DEPARTMENT FOR CURRICULUM,
LIFELONG LEARNING AND EMPLOYABILITY
Directorate for Learning and Assessment Programmes
Educational Assessment Unit

Track 3

Annual Examinations for Middle Schools 2023

YEAR 8 ENGLISH MARKING SCHEME

Half marks are to be rounded up only after the global mark has been arrived at (e.g. 55½ =56). Full marks are to be awarded if the answer is legible and correct. Accuracy is only assessed in the speaking and writing sections.

LISTENING 15 MARKS

1. State whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F) by ticking (✓) the correct box below. 1 mark x 6 = 6 marks

		TRUE	FALSE
a.	Europe is the third smallest continent.		✓
b.	Greenland is the largest island on Earth.	✓	
c.	In Iceland one can enjoy the best digital light show.		✓
d.	One can find rare animal species in Europe.	✓	
e.	In Eastern Europe one may see a polar bear.		✓
f	Globally, Europe is the continent which most people visit.	✓	

2. Complete the table with information from the text. The first one (a) has been done for you. 1 mark x 4 = 4 marks

a.	about 10%	**percentage of world population living in Europe**
b.	almost 7 million	**number of yearly visitors to Eiffel tower**
c.	almost 2,000 years ago	**when the Colosseum / largest amphitheatre was built**
d.	over 742 million	**number of people living in Europe**
e.	47	**number of countries in Europe**

3. Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the passage.
1 mark x 5 = 5 marks

a. One can find **subtropical** beaches in Monaco.
b. The Matterhorn Mountain is located on the **border** of Italy and Switzerland.
c. Some of Europe's wonders built by hand include Athens' 6th century **theatres** and **temples.**
d. Europe's natural wonders include amazing views of mountains and valleys, as well as **coastlines** and skylines.

SECTION A: READING **25 MARKS**

Read the texts printed in the source booklet and then answer all of the following questions. You should spend around 30 minutes on this section.

Task A1: Questions on Source A

1. Underline the correct answer. **½ mark**
   Under which section would you find this article on a website?
   iii. <u>Leisure</u>

2. During lockdown, most people got tired of sitting at home doing nothing. Quote a part-sentence from lines 1-12 that shows this. **1 mark**

   '…lounging on the couch all day could become quite boring.'

3. In your own words, explain the following phrase: '…what was considered old is now new again." (line 9) **½ mark x 2 = 1 mark**

   Accept any answer that brings out the following idea:

   Traditional/old/classic hobbies/ hobbies that were long forgotten (½ mark) are now popular again, are back in/are in again/are in trend/are trending / returned and became popular again (½ mark)

4. List **THREE** things that made people forget about the importance of hobbies.

   ½ mark x 3 = 1 ½ marks

   Choose any three of the following:

   i. work
   ii. school
   iii. overpacked (daily) schedules / day-to-day chores/ over packed schedules with day-to-day chores

5. The subheadings in the article are missing. Tick (✓) the subheadings that are most fitting for paragraphs A, B, C and D. One of the subheadings is extra.

   ½ mark x 4 = 2 marks

		A	**B**	**C**	**D**
a.	A needle and thread can come a long way		✓		
b.	Where's the flour?	✓			
c.	Fun inside a box				✓
d.	Video Game time!				
e.	Paper folding for a healthy mind			✓	

6. Tick (✓) whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

½ mark x 4 = 2 marks

		TRUE	FALSE
a.	Cooking can improve children's life skills.	✓	
b.	Sewing and knitting were the favourite pastime among the elderly only during lockdown.		✓
c.	There was a decrease in the sales of jigsaw puzzles during lockdown.		✓
d.	People became familiar with board and card games for the first time during the pandemic.		✓

7. Between lines 8 and 23, find individual words which mean the same as:

½ mark x 4 = 2 marks

a.	traditional	**classic**
b.	gloomy	**grim**
c.	popular	**trendy**
d.	pleasant smell	**aroma**

8. What do the following words refer to in the text?

½ mark x 4 = 2 marks

a.	us (line 12)	**the readers (who experienced lockdown)**
b.	it (line 20)	**making bread**
c.	those (line 30)	**the people who can knit / sew (accept both or either on its own)**
d.	that (line 44)	**the jigsaw puzzle (that was shelved)**

9. In your own words, list **TWO** things that we should consider when choosing a hobby, as advised by Jeanine Parisi. **1 mark x 2 = 2 marks**

i. A good hobby shouldn't be too easy as one may lose interest in doing it.

ii. A good hobby shouldn't be too difficult to do as one may give up easily.

