



Cambridge International AS & A Level

THINKING SKILLS

9694/22

Paper 2 Critical Thinking

May/June 2020

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

Published

Students did not sit exam papers in the June 2020 series due to the Covid-19 global pandemic.

This mark scheme is published to support teachers and students and should be read together with the question paper. It shows the requirements of the exam. The answer column of the mark scheme shows the proposed basis on which Examiners would award marks for this exam. Where appropriate, this column also provides the most likely acceptable alternative responses expected from students. Examiners usually review the mark scheme after they have seen student responses and update the mark scheme if appropriate. In the June series, Examiners were unable to consider the acceptability of alternative responses, as there were no student responses to consider.

Mark schemes should usually be read together with the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers. However, because students did not sit exam papers, there is no Principal Examiner Report for Teachers for the June 2020 series.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the June 2020 series for most Cambridge IGCSE™ and Cambridge International A & AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

This document consists of **9** printed pages.

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 descriptors 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

	In Qs 1, 3 and 4 use to indicate where marks have been awarded. In questions where responses are undeveloped or developed (as defined within the scheme), use 1 tick for undeveloped and 2 ticks for developed.
	Use to indicate an element of an answer that looks as though it should be credited but is in fact wrong.
	In Qs 2 and 5 use to indicate 'conclusion'. Use twice to indicate nuanced conclusion in q 2.
	In Qs 2 and 5 use to indicate creditworthy intermediate conclusion.
	In Qs 2 and 5 use to indicate creditworthy appropriate argument element.
	In Q2 use to indicate creditworthy inferential reasoning. In Q5 use to indicate creditworthy reason used to support a conclusion.
	In Q2 use to indicate creditworthy use of source.
	In Q2 use to indicate creditworthy evaluation of source.
	In Q2 use to indicate creditworthy personal thinking.
	In appropriate cases, use to indicate significant omission.
	Not good enough.
	Benefit of doubt.
	Use in answers when no other annotations have been used. Use on blank pages. In appropriate cases, use to indicate answers which appear as if they might deserve credit but are incorrect or irrelevant.
Highlight	Use to indicate answers which are not being considered. Where helpful, use to identify the part of the answer to which another stamp pertains.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	To some extent, as it is from a trade magazine [1], but it acts against the interests of the industry by suggesting only moderate use [1]. However, this could be a tactic to defend the video game industry from its critics [1] by suggesting that moderate/non-addictive use is possible [1].	3
1(b)	<p>1 mark for any valid difference, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video games are interactive, whereas films aren't. • Films have a fixed length, whereas video games can be played indefinitely. • Every time one watches a film it's the same / every time one plays a video game the experience is different. • Video games often feature mechanisms designed to discourage players from stopping playing. 	2
1(c)(i)	Intentional homicide is only one type of violent behaviour [1]. To draw a general conclusion about violent behaviour, one would also need statistics/information about many other types [1].	2
1(c)(ii)	It could indicate a causal link [1], and it is plausible that there is one [1], in which case the conclusion would be strengthened [1]. However, there may well be other causes [1] of these increases that are independent of one another. There could even be a common factor which was causing both increases [1], e.g. social deprivation (<i>any plausible example</i>) [1]. In either case, the conclusion would be weakened [1].	4
1(d)	Obesity may be a cause of rather than an effect of playing video games [1]. If video games were banned these children might simply replace them with a different sedentary activity [1], or even replace them with an activity that made a greater contribution to the problem of obesity [1]. Before video games existed many people were still slumped in front of television screens [1]. It might be that children are not going out to play with their friends because of modern concerns, e.g. fears for their safety [1].	3

Question	Answer		Marks
2	Use of sources	2 marks: accurate use of all or most of the sources provided 1 mark: accurate use of some of the sources provided 0 marks: no accurate use of sources	8
	Evaluation of sources and/or inferential reasoning from sources	Up to 2 marks for evaluation of sources Up to 2 marks for inferential reasoning <i>These marks can be combined to a maximum of 3.</i>	
	Supported conclusion	2 marks: nuanced (e.g. balanced or qualified) supported conclusion 1 mark: simple supported conclusion 0 marks: conclusion unstated or unsupported	
	Argument elements	Up to 2 marks for use of intermediate conclusion and/or other argument elements Up to 2 marks for personal thinking <i>These marks can be combined to a maximum of 3</i>	
<p>Indicative content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source A suggests there are both benefits and drawbacks to video gaming • Whilst not a professional publication, it shows balance and there is (rather vague) reference to academic studies • Source B has a vested interest to defend video gaming • It fails to address the problem of addiction • Source C has possible expertise • However it has little relevance to the issue of video games specifically • Source D offers empirical evidence • However, there are a number of problems with how this evidence is interpreted in the source. • Intentional homicide may not be a sufficient index of the level of violence in a society • Source E has bias against video gaming • A number of false inferences are made • A number of unwarranted assumptions are made • The evidence about school shootings needs comparison with other countries where there are high levels of video gaming • The evidence about obesity/social skills would apply to any screen based/sedentary activity • It only applies to children/the young playing video games. It might be O.K. for adults. 			

