

WJEC
GCSE Modern Foreign Languages
FAQs

Unit 4 (writing)

Do candidates need to cover all three bullet points?

There is no requirement to cover all three bullet points – they are merely a guide. The Question Paper states *Tu peux utiliser les points comme une aide* and the SAMs (page 254 for French) state: *Candidates may use the three bullet points provided but are not limited to them.*

There is no requirement to use all 3 time frames. Tenses used should be ‘as appropriate to the task’.

Agreed. In the round robin for Writing, we agreed: *WJEC and Eduqas – there is no requirement to use all three time frames/tenses and we interpret as ‘as appropriate to the task’. Where candidates do use additional time frames/tenses, we will reward this under LKA. WJEC only – We cannot change the rubric of the question.*

There is no requirement to use all three time frames/tenses, but we would expect at least two. As the question doesn’t prescribe this, we will reward candidates for use of additional time frames/tenses under the first bullet point of LKA ‘very good variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures’.

Candidates’ written work must be relevant to the title of the task.

Agreed. The SAMs (page 254 for French) state: *Candidates may use the three bullet points provided but are not limited to them. The content must however be relevant to the main theme of the task.*

Candidates must show adventure in the use of language and vocabulary and there must be a very good level of accuracy for 9 – 10 in LKA. [Look at the descriptors:](#)

- A very good variety of vocabulary and grammatical, structures, including complex structures.
- A very good level of accuracy. References to past, present and future events are successful.
- Style and register are appropriate.

Not sure about the use of the term 'adventure'. In the SAMs (page 254 for French), we state:

(a) A very good variety of vocabulary will include common and less common, and familiar and less familiar words. Complex grammatical structures will include varied and complex word order, extended sentences with a range of structures such as conjunctions, pronouns and adverbs (see Grammar list in Appendix B of the specification with grammar items that are specific to Higher Tier).

(b) When assessing style and register, the following will be taken into account:

- the appropriateness of the piece for the intended audience (e.g. a friend, peers, tourists, teachers) and
- the appropriate register (formal or informal), including verbs and possessive adjectives, is used consistently throughout, as appropriate to the level.

Facts, opinions and ideas must be clearly expressed for band 5 in C + C.

Agreed. Look at the descriptor:

Facts, ideas and opinions (as appropriate to the task) are clearly expressed and justified.

Due to the $\frac{3}{4}$ mark window in each band in C + C judgement is needed to decide how clearly message is conveyed and how relevant the writing is to the title of the task.

Agreed, though see SAMs (page 248 for French) and the section on Banded mark schemes:

Stage 2 – Deciding on the mark

Once the band has been decided, examiners can then assign a mark. During standardising (marking conference), detailed advice from the Principal Examiner on the qualities of each mark band will be given. Examiners will then receive examples of answers that have been awarded a mark by the Principal Examiner. Examiners should mark the examples and compare their marks with those of the Principal Examiner. When marking, examiners can use these examples to decide whether a candidate's response is of a superior, inferior or comparable standard to the example. Examiners are reminded of the need to revisit the answer as they apply the mark scheme in order to confirm that the band and the mark allocated is appropriate to the response provided.