

Cambridge International Project Qualification

CAMBRIDGE IPQ**9494/01**

Component 1 Project

For examination from 2028

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 80

Specimen

This document has **10** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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.

Table A: AO1 – Project proposal (12 marks)

AO1a Choice of topic and research question (R) OR project aim (A)	AO1b Objectives	AO1c Choice of research method(s) (R) OR skills and/or techniques (A)	AO1d Initial research
Clear and detailed explanation of choice of: - topic and/or research question (R) OR - topic and/or project aim (A). 3 marks	A range of relevant project objectives are identified, covering the key stages of the project. Some of these are clearly justified. 3 marks	Convincing justification of chosen: - research method(s) (R) OR - skills and/or techniques (A) clearly linked to: - research question/topic (R) OR - project aim/topic (A). 3 marks	Good summary of learning from some appropriate initial research and a range of specific and relevant secondary sources are identified. 3 marks
Clear explanation of choice of: - topic and/or research question (R) OR - topic and/or project aim (A). 2 marks	A range of relevant project objectives are identified with some justification. 2 marks	Some justification of chosen: - research method(s) (R) OR - skills and/or techniques (A) linked to: - research question/topic (R) OR - project aim/topic (A). 2 marks	Basic summary of learning from some appropriate initial research and some specific and relevant secondary sources are identified. 2 marks
An attempt is made at explaining the choice of: - topic and/or research question (R) OR - topic and/or project aim (A). 1 mark	Some relevant project objectives are identified. 1 mark	An attempt is made at justifying the chosen: - research method(s) (R) OR - skills and/or techniques (A). 1 mark	Some initial research has been undertaken and some sources of information are identified. 1 mark
No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks

Table B: AO2 – Project planning and organisation (20 marks)

AO2a Outline plan	AO2b Plan decisions	AO2c Planning method	AO2d Mid-project review	AO2e Impact of plan
Clear and detailed outline plan with timings, key stages, objectives, and activities included. 4 marks	Detailed explanation of decisions made in the plan. 4 marks	Detailed justification for the planning method chosen. 4 marks	Detailed reflection on the progress of the project against the plan. 4 marks	The outline plan has clearly guided and supported the progress of the project throughout. 4 marks
Good outline plan with timings, objectives, and some detail on key stages and activities. 3 marks	Good explanation of some decisions made in the plan. 3 marks	Good justification for the planning method chosen. 3 marks	Good reflection on the progress of the project against the plan. 3 marks	The outline plan has guided and supported the progress of the project. 3 marks
Reasonable outline plan covering some objectives/activities, with an attempt to plan timings. 2 marks	Good explanation of one decision made in the plan. 2 marks	Some justification for the planning method chosen. 2 marks	Some reflection on the progress of the project against the plan. 2 marks	Some evidence that the outline plan has been used to guide the project. 2 marks
Brief outline plan of some activities. 1 mark	Brief attempt to explain decisions made in the plan. 1 mark	Brief attempt to justify the planning method chosen. 1 mark	Brief attempts to reflect on the project at the mid-project review. 1 mark	Little evidence that the outline plan has influenced the project. 1 mark
No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks

Table C: AO3 – Research, analysis and evaluation (24 marks)

AO3a Connection between question (R) OR project aim (A) and research	AO3b Range of relevant secondary sources	AO3c Evaluation of the quality of the sources used	AO3d Analysis of secondary sources and: any primary research in developing arguments in the report (R) OR other relevant evidence linked to developing the artefact (A)	AO3e Drawing of conclusions (R) OR decisions made (A) based on the evidence and analysis in the report	AO3f Extent to which an overall answer to the research question is reached (R) OR project aim (A) is met	
					Research report	Artefact
The question (R) OR project aim (A) has clearly guided the research conducted and content of the report. 4 marks	Engages with a wide range of relevant secondary sources. 4 marks	Makes three or more explicit and developed points evaluating the sources used. 4 marks	Excellent analysis of evidence and/or sources used. 4 marks	Conclusions drawn (R) OR decisions made (A) are clearly supported by the evidence presented. 4 marks	There is a clear answer in response to the research question which is reflective of the evidence presented in the report. 4 marks	There is evidence that the artefact has been fully realised and largely meets the project aim. 4 marks
The question (R) OR project aim (A) has largely guided the research conducted and content of the report. 3 marks	Engages with a range of relevant secondary sources. 3 marks	Makes two explicit and developed points evaluating the sources used. 3 marks	Good analysis of evidence and/or sources used. 3 marks	Conclusions drawn (R) OR decisions made (A) are supported by the evidence presented. 3 marks	There is an answer in response to the research question relevant to the evidence presented in the report. 3 marks	There is evidence that the artefact has been realised and is focused on the project aim. 3 marks

[illegible]

Table D: AO4 – Communication (8 marks)

AO4a Structure and clarity of the report	AO4b Citation and referencing
The report is well-structured and very clear to follow. 4 marks	Citation and referencing of sources are complete, consistent and in an appropriate format. 4 marks
The report is well-structured and clear to follow. 3 marks	Citation and referencing of sources are mostly complete, consistent and in an appropriate format. 3 marks
The report is mostly well-structured and fairly clear to follow. 2 marks	Citation and referencing of sources are partly complete and consistent. 2 marks
The report is not well-structured, making it difficult to follow. 1 mark	Citation and referencing of sources is attempted but incomplete. 1 mark
No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks

Table E: AO5 – Summative reflection (16 marks)

AO5a Reflection on personal development	AO5b Reflection on project topic	AO5c Reflection on strengths and limitations of the project	AO5d Reflection on the extent to which the research question has been answered (R) OR project aim has been met (A)
Detailed and insightful reflection on personal development linked to clear examples of things experienced while completing the project. 4 marks	Detailed and insightful reflection on how and why personal views on the topic have changed/developed, linked to clear examples of learning from the project. 4 marks	Detailed and insightful reflection on the strengths and limitations of the project, linked to clear examples from the project. 4 marks	Detailed and thoughtful reflection on the extent to which - the research question has been answered (R) OR - project aim has been met (A), linked to strong evidence or justification. 4 marks
Detailed reflection on personal development linked to some examples of things experienced while completing the project. 3 marks	Detailed reflection on how and why personal views on the topic have changed/developed, linked to some examples of learning from the project. 3 marks	Detailed reflection on the strengths and/or limitations of the project, linked to some examples from the project. 3 marks	Detailed reflection on the extent to which - the research question has been answered (R) OR - project aim has been met (A), linked to some evidence or justification. 3 marks
A detailed reflection on personal development linked to something experienced while completing the project. 2 marks	A detailed reflection on how and why personal views on the topic have changed/developed, linked to an example of learning from the project. 2 marks	A detailed reflection on a strength or limitation of the project, linked to an example from the project. 2 marks	Some reflection on the extent to which - the research question has been answered (R) OR - project aim has been met (A), with an attempted link to evidence or justification. 2 marks

AO5a Reflection on personal development	AO5b Reflection on project topic	AO5c Reflection on strengths and limitations of the project	AO5d Reflection on the extent to which the research question has been answered (R) OR project aim has been met (A)
Some reflection on personal development. 1 mark	Some reflection on how personal views on the project topic have changed/developed or some examples of learning from the project. 1 mark	Some reflection on strengths and limitations of the project. 1 mark	Some reflection on the extent to which - the research question has been answered (R) OR - the project aim has been met (A). 1 mark
No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks	No creditable response. 0 marks

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