Question	Answer	Marks
2	<p>Overall</p> <p>The claim might be supportable if it could shown to be possible to produce non-violent video games which were equally exciting. However this would only address the issue of violence and not other concerns such as obesity etc.</p> <p>Annotate answers as follows:</p> <p>E To indicate ‘conclusion’. Use twice to indicate nuanced conclusion.</p> <p>S To indicate creditworthy use of source.</p> <p>EVAL To indicate creditworthy evaluation of source.</p> <p>R To indicate creditworthy inferential reasoning.</p> <p>P To indicate creditworthy personal thinking.</p> <p>I To indicate creditworthy intermediate conclusion.</p> <p>AE To indicate creditworthy appropriate argument element.</p>	

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	<p><i>2 marks for an exact answer</i> <i>1 mark for a paraphrase, or for one additional element or omission</i></p> <p>Professional popular music concerts will not survive.</p>	2
3(b)	<p><i>For up to 3 of the following:</i> <i>2 marks for an exact answer</i> <i>1 mark for a paraphrase, or for one additional element or omission</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the traditional audience will not support these concerts it is not really a live experience People will increasingly stay at home to see and hear their favourite bands. the promoters of concerts will struggle (with an ever-decreasing pool of people from which to draw their audience). (So) this is not going to alter the situation. 	6
3(c)	<p><i>2 marks for an exact version of any of the following</i> <i>1 mark for a paraphrase of any of the following, or for one additional element or omission</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This technology is expensive There will always be small venues that survive by attracting an audience for a local act or niche artist 	2

Question	Answer	Marks
3(d)	<p><i>2 marks for an exact version of any of the following</i> <i>1 mark for an incomplete or vague version of any of the following</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ticket prices never used to be 10 times the average pay rate. • Any increase in prices will not be matched by wage rises. • Live music concerts cannot survive as an elite form. • Live music concerts cannot find a new audience. 	2

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	<p>In para 1 the author cites the expense of tickets as a reason to support the conclusion but here suggests the expense of home audio-visual systems is no barrier to their being purchased [1]. However, it is possible to argue that the expense of these systems is not as great as going to concerts / that they represent better value than concert tickets [1].</p> <p><i>OR</i></p> <p>If the conclusion in paragraph 1 is correct, then there will be no concerts to watch at home [1]. However, this assumes that the only way bands can be seen is via a film of a concert [1].</p> <p>So the intermediate conclusion (of paragraph 3) that ‘people will increasingly stay at home to see and hear their favourite bands’ may be somewhat weakened [1], but there is little impact on the main conclusion [1].</p>	4
4(b)(i)	<p><i>2 marks for a valid answer, clearly expressed.</i> <i>1 mark for a weak attempt at a valid answer.</i></p> <p>The author relies on the questionable unstated assumption that individual people enjoy only one genre of music and will not attend concerts of other genres.</p>	2
4(b)(ii)	<p><i>2 marks for a valid answer, clearly expressed.</i> <i>1 mark for a weak attempt at a valid answer.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Conflation</i> – between ‘attracting an audience for a local act or niche artist’ and ‘the local singer-songwriter trying his latest material on his family and friends’. <i>May be expressed in other terms, e.g. straw man.</i> • <i>Reliance on questionable stipulative definition</i> – for what counts as ‘a proper professional live music concert’. 	2

Question	Answer		Marks								
5	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Supported conclusion</td> <td>1 mark for a precise, supported conclusion that meets the requirement of the question.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reasons</td> <td>1 mark for each use of a reason supporting a conclusion, up to a maximum of 3.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inferential reasoning</td> <td>1 mark for each use of an intermediate conclusion, up to a maximum of 3.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Argument elements</td> <td>1 mark for each use of appropriate argument elements (counter with response, example, evidence, analogy, hypothetical reasoning), up to a maximum of 3.</td> </tr> </table>		Supported conclusion	1 mark for a precise, supported conclusion that meets the requirement of the question.	Reasons	1 mark for each use of a reason supporting a conclusion, up to a maximum of 3.	Inferential reasoning	1 mark for each use of an intermediate conclusion, up to a maximum of 3.	Argument elements	1 mark for each use of appropriate argument elements (counter with response, example, evidence, analogy, hypothetical reasoning), up to a maximum of 3.	8
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Argument elements	1 mark for each use of appropriate argument elements (counter with response, example, evidence, analogy, hypothetical reasoning), up to a maximum of 3.										
<p><i>Maximum 6 marks for wrong conclusion or if conclusion is implied but not stated.</i></p> <p><i>0 marks for answer unrelated to the claim given.</i></p> <p><i>No credit for material merely reproduced from the passage.</i></p> <p>Annotate answers as follows:</p> <p>C To indicate main conclusion.</p> <p>I To indicate creditworthy intermediate conclusion.</p> <p>R To indicate creditworthy reason used to support a conclusion.</p> <p>AE To indicate creditworthy appropriate argument element.</p> <p>Example 8-mark answers</p> <p><i>Support (133 words)</i></p> <p>Whilst it might seem that music helps students concentrate when they study this is an illusion. Students may feel more positive and happier when they listen to music whilst they study but this is because they are enjoying the music. Because they are concentrating more on the music than what they are studying, this must mean that memorising and understanding the material being studied is impaired.</p> <p>Psychological studies suggest that, contrary to popular opinion, one cannot do more than one thing at a time. For example, it has been shown that even talking on a hands-free phone hampers driver concentration. So, because it involves doing two things at the same time, listening to music whilst studying must make studying less effective</p> <p>So students should not be allowed to listen to music whilst studying.</p>											

Question	Answer	Marks
5	<p><i>Challenge (138 words)</i></p> <p>Many older people fail to understand the world in which students live. The days of the need for the absolutely silent environment of the library for study to take place have long gone. Many young people now find total silence weird and distracting. By playing their own music, students can block out distracting noise whilst not being in total silence, which means they can concentrate better on their studying.</p> <p>Well-meaning people who try to forbid students from listening to music whilst studying are actually disadvantaging them because they are projecting the conditions they grew up in on to the present day. Students know and understand the modern world and their way of approaching study should not be hampered by an older generation that do not understand it.</p> <p>So students should be allowed to listen to music whilst studying.</p>	