

Moderator comments and final marks (Candidate 1)

Presentation, interaction/responsiveness

Looking at the descriptors in the mark scheme, this candidate is quite complex to mark, as she fits descriptors on several levels: On the one hand, she “fully engages in the conversation, ...has good interaction with the teacher/examiner and responds confidently to all question types” (Level 5 descriptor – but she does not respond fully); she does not present “ideas and opinions that are mostly clear and supported” (Level 4), as there are hardly any ideas and opinions or justifications. On the other hand, she does “communicate detailed information” (Level 4). Overall, as hardly any ideas and opinions are expressed, and there is only “some attempt to justify her answers” (Level 3), this candidate averages out on Level 4 for this grid. Her positive interaction with the teacher/examiner and her general fluency put her at the higher end of level 4, the fact that very few ideas and opinions are presented or developed and most of the conversation is factual points to the lower end. Ultimately, her readiness to interact fully with the teacher/examiner are decisive to award her a mark of 8 for this grid.

Mark awarded = 8 out of 10

Language range

Even though there is some unevenness in the range of language, this candidate fits the Level 4 descriptors for Language range well:

“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”, and “attempts to vary formulation, but some repetition is present”.

Mark awarded = 8 out of 10

Language accuracy

There is “some use of complex grammar, with occasional slips” (Level 4). There are “some slips with simple grammar” but, overall, the candidate deserves to be placed at Level 4, albeit at the lower end of it.

Mark awarded = 7 out of 10

Task completion and communication

The candidate “completes all tasks confidently” (but not “fully”) (Level 5)

“Communicates relevant information” (Level 4).

“Develops an argument” (Level 4), certainly not fully and sometimes not in a sequential and logical fashion.

“Engages in the conversation. Candidate has good interaction with the teacher/examiner and responds to most questions/prompts” (top of Level 4, as she responds to all questions). However, ideas and opinions are rare, and they are not really justified (which would point to Level 3).

Overall, this is a fairly competent performance regarding Task completion and communication, which does deserve to be put into Level 4.

Mark awarded = 7 out of 10

Language range

Despite some very competent use of idiomatic phrases, sentence structure and vocabulary, the performance regarding this grid is uneven. “The candidate uses a wide range of linking and cohesive devices” (Level 5) but does not always develop her points. She clearly “uses a range of vocabulary appropriate to the tasks” (Level 4) but topic specific vocabulary is lacking in some areas. Sentence structure does have good variation with very little repetition (again pointing to Level 4). There is no hesitation in her responses (hesitation would point to Level 3). A mark at the upper end of Level 4 is therefore appropriate.

Mark awarded = 8 out of 10

Language accuracy

Very similar to Task 1, the candidate deserves to be placed at the lower end of Level 4 for Language accuracy. There is “some use of complex grammar, with occasional slips” (Level 4). Despite “some slips with simple grammar”, the overall accuracy level of this candidate belongs to Level 4.

Mark awarded = 7 out of 10

Pronunciation and intonation

The candidate pronounces all German sounds in an authentic manner, and her intonation is good and sounds very natural. While, clearly, German is not her first language, she fulfils all the criteria for a top mark in this mark grid.

Mark awarded = 5 out of 5

Total mark awarded = 50 out of 65