



National
Qualifications
2019

2019 Gaelic (Learners)
Reading
Higher
Finalised Marking Instructions

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General marking principles for Higher Gaelic (Learners) Reading

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Award a mark for each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.
- (d) Marks are available as follows:
 - (i) The first set of questions (worth 18 marks in total) asks candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. There are generally 1-3 marks available for each question.
 - (ii) The penultimate question is the overall purpose question, and candidates must identify the overall purpose of the text and draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 2 marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged mark descriptors (2/1/0) and associated commentary are available, along with further guidance, in the detailed marking instructions.
 - (iii) The last question is the translation. For this question, candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation is divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, award 2, 1 or 0 marks: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (e) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
1.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> learn (an awful) lot 	1	
2.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the first tooth communication/conversation smiling laughing <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3	
3.	(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> their child to be ahead of others 	1	
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helen (Eilidh) was walking when she was only ten months old John (Iain) got his first tooth when he was five months Fraser (Friseal) said 'Dada' before he was six months old Johnny (Seonaidh) was only about eight months when he started waving <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3	

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
4.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> each child will grow and progress/come on at their own rate/pace/level 	1	
5.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> they have an effect on children we can't do much about nature, but what about upbringing? <p>Any 1 from 2</p>	1	
6.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> babies are wiser/cleverer/intelligent reduction in illnesses such as vomiting/sickness 	2	
7.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> diabetes obesity/too much weight heart problems cancer <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3	
8.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> talk to them through the day sing a song or listen to music with them read books to them and make up stories play with them <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3	

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
9.		<p>Markers should use their own professional judgement but likely answers include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the author refers to research which was carried out • simple things parents do with their children help them a great deal (+ examples from the text such as read to your child, sing to them etc) • the benefits of breastfeeding • bilingualism 	2	<p>Award 2 marks where the candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text.</p> <p>Award 1 mark where the candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of some justification.</p> <p>Award 0 marks where the candidate simply provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.</p>

Question		Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
10.		<p>Translate into English:</p> <p><i>Tha e furasta . . . cànanan eile ionnsachadh.</i> (lines 29-32)</p>	10	<p>The translation into English is allocated 10 marks. The text for translation is divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks. Award marks according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English. Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows:</p> <p>2 marks - good The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p>1 mark - satisfactory The candidate understands and conveys essential information clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. They convey the key message in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p>0 marks - unsatisfactory The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.</p>

Text	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
<u>Unit 1</u> <i>Tha e furasta a thuigsinn gu bheil cànan feumail,</i>	It is easy to understand that language is useful,		
<u>Unit 2</u> <i>agus mar as motha de chànanan a th' agad 's ann as fheàrr a tha e.</i>	and the more languages you have the better it is.		
<u>Unit 3</u> <i>Tha buannachdan foghlaim ann a bhith dà-chànanach.</i>	There are educational benefits to being bilingual.		
<u>Unit 4</u> <i>Tha clann le dà-chànan nas fheàrr air leughadh,</i>	Children with two languages are better at reading,		
<u>Unit 5</u> <i>agus tha e nas fhasa dhaibh cànanan eile ionnsachadh.</i>	and it is easier for them to learn other languages.		

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]



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Directed Writing
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General marking principles for Higher Gaelic (Learners) Directed Writing

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) Candidates must address each of the six related bullet points in their writing. The first bullet point contains two pieces of information. The remaining five bullet points each contain one piece of information.
- (c) Marking should be holistic. There may be strengths and weaknesses; focus as far as possible on the strengths, taking account of weaknesses only where they significantly detract from the overall impression. Award marks for the candidate's demonstration of ability in the three main characteristics in writing:
 - (i) content
 - (ii) accuracy
 - (iii) language resource
- (d) Award the highest pegged mark for writing even if there are minor errors, when these do not detract from the overall impression.
- (e) Candidates may display ability across more than one pegged mark descriptor. It is important to recognise the closeness of the pegged mark descriptors and consider carefully the most appropriate overall pegged mark based on the candidate's piece of writing.

The table below gives further guidance to markers in the event of any of the following scenarios:

The candidate only addresses one part of the introductory bullet point.	The maximum mark available is 16 .
The candidate does not address two of the bullet points.	The maximum mark available is 12 .
The candidate does not address three or more of the bullet points.	Award 0 marks.
Some bullet points fit into one pegged mark category but others are in the next, lower category.	<p>It is important to look carefully at which bullet points are better addressed.</p> <p>If there is a serious decline in the quality of the writing after the initial bullet point, award a lower mark.</p> <p>It is important to consider the balance of the bullet points. Sometimes a candidate writes twice as much about the opening bullet point as for the five remaining bullet points, or even about information not covered by any of the bullet points. In these cases, award the lower mark being considered.</p>
The marker is having great difficulty in deciding whether the writing merits 12 or 8 marks.	It is essential to consider carefully the accuracy of the verbs overall. If more verbs are correct than incorrect, it is likely that the writing merits 12 marks unless there are many other inaccuracies.
From the point of view of content, the candidate's response looks as if it belongs in a top category, but contains some serious grammatical errors as a result of using relatively advanced structures combined with a less than confident knowledge of more basic structures.	It is always important to assess what it is the candidate can do, and thus highlight the positive. In these cases, it is likely that the candidate will be awarded 12 marks.

