

Unit 4: Research, Understanding and Written Response

Section A: Translation

Question Number	Question	Answer (Alternative renderings acceptable)
1	When I was young	Cuando era joven
	I used to spend the summer holidays	solía pasar las vacaciones de verano
	with my family	con mi familia
	here in England	aquí en Inglaterra
	I didn't enjoy them	.No me gustaban.
	I got bored	Me aburría
	quickly	rápidamente
	and the weather was often cold.	y muchas veces hacía frío.
	If we'd been	Si hubiéramos tenido
	better off	Un mejor nivel económico,
	at least	por lo menos
	we could	podríamos
	have gone	haber ido
	to a country	a un país
	with a climate	con un clima
	warmer	más cálido
	Since	.Desde que
	I got a job	conseguí trabajo
	everything has changed	,todo ha cambiado.
	Three months ago	Hace tres meses
	I flew to Peru	fui a(l) Perú en avión
	with some friends	con algunos amigos,
	and we went up	y subimos
and we went up the mountains to Cuzco,	A las montañas en Cuzco,	
the old	la antigua capital	
Inca capital.	de los incas.	
What a wonderful	¡Qué experiencia	
experience!	tan maravillosa!	
I intend to return	Pienso volver	
whenever I can.	cuando pueda.	
Spelling errors and omission of essential accents would render a section incorrect.		Mark
30 marks divided by 3		10

Section B: Creative or Discursive Essay

Below are the suggested ideas for essays. Candidates may well come up with entirely different material which will be rewarded on its merits as a response to the task.

Creative Essay

Question Number	Question
2(a)	<p>Escribe la conversación entre la madre y su hijo(a) pequeño(a) en la cual hablan de las Navidades.</p>
	<p>Suggested Answer</p> <p>This will give candidates the opportunity to write a dialogue and they may produce idiomatic language. Answers will vary from those that dwell on the secular aspects of Christmas to those which have a religious focus.</p>
	Mark
	45

Question Number	Question
2(b)	<p>Pedro había salido a una fiesta con su mujer, dejando a sus hijos de 16 y 8 años solos en casa. Se acercaban a su casa por la madrugada cuando se dieron cuenta de que la puerta principal estaba abierta y que humo salía de las ventanas de arriba...</p> <p>Continúa la historia, explicando qué había pasado y qué sucedió después.</p>
	<p>Suggested Answer</p> <p>This account will presumably be mostly narrative and should be written in the past. Candidates will probably write about the fire services and give an account of rescue attempts, as well as the danger involved to those within the house. However, any reasonable but creative story would be valid.</p>
	Mark
	45

Question Number	Question
2(c)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Los nuevos solteros</p> <p>En el mundo moderno mucha gente prefiere vivir sola.</p> </div> <p>Imagina que eres un(a) soltero(a) de unos treinta años y explica cómo es tu vida y por qué te gusta o no.</p>
	<p>Suggested Answer</p> <p>Candidates will assume the role of the 30 years old singleton, and give an account of their “present” circumstances , probably including leisure and financial aspects of being 30 and single. They will either give a positive or negative view, but either are valid providing they explain their reasons.</p>
	Mark
	45

Question Number	Question
2(d)	“Para los jóvenes actuales el fin de semana es un pretexto para beber alcohol en exceso.” ¿Qué piensas? Razona tus opiniones.
	Suggested Answer
	Candidates must present a balanced argument, considering points for and against the proposition. They may raise considerations that the stress of modern day life leads young people to use alcohol as a diversion at the weekends when they have free time. There should be a clear structure and an informed conclusion.
	Mark
	45

Question Number	Question
2(e)	“Es imprescindible que los colegios ofrezcan una formación más práctica a sus estudiantes para prepararlos para el mundo del trabajo.” ¿Qué piensas? Razona tus opiniones.
	Suggested Answer
	Candidates must present a balanced argument, considering points for and against the proposition. They may comment on the current curriculum and the need for a greater emphasis on vocational qualifications. There should be a clear structure and an informed conclusion.
	Mark
	45

Question Number	Question
2(f)	¿Es posible vivir sin estrés en el mundo moderno? Explica tu opinión.
	Suggested Answer
	Candidates must present a balanced argument, considering points for and against the proposition. They may refer to life style pressures, working long hours, money worries, the housing market. They may contrast the modern life style with that of previous generations. There should be a clear structure and an informed conclusion.
	Mark
	45

