage. One or two errors are permitted which could be self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.

Total Marks for Part 1 is 9

Question	Number of marks
No. 1	1
No. 2	3
No. 3	1
No. 4	3
No. 5	1

Part 2 - Responding to the situation / general use of English in formal and informal environments

The purpose is to differentiate between formal/informal register, to assess accuracy and grammar appropriate for Level B1 and assess learner's pronunciation.

Skills	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Register	A learner is awarded 3 marks when clear distinction between formal and informal situations is made.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when distinction between formal and informal situations is not maintained throughout.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when a distinction between formal/ informal situations is only attempted.	A learner does not recognise formal/informal register.
Accuracy	A learner is awarded 3 marks when grammatical structures are used correctly-correct tense and word order are applied. One or two errors are allowed which do not impede meaning.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when minor mistakes occur not impeding the overall meaning.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when accuracy largely impedes the meaning.	A learner does not apply correct tense or word order as appropriate to the situation.
Pronunciation	A learner is awarded 3 marks when using clear stress, pronunciation and intonation.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when pronunciation does not impede the clarity.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when the speech is not clear, largely impeding the meaning.	A learner's speech is unclear and incomprehensible.
Effective communication	A learner is awarded 3 marks for clarity of interaction.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when effective communication is achieved with some clarification.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when effective communication is attempted but not fully achieved.	A learner does not communicate effectively.

Total Marks for Part 2 is 12

Part 3 - Discussion

The purpose of Part 3 is to demonstrate comprehension and fluency of speaking with an application of accurate grammar and pronunciation.

Skill	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Use of vocabulary	A learner is awarded 3 marks when using a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the context.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when using some vocabulary appropriate to the context but still maintains a flow of conversation.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when only limited range of vocabulary is used.	No conversation has been attempted.
Accuracy and grammar	A learner is awarded 3 marks when grammatical structures are used correctly - correct tense and word order are applied. One or two errors are allowed which do not impede meaning.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when minor mistakes occur not impeding the overall meaning.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when accuracy largely impedes the meaning.	A learner does not apply correct tense or word order as appropriate to the situation.
Pronunciation	A learner is awarded 3 marks when using clear stress, pronunciation and intonation.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when pronunciation does not impede the clarity.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when the speech is not clear, largely impeding the meaning.	A learner's speech is unclear and incomprehensible.
Listening and responding	A learner is awarded 3 marks when fluency and interaction is maintained throughout the task.	A learner is awarded 2 marks with some repetition and requesting clarification.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when presenting limited comprehension during the interaction.	A learner cannot maintain a conversation.

Total Marks for Part 3 is 12



PART OF **nocn** GROUP

B2 - Speaking Mark Scheme

Part 1 - Personal information

A learner should be awarded one mark for every accurate response. Grammar and pronunciation is not assessed at this stage. One or two errors are permitted which could be self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.

Total Marks for Part 1 is 9

Question	Number of marks
No. 1	1
No. 2	3
No. 3	1
No. 4	3
No. 5	1

Part 2 - Responding to the situation / general use of English in formal and informal environments

The purpose is to differentiate between formal/informal register, to assess accuracy and grammar appropriate for Level B2 and assess learner's pronunciation.

Skills	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Register	A learner is awarded 3 marks when clear distinction between formal and informal situations is made throughout.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when distinction between formal and informal situations is not maintained throughout.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when a distinction between formal/ informal situations is only attempted.	A learner does not recognise formal/informal register.
Accuracy	A learner is awarded 3 marks when grammatical structures are used correctly - correct tense and word order are applied. One or two minor errors are allowed as long as meaning is not impeded.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when minor mistakes occur not impeding the overall meaning.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when accuracy largely impedes the meaning.	A learner does not apply correct tense or word order as appropriate to the situation.
Pronunciation	A learner is awarded 3 marks when using clear stress, pronunciation and intonation.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when pronunciation does not impede the clarity.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when the speech is not clear, largely impeding the meaning.	The learner's speech is unclear and incomprehensible.
Effective communication	A learner is awarded 3 marks for clarity of interaction with some fluency evident.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when effective communication is achieved with some clarification. Some noticeable long pauses.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when effective communication is attempted but not fully achieved. Lack of fluency apparent.	A learner does not communicate effectively.

Total Marks for Part 2 is 12

Part 3 - Discussion

The purpose of Part 3 is to demonstrate comprehension and fluency of speaking with an application of accurate grammar and pronunciation.

