
GCSE
COMBINED SCIENCE: TRILOGY
8464/P/2H

Physics Paper 2H

Mark scheme

June 2024

Version: 1.0 Final



Mark schemes are prepared by the Lead Assessment Writer and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all associates participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every associate understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each associate analyses a number of students' scripts. Alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, associates encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Lead Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

No student should be disadvantaged on the basis of their gender identity and/or how they refer to the gender identity of others in their exam responses.

A consistent use of 'they/them' as a singular and pronouns beyond 'she/her' or 'he/him' will be credited in exam responses in line with existing mark scheme criteria.

Further copies of this mark scheme are available from [aqa.org.uk](https://www.aqa.org.uk)

Copyright information

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered schools/colleges for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to schools/colleges to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Copyright © 2024 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

Information to Examiners

1. General

The mark scheme for each question shows:

- the marks available for each part of the question
- the total marks available for the question
- the typical answer or answers which are expected
- extra information to help the examiner make their judgement
- the Assessment Objectives and specification content that each question is intended to cover.

The extra information is aligned to the appropriate answer in the left-hand part of the mark scheme and should only be applied to that item in the mark scheme.

At the beginning of a part of a question a reminder may be given, for example: where consequential marking needs to be considered in a calculation; or the answer may be on the diagram or at a different place on the script.

In general the right-hand side of the mark scheme is there to provide those extra details which confuse the main part of the mark scheme yet may be helpful in ensuring that marking is straightforward and consistent (for example, a scientifically correct answer that could not reasonably be expected from a student's knowledge of the specification).

2. Emboldening and underlining

- 2.1** In a list of acceptable answers where more than one mark is available 'any **two** from' is used, with the number of marks emboldened. Each of the following bullet points is a potential mark.
- 2.2** A bold **and** is used to indicate that both parts of the answer are required to award the mark.
- 2.3** Alternative answers acceptable for a mark are indicated by the use of **or**.
Alternative words in the mark scheme are shown by a solidus eg allow smooth / free movement.
- 2.4** Any wording that is underlined is essential for the marking point to be awarded.

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which students have provided extra responses. The general principle to be followed in such a situation is that 'right + wrong = wrong'.

Each error / contradiction negates each correct response. So, if the number of errors / contradictions equals or exceeds the number of marks available for the question, no marks can be awarded.

However, responses considered to be neutral (indicated as * in example 1) are not penalised.

Example 1: What is the pH of an acidic solution?

[1 mark]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	green, 5	0
2	red*, 5	1
3	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name **two** magnetic materials.

[2 marks]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	iron, steel, tin	1
2	cobalt, nickel, nail*	2

3.2 Use of symbols / formulae

If a student writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, or uses symbols to denote quantities in a physics equation, full credit can be given if the symbol / formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.3 Marking procedure for calculations

Marks should be awarded for each stage of the calculation completed correctly, as students are instructed to show their working. At any point in a calculation students may omit steps from their working. If a subsequent step is given correctly, the relevant marks may be awarded.

Full marks should be awarded for a correct numerical answer, without any working shown. Full marks are **not** awarded for a correct final answer from incorrect working.

3.4 Interpretation of 'it'

Answers using the word 'it' should be given credit only if it is clear that the 'it' refers to the correct subject.

3.5 Errors carried forward

An error can be carried forward from one question part to the next and is shown by the abbreviation 'ecf'.

Within an individual question part, an incorrect value in one step of a calculation does not prevent all of the subsequent marks being awarded.

3.6 Phonetic spelling

Marks should be awarded if spelling is not correct but the intention is clear, **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.7 Brackets

(.....) are used to indicate information which is not essential for the mark to be awarded but is included to help the examiner identify the sense of the answer required.

3.8 Allow

In the mark scheme additional information, 'allow' is used to indicate creditworthy alternative answers.

3.9 Ignore

Ignore is used when the information given is irrelevant to the question or not enough to gain the marking point. Any further correct amplification could gain the marking point.

3.10 Do **not** accept

Do **not** accept means that this is a wrong answer which, even if the correct answer is given as well, will still mean that the mark is not awarded.

3.11 Numbered answer lines

Numbered lines on the question paper are intended to support the student to give the correct number of responses. The answer should still be marked as a whole.

4. Level of response marking instructions

Extended response questions are marked on level of response mark schemes.

- Level of response mark schemes are broken down into levels, each of which has a descriptor.
- The descriptor for the level shows the average performance for the level.
- There are two marks in each level.

Before you apply the mark scheme to a student's answer, read through the answer and, if necessary, annotate it (as instructed) to show the qualities that are being looked for. You can then apply the mark scheme.

Step 1: Determine a level

Start at the lowest level of the mark scheme and use it as a ladder to see whether the answer meets the descriptor for that level.

