



# Mark Scheme for Writing Tests Year 7

Please use this mark scheme as a general guide for both the imaginative writing test and non-fiction writing test. It mirrors the type of skills marked at GCSE level. However, it requires some judgement on the part of the marker to apply these criteria appropriately to younger age groups. The marker must look for the 'best fit' as it is very rare for any pupil to fit neatly into one band.

This mark scheme works for both question one and question two of the writing tests.

There is no suggested time limit on the exam papers – that is up to the teacher and depends on the ability level of the class tested. A reasonable time limit for one question would be 30 minutes.

<b>Content, Structure and Ideas</b>	
Band 4 12-15 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fully engages reader.</li><li>• Effectively structured writing.</li><li>• Introduces sophisticated ideas.</li><li>• Ideas develop throughout the writing.</li></ul>
Band 3 9-11 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mostly engages the reader.</li><li>• Clearly structured writing.</li><li>• Introduces original ideas.</li><li>• Some ideas become more developed throughout the writing.</li></ul>
Band 2 5-9 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attempts to engage the reader although this may not be sustained.</li><li>• Attempt at structure.</li><li>• Introduces some ideas.</li><li>• Limited detail or development of ideas throughout the writing.</li></ul>
Band 1 1-4 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low reader engagement.</li><li>• Limited evidence of structure.</li><li>• Few ideas.</li><li>• Brief and lacking in detail.</li></ul>

<b>Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar</b>	
Band 3 7-10 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spelling accurate, including complex words.</li><li>• Punctuation accurate and subtly adds to the meaning and effectiveness of the text.</li><li>• Accurate, sophisticated and effective word choices.</li></ul>
Band 2 4-6 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spelling mostly accurate, including all common words and some complex words.</li><li>• Punctuation mostly correct and aids understanding.</li><li>• Word choices adventurous if not always accurate.</li></ul>
Band 1 1-3 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attempt at spelling common words, not always successful.</li><li>• Limited or inaccurate punctuation.</li><li>• Limited evidence of words chosen for effect.</li></ul>
No marks awarded 0 marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pupil presented nothing, or writing of such brevity no marks could be awarded.</li></ul>