Question Number	Question
2(g)	“Con la globalización los países han perdido su carácter e individualismo.” ¿Estás de acuerdo? Comenta esta declaración, ofreciendo tus opiniones.
	Suggested Answer
	Candidates must present a balanced argument, considering points for and against the proposition. They may comment on the influence of the world wide web, greater access to travel, particularly cheap air flights, all of which could lead to a diminishing of specific national cultural traditions. There should be a clear structure and an informed conclusion.
	Mark
	45

Discursive Essay or Creative Writing Assessment Grids

Mark	A02: Understanding and Response: Creative Writing
0	No rewardable understanding or response
1 - 3	Largely irrelevant. Minimal use of stimulus
4 - 6	Some relevant points made. Unimaginative use of stimulus
7 - 9	Satisfactory understanding of question and response to stimulus
10 - 12	Good to very good understanding of question and response to stimulus
13 - 15	Very Good to excellent understanding of question and imaginative response to stimulus

Mark	A02: Understanding and Response: Discursive Essay
0	No rewardable understanding or response
1 - 3	Minimal understanding of question or relevant discussion
4 - 6	Limited understanding of question
7 - 9	Satisfactory understanding of question. Some implications of questions addressed
10 - 12	Good to very good understanding of question. Main implications of question addressed
13 - 15	Very Good to excellent understanding of question. Implications of question fully grasped

Mark	A02: Organisation and Development
0	No rewardable organisation and development
1 - 3	Minimal organisation and development. Answer largely disorganised
4 - 6	Limited organisation and development. Structure lacks coherence
7 - 9	Organisation and development not always logical and clear
10 - 12	Organisation and development logical and clear
13 - 15	Extremely clear and effective organisation and development of ideas

Mark	A03: Range and Application of Language
0	No rewardable range and application of language
1 - 2	Inadequate range of lexis and structures. Very limited ability to manipulate
3 - 4	Restricted range of lexis and structures. Limited ability to manipulate language
5 - 6	An adequate range of lexis and structures. Successful manipulation of language/attempts to handle complex structures not always successful
7 - 8	A wide range of appropriate lexis and structures. Successful manipulation of language
9 - 10	Rich and complex language. Very successful manipulation of language

Mark	A03: Accuracy of the Target Language
0	Language so inaccurate that no reward is possible
1	Accuracy only in the simplest form. A high incidence of basic error
2	Communication impaired at times by basic errors eg agreements, verb forms. Some familiar language is accurate
3	A number of major errors made, without impairing communication significantly. Familiar forms and structures usually accurate
4	Few errors, mostly of a minor nature
5	High degree of accuracy with minimal and minor errors

Section C: Research-based Essay

Question Number	Question	Marks
3	This is for the research-based essay.	45

Mark	A02: Reading Research and Understanding
0	No rewardable material presented
1 - 6	Minimal understanding. Almost no evidence of reading and research
7 - 12	Limited understanding. Little evidence of reading and research
13 - 18	Adequate understanding. Some evidence of reading and research
19 - 24	Good to very good understanding. Clear evidence of in depth reading and research
25 - 30	Very good to excellent understanding . Clear evidence of extensive and in depth reading and research

Mark	A02: Organisation and Development
0	No rewardable organisation and development
1 - 2	Limited organisation and development. Structure almost wholly lacking in coherence
3 - 4	Some organisation and development. May be rambling and/or repetitive
5 - 6	Adequate organisation and development of material. Development patchy and/or unambiguous
7 - 8	Good organisation and development. Material well planned and sequenced with minor lapses
9	Very good organisation and development. Material very effectively marshalled and developed within a carefully planned framework

Mark	A03: Quality of Language
0	No rewardable language
1	Very basic level of communication. Language often breaks down because of lack of linguistic knowledge and/or ability to use structures. Very inaccurate
2	Some communication achieved on a basic level but often lacks comprehensibility. Limited linguistic range; basic sentence construction. Register often inappropriate
3 - 4	Satisfactory communication. Inaccurate language occasionally impedes comprehensibility. Fair range of appropriate lexis. Structures often well handled
5	Good communication. Errors rarely impede comprehensibility. Language mainly accurate and appropriate. Good range of lexis and structures. Good handling of complex structures and use of idioms
6	Very good communication. Language almost always fluent, varied and appropriate. Wide range of lexis and structures. High level of accuracy