CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

SANSKRIT **0499/13**

Paper 1 Language **May/June 2026**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 90

Published

This mark scheme contains the instructions and marking guidance that our examiners used to mark candidate responses for this component.

Before they start marking, examiners complete a standardisation process. They review a range of candidate responses and discuss the mark scheme in detail to agree which answers can and cannot be accepted. Examiners award marks where it is clear that candidate responses have met the requirements of the mark scheme. These requirements may vary between different components or different versions of the same component, depending on the exact requirements of the question and the candidate responses seen during the standardisation process.

Sometimes, our mark schemes may allow marks to be awarded to responses which contain elements that are factually incorrect or for content not covered by the syllabus. We do this in response to the demands of a specific question to support candidates and make sure that our assessments are fair. However, these allowances should not be used as a guide for teaching and learning.

We cannot discuss the mark scheme with schools, and we recommend that schools read the mark scheme together with the assessment material and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

This document consists of **6** printed pages.

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[Turn over

General marking principles

All examiners must apply these marking principles when marking candidate responses.

1	Examiners must award marks for each response in line with: • the specific **content** defined in the mark scheme • the specific **skills** defined in the mark scheme or in the level descriptions • the **standard of response** required as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.
2	Examiners must award **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).
3	Examiners must award marks **positively**. This means that: • marks are not deducted for errors or omissions • marks are awarded for correct/valid answers as defined in the mark scheme and also for **other valid answers** which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme referring to your team leader as appropriate • the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar are judged **only** when the mark scheme indicates that these features are **specifically assessed** in the question. However, the meaning of all responses must be unambiguous.
4	Examiners must **consistently** apply the requirements of the mark scheme and any rules for what to do when candidates have not followed instructions correctly.
5	Examiners must use the **full range of marks** defined in the mark scheme, unless limited by the quality of the candidate responses seen.
6	Examiners must award marks according to the mark scheme and **must not** award marks with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

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Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
✓	Correct point
SEEN	Page or response seen by examiner
BOD	Benefit of doubt given
—	Incorrect translation or point
^	Omission

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Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
General Note: In all cases reasonable alternative answers which are not specifically mentioned in the marking scheme will be accepted, and either some of the marks or all of the marks for that question will be awarded. Candidates may use upper or lower case initial letters for transliterating Sanskrit proper nouns. By 'construal' is meant understanding the overall meaning of the words as a sentence and conveying this in the English translation.			
1	**Comprehension of a Sanskrit passage not in sandhi.**		**Answers to be given in English except for 1(f).**
1(a)	a sage[1]	**1**	
1(b)	'The thieves, [1] having stolen [1] the king's [1] (riches) entered [1] the hermitage [1].' *[1 mark construal]*	**6**	
1(c)	They left [1] (the king's) riches [1] near [1] Māṇḍavya [1].	**4**	
1(d)	Māṇḍavya was in deep [1] meditation [1] and said [1] nothing [1].	**4**	
1(e)	'The king [1] having heard [1] everything [1], came to Māṇḍavya [1].' *[1 mark construal]*	**5**	
1(f)	यममपृच्छत्कुतोऽहं शूलेन व्रणित इति । यमः प्रत्यवदद्यदा त्वं युवा तदा खगास्त्वया हिंसिता इति *[1 mark for each sandhi as shown with underlinings, totalling 9 marks. 1 mark awarded for avoidance of unnecessary application of sandhi and correct application of the conventions of when to break the top line, the mark not being awarded if any errors are made in these respects.]*	**10**	

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<table>
<tr><th>Question</th><th>Answer</th><th>Marks</th><th>Guidance</th></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Translation of Sanskrit into English.</td><td></td><td>Answers to be given in English.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">2(a)</td><td>(i) country [1]
(ii) lived [1]
(iii) always [1]
(iv) made [1]
(v) princes [1]
(vi) best [1]
(vii) much [1]
(viii) other [1]
(ix) were [1]
(x) their [1]</td><td>10</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Awarding marks for 2(b) and 2(c).
Marks for each section should be awarded as follows, with due regard for accuracy and meaning:
<table>
<tr><td>5</td><td>Accurate translation with one slight error allowed</td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>Mostly correct</td></tr>
<tr><td>3</td><td>More than half right</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>Less than half right</td></tr>
<tr><td>1</td><td>Little recognisable relation to the Sanskrit</td></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>No creditworthy material</td></tr>
</table></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2(b)(i)</td><td>Somilaka said to his wife ‘I am leaving this city. Elsewhere I shall make coarse clothes. His wife, however, said ‘Stay here!’</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2(b)(ii)</td><td>Somilaka went to another city. There, having obtained much wealth, he returned to his own home. On the way, he entered a forest.</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2(c)(i)</td><td>In the forest at night, he climbed a tree and slept there. His wealth was stolen.</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2(c)(ii)</td><td>When awoken the weaver thought, ‘Without wealth how shall I return to my wife and friends?’</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

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Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
3	**Translation of English sentences into Sanskrit.** ***[1 mark for each Sanskrit word. 1 mark will be given for correct word order in each sentence. Total 15 marks.]***		**Answers in Sanskrit using *devanāgarī* script.**
3(a)	विशालाः राक्षसाः वनात् धावन्ति ।	**5**	
3(b)	कुक्कुरः वीरस्य अन्नम् खादिष्यति ।	**5**	
3(c)	साधुः नरः राजगृहम् अगच्छत् ।	**5**	

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
4	**Comprehension of a Sanskrit passage in sandhi.**		**Answers to be given in English.**
4(a)	They were destroyed [1].	**1**	
4(b)	The mice [1] were killed [1] by the elephants [1].	**3**	
4(c)	They were requested to go to the lake [1] by another [1] way [1].	**3**	
4(d)	The king of the elephants was bound by the people [1] of the city [1].	**2**	
4(e)	All [1] the mice [1] came/went [1] there [1] and ate the rope [1]. [1 mark construal]	**6**	

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