Skill	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Use of vocabulary	A learner is awarded 3 marks when they use a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the context including good expression of feelings and opinion.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when they use some vocabulary appropriate to the context with limited ability to use vocabulary to persuade or express key points in an argument.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when they use only a limited range of vocabulary which does not allow the learner to develop ideas and opinions.	No conversation has been attempted.
Accuracy and grammar	A learner is awarded 3 marks when grammatical structures are used correctly - correct tense and word order are applied. One or two minor errors are allowed as long as meaning is not impeded.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when minor mistakes occur not impeding the overall meaning.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when accuracy largely impedes the meaning.	A learner does not apply correct tense or word order as appropriate to the situation.
Pronunciation	A learner is awarded 3 marks when they use clear stress, pronunciation and intonation in connected speech.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when pronunciation does not impede the clarity.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when speech is not clear, largely impeding the meaning.	A learner's speech is unclear and incomprehensible.
Listening and responding	A learner is awarded 3 marks when fluency and interaction is maintained throughout the task. The learner will demonstrate turn taking conventions including dealing with interruptions.	A learner is awarded 2 marks when some repetition and requesting clarification is evident. Inappropriate phrases may be used to interrupt or to ask for information.	A learner is awarded 1 mark when limited comprehension is demonstrated during the interaction. Stilted conversation with long pauses.	A learner cannot maintain a conversation.

Total Marks for Part 3 is 12



PART OF **nocn** GROUP

C1 - Speaking Mark Scheme

Part 1 - Personal information

A learner should be awarded one mark for every accurate response. Grammar and pronunciation are not assessed at this stage. One or two errors are permitted which could be self-corrected or that do not impede comprehension.

Total Marks for Part 1 is 9

Question	Number of marks
No. 1	1
No. 2	3
No. 3	1
No. 4	3
No. 5	1

Part 2 - Responding to the situation / general use of English in formal and informal environments

The purpose is to differentiate between formal/informal register, to assess accuracy and grammar appropriate for Level C1 and assess learner's pronunciation.

Skills	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Register	Clear distinction between formal and informal situations is made throughout. Learner shows confidence throughout.	Distinction between formal and informal situations is mainly maintained throughout. Mainly confident.	Distinction between formal/informal situations is not fully made throughout. Some degree of confidence shown.	Learner does not maintain a clear distinction between formal and informal situations throughout. Lacks confidence.
Accuracy	A high degree of accuracy in the use of complex grammatical structures is maintained throughout. One or two errors are made which are self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.	Occasional errors are made but most are self-corrected. Meaning is not impeded.	Lack of accuracy occasionally impedes the meaning. Most errors are self-corrected but not all.	A significant number of errors which are not corrected.
Pronunciation	Stress, pronunciation and intonation are used naturally in connected speech to convey finer shades of meaning, highlighting, emphasising and modifying meaning.	Some evidence of the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation is demonstrated with occasional lapses to convey finer points of meaning.	Largely connected speech where stress, pronunciation and intonation is used but does not convey shades of meaning.	Learner's speech is monotonous, and some errors in pronunciation.
Effective communication	Clarity of interaction with natural use of discourse organisation, connectors and cohesive devices. Confident in management of turn taking.	Mainly controlled use of discourse organisation, connectors and cohesive devices with occasional errors. Able to backtrack when encountering difficulty.	Limited evidence of discourse organisation and use of connectors and cohesive devices. Limited evidence of using appropriate turn taking conventions.	Minimal discourse organisation and appropriate turn taking management.

Total Marks for Part 2 is 12

Part 3 - Discussion

The purpose of Part 3 is to demonstrate comprehension and fluency of speaking with an application of accurate grammar and pronunciation.

Skill	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Use of vocabulary	Uses complex sentences, idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms naturally. Able to provide sophisticated explanations, narratives, ideas and opinions and come to a conclusion.	Some use of complex sentences, idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. Able to qualify opinions and statements but not always without hesitation.	Minimal use of complex sentences. Occasional errors in the use of vocabulary. Occasionally has to search to find the right word.	Very limited use of complex sentences. Repetitive and limited vocabulary.
Accuracy and grammar	A high degree of accuracy in the use of complex grammatical structures is maintained throughout. One or two errors are made which are self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.	Occasional errors are made but most are self-corrected. Meaning is not impeded.	Lack of accuracy occasionally impedes the meaning. Most errors are self-corrected but not all.	A significant number of errors which are not corrected.
Pronunciation	Stress, pronunciation and intonation are used naturally in connected speech to convey finer shades of meaning, highlighting, emphasising and modifying meaning.	Some evidence of the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation is demonstrated with occasional lapses to convey finer points of meaning.	Largely connected speech where stress, pronunciation and intonation is used but does not convey shades of meaning.	Learner's speech is monotonous and some errors in pronunciation.
Listening and responding	Engages in discussion to express and elicit opinion, defend and justify arguments when challenged. Able to persuade someone to a point of view.	Clear interaction with occasional errors in understanding or giving responses. Arguments and opinions not always clearly made or justified.	Some evidence of detailed and clear responses to others. Limited evidence of detailed arguments and opinions.	Very limited interaction to show any evidence of being able to give and defend arguments and opinions.

