


LanguageCert  
General



**Writing  
Sample Scripts  
& Examiner's  
Comments**

Expert level – C1

Language  
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# Marking the Writing tasks

In the Writing section, candidates are assessed against four assessment criteria. Each writing task is assessed separately. These criteria are Task Achievement, Accuracy and Range of Grammar, Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary and Organisation (Coherence).

Candidate performance is marked on each criterion. 0–8 marks are awarded by examiners on each criterion for each Task. Task 1 is then weighted to 40% of the total marks for Writing, and Task 2 is weighted to 60% of the total marks for Writing.

Criteria	Description
Task Achievement	A measure of how far the candidate has achieved/addressed the task and whether or not the candidate has done what was asked
Accuracy and Range of Grammar	A measure of the range, appropriacy and accuracy of grammar.
Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary	A measure of the range, accuracy and appropriacy of vocabulary as well as spelling accuracy.
Organisation (Coherence)	A measure of how coherently ideas are linked together in the text and how accurate the punctuation is.

## Spelling

American or British English spelling is accepted.

## Over and under length answers

Where an answer fails to reach the minimum word length, this will be taken into account when awarding marks for Task Fulfilment.

Where an answer obviously exceeds the maximum word length, a candidate is bound to have produced a text of lower quality (i.e. to have made more mistakes) due to time constraints. No explicit penalty is to be imposed on over-length responses.

Candidates do not receive any credit for off-topic answers.

## Expert level - C1

### Writing

The candidate will be able to:

- write well-structured, detailed texts on complex subjects clearly communicating ideas, impressions, feelings and opinions
- write complex narratives and descriptions varying style appropriately
- write a well-structured, detailed argument emphasising important points, expanding and supporting relevant ideas
- write formal letters, reports or articles to fulfil a wide range of functions including those requiring a tactful approach
- use all punctuation marks accurately and effectively
- spell correctly words used in work, study and daily life including commonly used technical words
- consistently control grammar to communicate effectively with few errors even when complex structures are employed
- use a wide range of vocabulary suitable for purpose
- generally use idiomatic expressions appropriately and naturally
- use a wide range of complex structures
- adapt register effectively and appropriately according to purpose in most contexts
- link and organise ideas using a range of linking words and cohesive devices
- organise text effectively to reflect the structure of the ideas expressed

## Writing Part 1

You recently visited City Zoo. Write a review about it for a travel website. Mention:

- the range of animals
- the food and drink facilities
- whether you think it is good value for money.

### Come to City Zoo for a great day out

See amazing animals from every continent.

Have fun at our daily shows, featuring: eagles, dolphins, penguins and elephants.

Family ticket – 55 euros, including a free map of the zoo.

Have lunch at our new Italian restaurant or at one of our many food stalls, or enjoy our new picnic and children's play area.

*Write between 150 and 200 words.*

### Writing Part 1 - Sample Script

"A Day at City Zoo"

After my recent visit at City Zoo I was left with the best possible impressions and great experiences! First of all, the variety of animal **species** is **as wide as promised** and their **enclosures** seem to show the necessary respect to their unique needs. Wonderful shows are held every day, **wonderfully showing off** the amazing ability of the animals to communicate with us, in their own way.

In addition, the "human" facilities are equally well-cared-for, being regularly cleaned and always kept tidy by both customers and the staff. The food and drink options are also quite **diverse**, able to fit almost any taste and preference.

Also, the family package the city zoo offers is great for any family, as it includes access to the whole zoo for a good price.

All in all, I believe a visit at City Zoo is great value for money, **considering all the activities it can offer**, on a whole-day basis! I would **confidently recommend** it for everyone!