10. In a paragraph of between **60-70** words, summarise how Origami can help one relax by referring to the text. You are reminded to use your own words as much as possible. **6 marks**

Summary 6 marks	**4 marks**		
Identification of salient points (including own words) **4 marks** **½ mark** for each point mentioned **½ mark** for using own words	All the **four** salient points are included: i. Origami is a great distractor and hence a good way to forget about your day-to-day issues. ii. It works different parts of the brain. iii. Origami is fun to create and pretty to look at. iv. Origami doesn't require a lot of extra equipment, so anyone can start doing it.		
Accuracy **1 mark**	**1 mark**	**½ mark**	**0**
	Grammatical structures and syntax are accurate.	Grammatical structures and syntax are mostly accurate.	Grammatical structures are limited and mostly inaccurate.
Organisation & Structure **1 mark**	**1 mark**	**½ mark**	**0**
	Writing is well organised and structured. Good use of linking words.	Writing is adequately organised and structured. Adequate use of linking words.	Writing is poorly organised and unstructured. Few or no linking words.

Deduct one mark if students write less than 55 words or more than 75.

Task A2: Source B: Questions on Source B

Underline the correct answer. **1 mark**

1. The graph represents information on:
   ii. <u>how teenagers kept themselves busy during the pandemic.</u>

2. Tick (✓) whether the following statements are **TRUE** or **FALSE**.
   ½ mark x 4 = 2 marks

		TRUE	**FALSE**
i.	This study is based on information collected over the span of a year.	✓	
ii.	The online survey was based on a wide range of physical activities people enjoy.		✓
iii.	The graph shows the specific number of people who took up a particular hobby.		✓
iv.	The results of the survey were uploaded in the same year that the study took place.		✓
v.	The Healthy Heart Association can be contacted from Monday to Saturday.	✓	

Question about Source A and Source B **½ mark x 4 = 2 marks**

1. Tick (✓) the source which:

		Source A	Source B	Both	Neither
a.	is found online.			✓	
b.	includes contact details.		✓		
c.	includes the main idea followed by supporting points.	✓			
d.	is about the benefits of online gaming.				✓

Section B: LITERATURE

You should spend around 30 minutes on this section.

Task B: Unseen Poetry **20 MARKS**

Read the poem labelled as Source C in the Source Booklet and then answer all the questions that follow.

1. Underline the correct answer in questions a and b. **1 mark x 2 = 2 marks**

   a. The theme of the poem is about:

      iii. <u>how the beauty of nature is everlasting.</u>

   b. The mood of the poem is:

      iv. <u>light and joyous.</u>

<u>Questions on lines 1 to 8</u>

2. Write down the rhyme scheme of the first FOUR lines. **1 mark**

   abba

3. Underline the correct word in brackets. **1 mark**

   The setting of the first eight lines of the poem is that of a (busy, **<u>blistering</u>**, breezy) summer scene.

4. Underline the best answer. **1 mark**

   '…a voice will run/From hedge to hedge' (lines 3 – 4).

   The effect of repetition in "From hedge to hedge" shows:

iii. **<u>the grasshopper's voice is heard across all the hedges.</u>**

5. a. What figure of speech is used to depict the Grasshopper? **1 mark**

Personification

b. Quote a phrase to support your answer. **1 mark**

Accept any of the following answers:

he takes the lead/ he has never done (with his delights)/ he rests (at ease)

6. Quote an example of run-on lines (from lines 1-8) which show how the Grasshopper thoroughly enjoys summer. **1 mark**

Accept any of the following answers:

- **And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run**
  From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead
- **That is the Grasshopper's—he takes the lead**
  In summer luxury,—he has never done
- **In summer luxury,—he has never done**
  With his delights; for when tired out with fun
- **With his delights; for when tired out with fun**
  He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.

7. Explain how the speaker describes the Grasshopper as being different to the birds in summer. **2 marks**

The Grasshopper is full of energy/constantly moving/ loud/busy while the birds are tired/weak/faint/drowsy/not moving/quiet.

No marks are to be awarded, if students just describe one subject (either the Grasshopper or the birds only) without <u>comparing</u> the two.