Total Marks for Part 3 is 12



PART OF nocn GROUP

C2 - Speaking Mark Scheme

Part 1 - Personal information

A learner should be awarded one mark for every accurate response. Grammar and pronunciation are not assessed at this stage. One or two errors are permitted which could be self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.

Total Marks for Part 1 is 9

Question	Number of marks
No. 1	1
No. 2	3
No. 3	1
No. 4	3
No. 5	1

Part 2 - Responding to the situation / general use of English in formal and informal environments

The purpose is to differentiate between formal/informal register, to assess accuracy and grammar appropriate for Level C2 and assess learner's pronunciation.

Skills	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Register	Clear distinction between formal and informal situations is made throughout. Learner shows confidence throughout.	Distinction between formal and informal situations is mainly maintained throughout. Mainly confident.	Distinction between formal/informal situations is not fully made throughout. Some degree of confidence shown.	Learner does not maintain a clear distinction between formal and informal situations throughout. Lacks confidence.
Accuracy	A high degree of accuracy in the use of complex grammatical structures is maintained throughout. One or two errors are made which are self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.	Occasional errors are made but most are self-corrected. Meaning is not impeded.	Lack of accuracy occasionally impedes the meaning. Most errors are self-corrected but not all.	A significant number of errors which are not corrected.
Pronunciation	Stress, pronunciation and intonation are used naturally in connected speech to convey finer shades of meaning, highlighting, emphasising and modifying meaning.	Some evidence of the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation is demonstrated with occasional lapses to convey finer points of meaning.	Largely connected speech where stress, pronunciation and intonation is used but does not convey shades of meaning.	Learner's speech is monotonous, and some errors in pronunciation.
Effective communication	Clarity of interaction with natural use of discourse organisation, connectors and cohesive devices. Confident in management of turn taking.	Mainly controlled use of discourse organisation, connectors and cohesive devices with occasional errors. Able to backtrack when encountering difficulty.	Limited evidence of discourse organisation and use of connectors and cohesive devices. Limited evidence of using appropriate turn taking conventions.	Minimal discourse organisation and appropriate turn taking management.

Total Marks for Part 2 is 12

Part 3 - Discussion

The purpose of Part 3 is to demonstrate comprehension and fluency of speaking with an application of accurate grammar and pronunciation.

Skill	3 marks	2 marks	1 mark	0 marks
Use of vocabulary	Uses complex sentences, idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms naturally. Able to provide sophisticated explanations, narratives, ideas and opinions and come to a conclusion.	Some use of complex sentences, idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. Able to qualify opinions and statements but not always without hesitation.	Minimal use of complex sentences. Occasional errors in the use of vocabulary. Occasionally has to search to find the right word.	Very limited use of complex sentences. Repetitive and limited vocabulary.
Accuracy and grammar	A high degree of accuracy in the use of complex grammatical structures is maintained throughout. One or two errors are made which are self-corrected or do not impede comprehension.	Occasional errors are made but most are self-corrected. Meaning is not impeded.	Lack of accuracy occasionally impedes the meaning. Most errors are self-corrected but not all.	A significant number of errors which are not corrected.
Pronunciation	Stress, pronunciation and intonation are used naturally in connected speech to convey finer shades of meaning, highlighting, emphasising and modifying meaning.	Some evidence of the use of stress, pronunciation and intonation is demonstrated with occasional lapses to convey finer points of meaning.	Largely connected speech where stress, pronunciation and intonation is used but does not convey shades of meaning.	Learner's speech is monotonous and some errors in pronunciation.
Listening and responding	Engages in discussion to express and elicit opinion, defend and justify arguments when challenged. Able to persuade someone to a point of view.	Clear interaction with occasional errors in understanding or giving responses. Arguments and opinions not always clearly made or justified.	Some evidence of detailed and clear responses to others. Limited evidence of detailed arguments and opinions.	Very limited interaction to show any evidence of being able to give and defend arguments and opinions.

Total Marks for Part 3 is 12



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