

Conversation task card (30 marks)

Marks are awarded for the following criteria:

- Task completion and communication (maximum of 10 marks)
- Language range (maximum of 10 marks)
- Language accuracy (maximum of 10 marks).

Mark scheme for Task completion and communication in the Conversation task card (AO4: S1 and S2)

Level	Description	Marks
5	• Completes all tasks fully and confidently. • Communicates relevant information with clear and supported ideas and opinions. Develops a justified argument. • Fully engages in the conversation. Candidate has good interaction with the examiner and responds fully and confidently to all questions/prompts.	9–10
4	• Completes most tasks fully. • Communicates relevant information. Develops an argument that is mostly clear and supported by their points of view. • Engages in the conversation. Candidate has good interaction with the examiner and responds to most questions/prompts.	7–8
3	• Completes some tasks successfully. • Communicates information that is sometimes relevant. Develops an argument with ideas and opinions, which are not always justified. • Engages in the conversation with some interaction with the examiner. Responds to some questions/prompts.	5–6
2	• Attempts some tasks in a limited or superficial way. • Communicates limited information. Communicates limited ideas and opinions. • Relies on the examiner to keep the conversation going. Limited response to questions/prompts.	3–4
1	• Attempts task(s) with little or no success. • Communicates very basic information; may attempt to give ideas and opinions. • Relies heavily on the examiner. The conversation is fragmented with very limited response to questions/prompts.	1–2
0	• No creditable response.	0

Mark scheme for Language range in the Conversation task card (AO4: S3)

Level	Description	Marks
5	• Uses a wide range of linking and cohesive devices to connect a series of well-developed points. • Uses a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the tasks. Often uses less common vocabulary. • Can vary formulation to avoid repetition.	9–10
4	• Uses a range of linking and cohesive devices to connect a series of mostly well-developed points. • Uses a range of vocabulary appropriate to the tasks. Occasionally uses less common vocabulary. • Attempts to vary formulation but some repetition is present.	7–8
3	• Uses some linking and cohesive devices to connect a sequence of points, not always fully developed. • Uses vocabulary appropriate to the tasks. There is an attempt to use less common vocabulary. • There is some repetition and hesitation.	5–6
2	• Uses linking and cohesive devices to attempt to connect a series of points, not always successfully. • Uses familiar and common vocabulary, sometimes appropriate to the tasks. • There is noticeable repetition and hesitation.	3–4
1	• Uses basic, high frequency linking and cohesive devices, difficulty with formulation at times. • Relies on repetition of a small range of familiar and common vocabulary, not always appropriate to the task(s).	1–2
0	• No creditable response.	0

Mark scheme for Language accuracy in the Conversation task card (AO4: S4)

Level	Description	Marks
5	- Consistently accurate use of simple grammar. - Shows a good degree of control of some complex grammar.	9–10
4	- Accurate use of simple grammar. - Uses some complex grammar, with occasional slips.	7–8
3	- Uses simple grammar, with some slips. - Makes some use of more complex grammar, with some slips. - Errors very rarely impede communication.	5–6
2	- Uses simple grammar, with some errors. - Attempts to use more complex grammar, with limited success. - Errors sometimes impede communication.	3–4
1	- Uses only simple structures to articulate straightforward ideas. - Frequent errors in simple structures. - Communication frequently impeded.	1–2
0	No creditable response.	0

Pronunciation and intonation (5 marks)

Marks are awarded for pronunciation and intonation (maximum of 5 marks) for the whole speaking test.

Mark scheme for Pronunciation and intonation (AO4: S5)

Level	Description	Marks
3	- Pronunciation is intelligible and intonation is appropriate. - Individual sounds are articulated clearly.	4–5
2	- Pronunciation is intelligible and intonation is mostly appropriate. - Individual sounds are mostly articulated clearly, though with some slips.	2–3
1	- Pronunciation is generally intelligible and candidate has partial control of intonation. - Individual sounds have frequent errors.	1
0	No creditable response.	0