<u>Questions on lines 9 to 14</u>

8. Write down the rhyme scheme of the last SIX lines. **1 mark**
abcabc

9. Comment on the change in setting between lines 1-8 and lines 9-14.
1 mark x 2 = 2 marks

Lines 1-8 depict a hot summer scene in the countryside and the only sound heard is that of the Grasshopper. (1 mark)

In lines 9-14, the setting is that of a cold winter's evening and the only warmth is coming from the stove (in someone's house). The only sound is that of the Cricket. (1 mark)

10. What does the speaker suggest about the person who is "…in drowsiness half lost" (line 13)? **2 marks**

The speaker suggests that the person who is half asleep in front of the stove thinks that the cricket's song is really the Grasshopper's / he thinks he is listening to the Grasshopper's song rather than the Cricket's / the Cricket's song reminds him of the Grasshopper, hence it reminds him of summer.

<u>Questions on the whole poem</u>

11. Mention **TWO** things that the Grasshopper and the Cricket have in common according to the speaker. **1 mark x 2 = 2 marks**

Accept any two answers that bring out the following:

- **They both like the warmth**
- **They both like to sing / they are loud**
- **They represent a season**
- **Their song represents the poetry of earth**
- **They bring about a positive atmosphere**
- **They keep going regardless of harsh conditions**

Do NOT accept the following answer: They are both insects

12. a. "The poetry of earth" introduces the first 8 lines and the last 6 lines. Explain what you think the speaker means by this phrase. **1 mark**

Accept any answer that brings out the following:

It represents the sounds of nature/the countryside/ nature's music (represented by creature sounds) the Grasshopper's and the Cricket's sounds/ the various sounds found in nature/the voices of nature

b. Underline the correct answer. **1 mark**

The phrases 'The poetry of earth is never dead' (line 1) and 'The poetry of earth is ceasing never' (line 9) gives the reader a feeling of:

iii. <u>reassurance</u>

c. In your own words give **ONE** reason for your answer. **1 mark**

Accept any answer that brings out the following:

The beauty of nature never dies (even in the harshest of seasons)/ **the songs of nature will keep going (even in the worst of times)**

SECTION C – WRITING **25 MARKS**

Task C1 – Short Writing Task **5 marks**

Includes	**a catchy title**	½ mark
Mentions	**the aim behind the activity**	½ mark
Describes	**any activities (such as music, food, costumes, games)**	1 mark
Includes	**details of time and place**	1 mark
Uses	**informative and persuasive language**	1 mark
Is	**well-organised**	½ mark
Uses	**uses the future tense**	½ mark
		5 MARKS

After adding the marks:
Deduct up to 1 mark for any spelling and punctuation errors.
Deduct up to 1 mark for any grammatical inaccuracies.

Task C2 – Long Writing Task **20 marks**

Task achievement and Relevance	Organisation and Linking	Vocabulary	Grammar and Punctuation	Spelling	TOTAL
/3	/3	/5	/5	/4	/20

Criteria	Question	1. A local children's magazine is looking for **MYSTERY STORIES** for next month's publication. Write your own mystery story which must involve a **valuable object** and a **secret passage**.
Task achievement and Relevance	**Genre/Type**	Short story
	Writer	Year 8 student
	Audience	Readers of the children's magazine (mainly children)
	Purpose	To narrate a mystery story
	Register	Informal
	Indicative content	- The introduction - Opening paragraph **<u>can</u>** describe the setting, time and day. - 2/3 Body paragraphs: Narrative linked to a mystery that includes a **valuable object** and a **secret passage**. Content may include references to places, characters and feelings. - The conclusion which brings together all the elements of the story. It **<u>could</u>** contain a twist or an appropriate ending to the story.
Organisation and Linking	**Layout**	The writing **<u>could</u>** be organised as follows: - An introduction to set the scene - 2/3 body paragraphs to develop the story (how the story starts; the events ; the climax and resolution where the character/s solve the problem in a realistic way) - Conclusion – 2/3 sentences to end the story effectively.
Grammar and Vocabulary	**Language**	The use of suitable narrative language such as: - Narrative Tenses e.g. past continuous to introduce setting and characters, the past tense for events, etc. - A variety of adjectives and adverbs - Linking words to show sequence of events