The descriptor for the level indicates the different qualities that might be seen in the student's answer for that level. If it meets the lowest level then go to the next one and decide if it meets this level, and so on, until you have a match between the level descriptor and the answer. With practice and familiarity you will find that for better answers you will be able to quickly skip through the lower levels of the mark scheme.

When assigning a level you should look at the overall quality of the answer. Do **not** look to penalise small and specific parts of the answer where the student has not performed quite as well as the rest. If the answer covers different aspects of different levels of the mark scheme you should use a best fit approach for defining the level.

Use the variability of the response to help decide the mark within the level, ie if the response is predominantly level 2 with a small amount of level 3 material it would be placed in level 2 but be awarded a mark near the top of the level because of the level 3 content.

Step 2: Determine a mark

Once you have assigned a level you need to decide on the mark. The descriptors on how to allocate marks can help with this. The exemplar materials used during standardisation will help. There will be an answer in the standardising materials which will correspond with each level of the mark scheme. This answer will have been awarded a mark by the Lead Examiner. You can compare the student's answer with the example to determine if it is the same standard, better or worse than the example. You can then use this to allocate a mark for the answer based on the Lead Examiner's mark on the example.

You may well need to read back through the answer as you apply the mark scheme to clarify points and assure yourself that the level and the mark are appropriate.

Indicative content in the mark scheme is provided as a guide for examiners. It is not intended to be exhaustive and you must credit other valid points. Students do not have to cover all of the points mentioned in the indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

You should ignore any irrelevant points made. However, full marks can be awarded only if there are no incorrect statements that contradict a correct response.

An answer which contains nothing of relevance to the question must be awarded no marks.

Question 1

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	Level 2: The method would lead to the production of a valid outcome. The key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	3–4	AO1 6.6.1.2 RPA20
	Level 1: The method would not lead to a valid outcome. Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not made clear.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content • use the signal generator to adjust the frequency • keep the number of masses the same • move the wooden bridge • observe a steady / stationary wave pattern • use the metre rule to measure the wavelength • repeat using different values of frequency • repeat for different stationary wave patterns		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	$v = f \times \lambda$		1	AO1 6.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	$35.1 = 45.0 \times \lambda$		1	AO2 6.6.1.2
	$\lambda = \frac{35.1}{45.0}$		1	
	$\lambda = 0.78$	allow 0.780	1	

Total Question 1	8
-------------------------	----------

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	(as a spring decompresses) the elastic potential energy of the spring decreases		1	AO1 6.5.3
	(as the gymnast leaves the floor) the kinetic energy of the gymnast increases or the gravitational potential energy of the gymnast increases		1	
	OR (as a spring decompresses) the spring exerts a force on the gymnast (1)			
	(so) work is done on the gymnast (1)			

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.2	$e = 0.012 \text{ m}$		1	AO2
	$E_e = 0.5 \times 8500 \times 0.012^2$	allow a correct substitution using an incorrectly / not converted value of e	1	AO2
	$E_e = 0.612$	allow 0.61 allow a correct calculation using an incorrectly / not converted value of e	1	AO2
	J or joule		1	AO1 6.5.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.3	measure the original length of the spring and the compressed length of the spring (using a metre rule)		1	AO3 6.5.3 RPA18
	compression = original length – compressed length OR calculate / measure the weight of the mass on the spring (1) use the equation $e = \frac{F}{k} \quad (1)$		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.4	masses could fall (off the spring)		1	AO1 6.5.3 RPA18
	(so) less likely to cause injury / damage (if done on the floor)	allow less hazardous allow lower risk (of injury) allow specific cause of injury eg landing on foot	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.5	$\Delta y = (330 - 80 =) 250 \text{ (N)}$		1	AO3 6.5.3 RPA18

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.6	$\Delta x = (0.052 - 0.010) = 0.042 \text{ (m)}$		1	AO3 6.5.3 RPA18

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.7	$k = \frac{250}{0.042}$ 5950 (N/m)	allow ecf from question 02.5 and question 02.6	1	AO3 6.5.3 RPA18
		allow $k = 5952.38$		
		allow their calculated gradient to 3 significant figures	1	