## Writing Part 1- Examiner's Comments

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
<b>Task Fulfilment</b>	7	<p>The candidate successfully writes a well-structured text clearly communicating ideas, impressions, feelings and opinions.</p> <p>The candidate covers all 3 task points and their descriptions vary in style appropriately, but they should have elaborated more by giving examples and details when covering the task points.</p> <p>(For example, the species of animals encountered and their impression of them/ the food and beverages offered/ prices of admission and family packages etc.)</p>
<b>Accuracy and Range of Grammar</b>	8	<p>The candidate consistently controls grammar to communicate effectively with very few errors and they employ complex structures encountered at C1 level.</p> <p>(Examples of complex structures: words <b>in bold</b> in the text)</p>
<b>Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary</b>	8	<p>The candidate uses a wide range of vocabulary suitable for purpose and they generally use idiomatic expressions appropriately and naturally.</p> <p>The candidate generally uses a wide range of complex lexical structures, and they adapt register effectively and appropriately according to purpose in most contexts.</p> <p>(Examples of complex lexical structures and vocabulary encountered at C1 level: words <b>in red</b> in the text)</p> <p>The candidate generally spells correctly the words used.</p>
<b>Organisation and Coherence</b>	7	<p>The candidate generally organises the text effectively to reflect the structure of the ideas expressed.</p> <p>The candidate generally links and organises ideas using linking words and cohesive devices.</p> <p>The candidate generally uses punctuation marks accurately and effectively</p>
<b>Total Score</b>	30	

## Writing Part 2

Write a short story for a college magazine about a lucky escape you had. Describe the situation and how the characters feel about the events.

*Write between 150 and 200 words.*

### Writing Part 2 - Sample Script

"A great escape"

A few months ago I went on a quite adventurous vacation with a group of friends, in a **woodland area**. The main plan was to stay at a cabin in the woods, with the goal of relaxing, taking some time off and enjoying nature. **Little did we know** about what **we were to encounter!**

One of the days we decided to go on a **long all-day walk** in the forest. Of course we used the main paths assigned for this, as safety was also important. It was not at all usual for bears to be around those paths, as many people passed through them, but I guess **we were the lucky ones!** While walking peacefully, **minding our business**, a huge bear appeared and started chasing us!

As expected, we started **running for dear life**, as fast as we could! We almost felt like we would not make it! At some point we realised we had plenty of food in our backpacks, so that was probably the reason why the bear had followed us. We decided to drop behind us any food we had (1), while running, to try and distract the animal and it worked!

Finally the bear stopped to get the food we were leaving (2) behind and left us alone! Everyone was **extremely relieved and full of adrenaline!** We soon got back to our cabin and avoided the walks in the woods the next days, since we were terrified. However, we still laugh a lot looking back to that adventure!

## Writing Part 2 - Examiner's Comments

Criteria	Mark	Examiner's Comments
<b>Task Fulfilment</b>	8	The candidate successfully writes a well-structured, detailed text clearly communicating ideas, impressions, feelings and opinions. They satisfy the demands of the task by emphasizing important points and use complex narratives and descriptions and varying style appropriately.
<b>Accuracy and Range of Grammar</b>	7	The candidate generally controls grammar to communicate effectively with a few errors occurring and they generally employ some complex structures encountered at C1 level.  (Examples of complex structures: words <b>in bold</b> in the text)  (Example of errors in the text:  1) "...drop behind us any food we had..." 2) "...the food we were leaving...")
<b>Accuracy and Range of Vocabulary</b>	7	The candidate generally uses a wide range of vocabulary suitable for purpose and they generally use idiomatic expressions appropriately and naturally.  The candidate generally uses some complex structures, and they adapt register effectively and appropriately according to purpose in most contexts.  (Examples of complex structures and vocabulary encountered at C1 level: words <b>in red</b> in the text)  The candidate spells correctly the words used.
<b>Organisation and Coherence</b>	8	The candidate successfully organises the text effectively to reflect the structure of the ideas expressed.  The candidate links and organises ideas using linking words and cohesive devices.  The candidate generally uses punctuation marks accurately and effectively
<b>Total Score</b>	30	

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