		- Descriptive language – to appeal to the senses

Criteria	**Question**	2. Some people say that **sports** should not be given importance in schools. Write an **ARTICLE** for your school newsletter discussing this matter.
Task achievement and Relevance	**Genre/Type**	Article
	Writer	Year 8 student
	Audience	Students, teachers, parents
	Purpose	To discuss whether sports in schools is important or not.
	Register	Formal
	Indicative content	- An introduction **<u>could</u>** include the **reason for the article.** - The main body paragraphs should argue for and against the importance of sport. - Candidates **<u>can</u>** present the **positive and negative aspects** of having sports activities during school hours using linking words/phrases showing contrast (e.g. However, although, despite) - Content **<u>may</u>** include reasons and examples related to the topic. - The conclusion **<u>can</u>** sum up the topic and state the student's **opinion**.
Organisation and Linking	**Layout**	The writing **<u>could</u>** be organised as follows: - An introduction which clearly outlines the topic - 2/3 body paragraphs which **discuss the topic**. The main body paragraphs should start with a topic sentence and **<u>can</u>** include evidence and examples - A conclusion of around 2/3 sentences which may offer an opinion
Grammar and Vocabulary	**Language**	- Opinion words - Use of present tenses - Linking words and phrases

<table>
<tr><td>Criteria</td><td>Question</td><td>3. Your friend, Sam, gave you free tickets to attend a concert that you really wanted to go to. Write an EMAIL to Sam thanking your friend for the tickets and describing how much you enjoyed this experience.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="6">Task achievement and Relevance</td><td>Genre/Type</td><td>Informal email</td></tr>
<tr><td>Writer</td><td>Year 8 student</td></tr>
<tr><td>Audience</td><td>A friend</td></tr>
<tr><td>Purpose</td><td>To thank a friend for giving them concert tickets.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Register</td><td>Informal</td></tr>
<tr><td>Indicative content</td><td>- An introduction with Opening remarks establishing contact with the friend
- The body paragraphs can be set out as follows:
- Body 1 – giving reason for writing and describing when and where the concert took place / who the musicians or singer were
- Body 2 – describing the person’s feelings and actions throughout this experience
- Body 3 – describing any unforgettable/special moments throughout the concert
- Conclusion – Thanking the friend and giving closing remarks.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Organisation and Linking</td><td>Layout</td><td>The following email conventions need to be marked as follows:
<table><tr><td>Dear …</td><td>½ mark</td></tr><tr><td>Your friend,</td><td>½ mark</td></tr><tr><td>Name only</td><td>½ mark</td></tr></table>The layout may include:
- Salutation
- Opening Remarks
- At least 2/3 body paragraphs
- Closing Remarks
- Signing off</td></tr>
<tr><td>Grammar and Vocabulary</td><td>Language</td><td>- Factual language; descriptive language describing the concert, feelings etc
- Language used to express thanks
- Contractions are to be accepted
- Mostly present simple and past simple tense.</td></tr>
</table>

	Writing Marking Scheme Year 8 (20 marks)	Excellent – very good	Good - average	Below average - weak
		3	**2-1**	**0**
FLUENCY	**Task Achievement and Relevance (W 7.7 / W 7.5 / LAP 7.11) (3 marks)**	Task is fully achieved. Text type features are appropriate. Content is completely relevant.	Task is partly achieved. Text type features are mostly appropriate. Content is mostly relevant	Task is hardly achieved. Text type features are inappropriate. Content is not relevant.
	Organisation and Linking (W7.2 / LAP 7.9) (3 marks)	Paragraphs are well-organised and cohesive. Effective use of linking words.	Paragraphs are adequately organised and mostly cohesive. Adequate use of linking words.	Paragraphs are poorly organised and hardly cohesive. Poor or no use of linking words.
		5-4	**3-2**	**1-0**
	Vocabulary (W 7.1 / LAP 7.12 / LAP 7.7) (5 marks)	A wide range of vocabulary is used appropriately. Good use of register.	A moderate range of vocabulary is used mostly appropriately. Adequate use of register.	A limited range of vocabulary is used hardly appropriately. Poor use of register.
		5-4	**3-2**	**1-0**
ACCURACY	**Grammar and Punctuation (W 7.8 / LAP 7.3) (5 marks)**	Grammatical structures are widely varied and accurate. Accurate use of punctuation with the occasional minor error.	Grammatical structures are adequately varied and mostly accurate. Adequate use of punctuation.	Grammatical structures are limited and mostly inaccurate. Poor use of punctuation which hinders communication.
		4	**3 - 2**	**1-0**
	Spelling (W 7.8 / LAP 7.14) (4 marks)	Spelling is accurate. 0 mistakes = 4 marks	Spelling of low-frequency words fairly accurate. 1-3 mistakes = 3 marks 4-6 mistakes = 2 marks	Spelling of low-frequency and high-frequency words mostly inaccurate. 7-8 mistakes = 1 mark 9+ mistakes = 0 marks