CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge O Level

ARABIC **3180/02**

Paper 2 Translation & Reading Comprehension **May/June 2026**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 55

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.

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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
✗	Incorrect
^	Omission
BOD	If the examiner considers the answer to be more correct than incorrect, then 'benefit of the doubt' is given.
?	Meaning unclear or illegible
SEEN	If the examiner considers the answer to be more correct than incorrect, then 'benefit of the doubt' is given.
Highlighter	Highlight
On-page comment	To show working at the end of Question 1 and Question 2 (e.g. 29/3 = 9.6 = 10)
Off Page Comment	Used to make a holistic comment about the script

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Detailed Mark Scheme

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
1	**Question 1: Translation from Arabic into English** 1 Total mark :10 2 Mark the translation, using the table below. Award 1 **mark** to each portion of correct translation. 3 Once you have marked the translation, add up the number of marks awarded. The number produced will be out of 20. 4 Divide this number of marks by 3 to gain a final mark for Question 1 out of a total of 10. 5 After you have completed step 4, you may be left with a part-mark, e.g. 8½. If this happens, round **up** to the next mark, i.e. 9 in this case.	**10**	

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	Arabic	English	Accept	Reject	Mark
1	تتكوّن الجبال	Mountains are formed,	form/are made/are made up		1
2	عبر ملايين السنين	over millions of years	through/in the span of		1
3	نتيجة لأسباب طبيعية كثيرة،	as a result of many natural causes	because of/due to several/ a lot of reasons/conditions/factors	environmental	1
4	مثل الأمطار والرياح	such as rain, wind,	like/rainfall		1
5	والعواصف القوية.	and strong storms.	tornadoes/hurricanes	winds/ thunderstorms	1
6	وتتميّز صحراء ليبيا	The Libyan desert is characterised by	is known by/for/unique as it has	contains/ is special	1
7	بعدد كبير من الجبال المتنوعة؛	a big number of various mountains;	huge/different/varied	large amount rare	1
8	ففي جنوب ليبيا	In south Libya,	southern		1
9	يوجد جبل بركاني	there is a volcanic mountain		volcano	1
10	عليه مجموعة من البحيرات	on it a group of lakes	ponds	river/sea/ beach/swap	1

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	Arabic	English	Accept	Reject	Mark
11	متعددة الألوان	in/with many colours	Colourful/ Multi-coloured		1
12	تحيط بها نباتات وأزهار جميلة	surrounded by plants, beautiful flowers,		It (to refer to the lakes)	1
13	وأشجار كالنخيل.	and trees like palms.	trees like date trees	date-like trees/palm-like trees	1
14	ويُعدّ "الجبل الأسود" في وسط ليبيا	The Black Mountain in central Libya is considered	the middle of Libya	In the centre	1
15	منطقة طبيعية جذابة،	an attractive natural area	breath-taking place/spot		1
16	لأنه يتمتع	because it enjoys	features/has characterised by	he/contains	1
17	بألوان غامقة	dark colours		black/heavy	1
18	ورمال خشنة.	and coarse sand.	rough/hard		1
19	وزادت أهمية هذا الجبل	The importance of this mountain increased			1
20	منذ اكتشاف	since the discovery of the		they found	1

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	Arabic	English	Accept	Reject	Mark
21	اللوحات التاريخية	historical paintings	ancient pictures/boards/panels/ canvases		1
22	التي تصور مشاهد من الحياة اليومية.	which depict scenes from daily life.	picture/show views	photograph	1
23	إضافة إلى ذلك، فإن المنطقة توفر	Additionally, the area provides	the region offers		1
24	مكانًا آمنًا لكثير من	a safe place for many	spot/location		1
25	الطيور والحيوانات النادرة.	birds and rare animals.	endangered		1
26	كذلك تُعتبر موقعًا	It is also considered a place	location/site/spot	space	1
27	لجذب السياح،	attracting tourists,	alluring/pulls	tourism/ an attractive tourist location	1
28	إذ يرى الزائرون أنها مثل	as visitors see it as	like	guests describe	1
29	قطعة من القمر	a piece of the moon	part		1
30	سقطت على الأرض.	that fell to/on Earth.	ground		1

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
2	**Question 2 – Translation from English into Target Language** 1 Total mark: 20 2 Mark the translation, using the table below. Award 1 **mark** to each portion of correct translation. 3 Once you have marked the translation, add up the number of marks awarded. The number produced will be out of 40. 4 Divide this number of marks by 2 to gain a final mark for Question 2 out of a total of 20. 5 After you have completed step 4, you may be left with a part-mark, e.g. 8½. If this happens, round **up** to the next mark, i.e. 9 in this case	**20**	