Total Question 2	14
-------------------------	-----------

Question 3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.1	speed (in a vacuum/air) or transfer energy	ignore they can travel through air allow they can be reflected / refracted	1	AO1 6.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.2	oscillations / vibrations are perpendicular to the direction of energy transfer	allow wave travel for energy transfer	1	AO1 6.6.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.3	microwaves	allow radio waves	1	AO1 6.6.2.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.4	violet	allow purple	1	AO1 6.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.5	any two from (ultraviolet and /or X-rays and / or gamma rays) can cause mutations in genes / DNA - ultraviolet can cause skin to age and / or skin cancer - X-rays and / or gamma rays increase the risk of cancers	allow can damage / kill cells ignore mutations in cells allow ultraviolet can cause sunburn or eye damage allow X-rays and / or gamma rays can cause cancers if no other mark awarded allow 1 mark for (the three highest frequency groups) can cause cancer	2	AO1 6.6.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.6	$4.0 \times 10^{-10} = \frac{1}{\text{frequency}}$ $\text{frequency} = \frac{1}{4.0 \times 10^{-10}}$ $2.5 \times 10^9 \text{ (Hz)}$	only award if answer is in standard form	1 1 1	AO2 6.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.7	radio waves are produced (by the transmitter)	allow microwaves are produced (by the transmitter)	1	AO1 6.7.2.1
	the detector absorbs the waves / energy		1	
	(which produces) an alternating current	allow causing electrons to oscillate	1	
	with the same frequency as the (transmitted) waves	allow with the same frequency as the oscillations in the transmitter	1	

Total Question 3	13
-------------------------	-----------

Question 4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	into the page		1	AO2 6.7.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.2	$0.092 = B \times 4.6 \times 0.080$		1	AO2 6.7.2.2
	$B = \frac{0.092}{4.6 \times 0.080}$	allow a correct rearrangement using an incorrectly / not converted value of l	1	
	$B = 0.25$	allow a correct calculation using an incorrectly / not converted value of l	1	
	tesla or T		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.3	Newton's third law		1	AO1 6.5.4.2.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.4	any two from: - move the electromagnet closer to the permanent magnet - add more turns to the coil / electromagnet - increase the current (in the coil / electromagnet)	allow increase the potential difference (across the coil / electromagnet)	2	AO1 6.7.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.5	any two from - reverse the current in the coil / electromagnet - turn the electromagnet around (to reverse the poles) - wrap the coil (around the iron core) in the opposite direction		2	AO1 AO3 6.7.2.1
Total Question 4			10	

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	$5.8 = \frac{\Delta v}{2.5}$	allow use of an incorrectly calculated Δv if the correct equation has been used	1	AO2 6.5.4.1.5
	$\Delta v = 5.8 \times 2.5$		1	
	$\Delta v = 14.5$		1	
	$v = (20 - 14.5) = 5.5 \text{ (m/s)}$		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	multiply the speed of the car by the reaction time		1	AO3 6.5.4.3.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3	braking distance $\propto$ speed ²		1	AO3 6.5.4.3.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	$6250 = m \times 5.0$		1	AO2 6.5.4.2.2 6.5.5.1
	$m = \frac{6250}{5.0}$		1	
	$m = 1250 \text{ (kg)}$		1	
	$v = 12 \text{ (m/s)}$		1	
	$p = 1250 \times 12$	allow a substitution using a value of v in the range 11.8 to 12.2	1	
	$p = 15\,000 \text{ (kgm/s)}$	allow a correct substitution using their incorrectly calculated value for m using the correct equation allow a calculation using a value of v in the range 11.8 to 12.2 allow a correct calculation using their incorrectly calculated value for m using the correct equation	1	
Total Question 5			12	

Question 6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	$s = 40\,000$		1	AO2 6.5.4.1.5
	$v^2 - 0^2 = 2 \times 6.48 \times 40\,000$	allow $v^2 = 518\,400$	1	
	$v = \sqrt{(2 \times 6.48 \times 40\,000)}$	allow a correct substitution using an incorrectly / not converted value of height	1	
	$v = 720 \text{ (m/s)}$	allow a correct rearrangement using an incorrectly / not converted value of height	1	
		allow a correct calculation using an incorrectly / not converted value of height	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2	weight depends on mass and gravitational field strength	allow weight = mass $\times$ gravitational field strength allow $W = mg$	1	AO1
	mass decreases (as fuel is burned) or gravitational field strength decreases		1	AO3
	therefore the weight decreases	dependent on MP2	1	AO3
		if no other marks are awarded allow 1 mark for the weight decreases because the fuel is used		6.5.1.3

	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.3	gravitational force acts on the rocket (in the opposite direction to the motion of the rocket)	allow air resistance acts on the rocket (in the opposite direction to the motion of the rocket)	1	AO1
	(and) there are no forces in the direction that the rocket is moving		1	AO2
	(so) resultant force is towards the Earth	allow so the rocket decelerates if MP1 or MP2 awarded	1	AO2 6.5.5.1 6.5.4.2.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.4	parachutes increase the effective area		1	AO3
	(so) there is the same air resistance at a lower speed		1	AO1
	(so) resultant force is zero at a lower speed (with the parachutes open)	allow air resistance is equal to weight at a lower speed (with the parachutes open)	1	AO1 6.5.1.2 6.5.4.1.5

Total Question 6	13
-------------------------	-----------