Marking instructions - Directed Writing

Mark	Content	Accuracy	Language resource: variety, range, structures
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The content is comprehensive. • The candidate addresses all bullet points fully and may also provide additional relevant information. • The language flows well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language is accurate throughout. However, where the candidate attempts to go beyond the range of the task, a slightly higher number of inaccuracies need not detract from the overall impression. • The candidate uses a comprehensive range of verbs accurately, and tenses are consistent and accurate. • The candidate demonstrates confident handling of all aspects of grammar and accuracy in spelling, and, where appropriate, word order. The language may contain a number of minor errors, or even one serious error. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate uses detailed and complex language throughout. • There is a wide range of adjectives, adverbs and prepositional phrases. • They use a comprehensive range of verbs/verb forms, tenses and constructions.

Mark	Content	Accuracy	Language resource: variety, range, structures
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The content is clear. • The candidate addresses bullet points clearly, although one bullet point may not be addressed. • Generally the language flows well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language is mostly accurate. Where the candidate attempts to use detailed and complex language, errors may detract from the overall impression. • The candidate uses a range of verbs accurately, and tenses are generally consistent and accurate. • There may be a few errors in spelling, adjective endings and, where relevant, word order and case endings. • Use of accents, where relevant, is not always secure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate uses language which is mostly detailed and complex. • In one bullet point the language may be less detailed and complex than might otherwise be expected at this level. • The candidate uses a range of verbs/verb forms and other constructions. • Overall the writing is competent but there may be some repetition of structures.

Mark	Content	Accuracy	Language resource: variety, range, structures
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The content is adequate. • The candidate addresses bullet points adequately, however two of the bullet points may not be addressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language may be accurate in most of the bullet points. However, in the others, control of the language may deteriorate significantly. • Verbs are generally correct. • The candidate may use tenses inconsistently, with present tenses used at times instead of past tenses. • There may be errors in spelling, adjective endings and other parts of speech, as well as in word order, cases and the use of accents (where relevant). • Overall, there is more correct than incorrect. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate gives some examples of detailed and complex language. • The candidate attempts to use a range of vocabulary and structures, although the language may be repetitive. • The candidate attempts to use a range of verbs and tenses. • Sentences may be brief.

Mark	Content	Accuracy	Language resource: variety, range, structures
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The content may be limited. • The writing may be presented as a single paragraph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language is inaccurate and after the first bullet point the control of the language may deteriorate significantly. • Verbs are generally incorrect and the candidate has difficulty in using different tenses. • There are errors, which may be serious, in spelling, adjectival endings and many other parts of speech, as well as in word order, cases and accents (where relevant). • Some points may not be immediately understood by a speaker of the language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate demonstrates a limited use of detailed and complex language. • The language is repetitive, with a limited range of vocabulary and structures. • Sentences are brief. • There may be other language interference and/or an example of serious dictionary misuse.

Mark	Content	Accuracy	Language resource: variety, range, structures
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The content is limited. The candidate has difficulty in addressing the bullet points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The language is inaccurate throughout and there is little control of language. Most of the verbs are incorrect and the candidate has great difficulty in using tenses. There are many serious errors in spelling, adjectival endings and many other parts of speech, as well as in word order, cases and accents (where relevant). Several points may not be understood by a speaker of the language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate uses little, if any, detailed and complex language. There is a very limited range of verbs, vocabulary and structures. Sentences are very brief. There may be several examples of other language interference and/or serious dictionary misuse.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The content is very limited. The candidate is unable to address the bullet points. or Three or more of the bullet points are not addressed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The language is seriously inaccurate and there is no control of language. Virtually nothing is correct. Very little is intelligible to a speaker of the language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no evidence of detailed and complex language. There may be several examples of other language interference and/or serious dictionary misuse. The writing may contain very few sentences.

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]



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Listening
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General marking principles for Higher Gaelic (Learners) Listening

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) Award a mark to each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.
- (d) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks to candidates where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
1.	(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> about 50 years 	1	
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> been in his family for a long time was used at Battle of Culloden (in 1746) it still works <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2	
	(c)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> he likes telling stories showing exhibits/items in museum answering questions <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2	
	(d)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> small souvenirs 	1	Or similar
	(e)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> good at research interest in history 	2	

Question			Expected response	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
2.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> her grandfather played the fiddle at home she listened to him every night went to the Fèis in Stirling <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2		
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> she won a fiddle competition in Perth (picture was in the paper) 	1		
	(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> people's homes village halls/town halls hotels <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2		
	(d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> they were so unhappy road closed stayed/waited on the bus for three hours they had to go home when the road reopened <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3		
	(e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> better at <u>playing with singers</u> better at <u>playing for dancers</u> can play faster my fiddle skills have improved (a lot) <p>Any 3 from 4</p>	3		
	(f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> you should take part (in the Ceilidh Trail) if you get the opportunity/chance 	1		

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]