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	English	Arabic	Accept	Reject	Mark
1	Sarah was in the gift shop	كانت سارة في محل (بيع) الهدايا	متجر/دكان	سوق	1
2	at the zoo.	في حديقة الحيوانات.	الحيوان		1
3	She spent all day	أمضت اليوم كله	قضت	صرفت	1
4	playing, eating,	تلعب وتتناول الطعام	في اللعب – الأكل/تلعب وتأكل		1
5	and enjoying her time	وتستمتع بوقتها			1
6	with friends.	مع الأصدقاء		أصدقائها	1
7	Now, it was time to go home	والآن، حان وقت العودة إلى المنزل	الرجوع/الذهاب		1
8	and she had some money left.	وتبقّى معها بعض المال.	وكان لديها القليل من /النقود	النقد	1
9	She thought	اعتقدت	ظنت/فكرت/حسبت	صدقت	1
10	she could buy	أنها تستطيع شراء	أنه بإمكانها/أن تشتري		1
11	a few nice things	بعض الأشياء الجميلة	القليل من/اللطيفة		1

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	English	Arabic	Accept	Reject	Mark
12	for her little sister.	لأختها الصغيرة.			1
13	Sarah looked at the shelves	نظرت سارة إلى الرفوف،	على	الرف	1
14	she found	ووجدت	ولقد/لقد		1
15	so many gifts;	هدايا كثيرة:	الكثير من الهدايا		1
16	hats with various colours,	قبعات متنوعة الألوان،	طواقي/مختلفة		1
17	recycled bags,	حقائب مُعاد تدويرها،	أكياس	مستعملة/مدورة	1
18	and books about	وكتبًا عن			1
19	her favourite movies.	أفلامها المفضلة.			1
20	She only had ten pounds	كان معها عشر جنيهات فقط	ليرات/دراهم	بوندات	1
21	in her purse,	في محفظتها،	حقيبتها		1
22	she believed it was enough,	ظنت أنها كافية،	اعتقدت/فكرت	آمنت/صدقت	1

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	English	Arabic	Accept	Reject	Mark
23	but most things in the store	ولكن معظم الأشياء في المحل	المتجر		1
24	were expensive.	كانت غالية.	باهظة الثمن/ثمينة/سعرها غاليًا/عاليًا		1
25	What could she buy	ماذا يمكنها أن تشتري	ماذا يمكن/بإمكانها		1
26	for her sister?	لأختها؟			1
27	She did not need a long time	لم تحتج إلى وقت طويل			1
28	to find two presents	لتجد هديتين		لتجد هديتان	1
29	at a good price;	بسعر جيد؛			1
30	a grey elephant,	فيلًا رماديًّا	رصاصيًّا	أسودًا/غامقًا	1
31	with a small mouth,	بفم صغير،			1
32	which is her sister's	وهو (الحيوان المفضل) لأختها،			1
33	preferred animal,	وهو حيوان (أختها) المفضل،			1

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses

Unit	English	Arabic	Accept	Reject	Mark
34	and an extremely long pen.	وقلمًا طويلًا للغاية.	جدًا	بشدة	1
35	She was really pleased with	كانت سعيدة حقًا	راضية/فرحة جدًا	ممتنة	1
36	her choices.	باختياراتها.	باختيارها		1
37	Other children	(كان) الأطفال الآخرون		الأخرى	1
38	were standing nearby,	(كانوا) يقفون في مكان قريب،	في مكان مجاور/قريبًا		1
39	carrying	يحملون	حاملين		1
40	different toys.	ألعابًا مختلفة.			1

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
3	لأنهم يتنقلون وراء أماكن رعي الحيوانات. تقبل: لرعي الحيوانات لأن التنقل مذكور في السؤال.	1	

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
4	يركبون الجمال يأكلون لحوم الماشية ويلبسون من أصوافها	3	الجمال

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
5	أصبحت (الخيام) بيوتًا طينية/منازل حديثة	1	دخلت مظاهر الحياة المدنية إلى حياتها

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
6	للحفاظ على الهوية البدوية ولحماية تراثها.	2	لحماية تراث الوادي

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
7	عقد مهرجانات فنية أو استضافة مؤتمرات ثقافية	2	

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
8	كبار الكتّاب الشباب الموهوب (في كتابة الشعر)	2	

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
9	لأن مستخدمي اللهجة البدوية يتكلمون بسرعة شديدة ولأنهم لا يستخدمون بعض الحروف	2	

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
10	(يساعدون في) حل المشكلات العائلية وتسوية الخلافات بين الأشخاص.	2	حل مشكلات الميراث وحوادث السرقة

Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
11	أقمشته غالية الثمن ويتسم بالنقوش/الزخارف اليدوية	2	
Question	**Answer**	**Marks**	**Not Allowed Responses**
12	العمامة أثواب/عباءات تقليدية	2	وشاح/عباءات عصرية/عباءات

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Question	Answer	Marks	Not Allowed Responses
13	Award either **one or two marks for each item** of vocabulary, up to a total of 6. **ONE mark ONLY** I. نال II. مكان III. جميل IV يتجمعوا V. تعديل I. اكتسبت: نالت/حازت/أحرزت II. المعالم: الملامح/الأماكن/المواقع. III. بديعة: رائعة/جميلة/حسنة/مدهشة. IV. يلتقي: يتجمع/يتقابل/يجتمع. V. تعديلات: تغييرات/تغيرات/تبديلات/إصلاحات	**6**	I. جعلت/أخذت II. III. مميزة IV. V.

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