

Markscheme Barème de notation Esquema de calificación

May / Mai / Mayo de 2026

English / Anglais / Inglés B

**Higher level – Paper 2 – Listening comprehension
Niveau supérieur – Épreuve 2 – Compréhension orale
Nivel Superior – Prueba 2 – Comprensión auditiva**

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1. For questions where candidates must write their answers, do not award the mark if the answer is incomplete, or if there is additional information that is irrelevant or shifts the focus of the answer. However, accept other words with the same meaning as the correct answers in the markscheme.
2. Accept spelling and grammatical mistakes provided they do not change the meaning of the answer.
3. For questions where candidates choose an answer from options, if two answers are given – one in the box and one outside – only mark the answer inside the box.
4. Words inside brackets in this markscheme are optional: candidates may include these words in their answer, but they are not essential for the mark to be awarded. If there is more than one possible answer to a question, these answers are indicated by a slash (/).
5. This markscheme must be read in conjunction with the Marking Instructions for the relevant component on IBIS.

1. En ce qui concerne les questions pour lesquelles les candidats doivent rédiger leurs réponses, n'attribuez pas le point si la réponse est incomplète, ou s'il y a des informations supplémentaires qui ne sont pas pertinentes ou qui modifient l'objet de la réponse attendue. Néanmoins, l'utilisation de mots ayant le même sens que les bonnes réponses est acceptée dans le barème de notation.
2. Les erreurs d'orthographe et de grammaire sont acceptées si elles ne changent pas le sens de la réponse.
3. En ce qui concerne les questions pour lesquelles les candidats doivent choisir une réponse parmi plusieurs propositions, s'ils ont donné deux réponses différentes, l'une à l'intérieur de la case et l'autre en-dehors, ne prenez en compte que la réponse qui se situe dans la case.
4. Les mots entre parenthèses dans ce barème de notation sont facultatifs : les candidats peuvent les inclure dans leur réponse, mais ils ne sont pas essentiels pour justifier l'attribution du point. S'il y a plus d'une réponse possible à une question, celles-ci sont indiquées par une barre oblique (/).
5. Ce barème de notation est à lire parallèlement aux instructions de notation disponibles sur IBIS pour la composante concernée.

1. En las preguntas en las que los alumnos deban responder por escrito, no otorgue la puntuación si la respuesta está incompleta, o si aportan detalles adicionales que cambian el enfoque o no son pertinentes. No obstante, acepte otras palabras con el mismo significado que las respuestas correctas en el esquema de calificación.
2. Acepte los errores de ortografía y gramática, siempre y cuando no modifiquen el significado de la respuesta.
3. En las preguntas en las que los alumnos deban elegir una opción, si se han escrito dos respuestas (una dentro de la casilla y la otra fuera), puntúe únicamente la que esté dentro de la casilla.
4. Las palabras entre paréntesis en este esquema de calificación son opcionales: los alumnos pueden incluirlas en la respuesta, pero no son fundamentales para que se otorgue la puntuación. Si hay más de una respuesta posible a una pregunta, esto se indica con una barra (/).
5. Este esquema de calificación debe leerse junto con las instrucciones para la corrección del componente en cuestión disponibles en IBIS.

Text A

Question	Target answer	Accept	Do not accept	Marks
1.	A, C, D, H, J <i>[In any order]</i>			5
			Total	5

Text B

Question	Target answer	Accept	Do not accept	Marks
2.	C			1
3.	B			1
4.	A			1
5.	B			1
6.	C			1
7.	bartering	Exchange(s) (of goods or services) exchanging (items)	trading (expectation of any) reward	1
8.	shout-outs	(messages of) gratitude thanking messages Allow misspellings that do not alter or obscure meaning, e.g., graditude or gratitudes	offers requests	1
9.	suspended	suspend suspended the(ir) membership(s)	removed rejected	1
10.	(doorstep/door) pickup	collection	delivery	1
11.	(random) draw	random selection/choosing lottery	first-come, first-served approach selection/choosing without random	1
			Total	10

Text C

Question	Target answer	Accept	Do not accept	Marks
12.	B			1
13.	A			1
14.	B			1
15.	C			1
16.	C			1
17.	gentrification	(locals) get <u>displaced</u> because of (exorbitant) <u>housing prices</u> <i>[Or other wording with the same meaning, with both the <u>underlined ideas captured</u>]</i> Allow misspellings that do not alter or obscure meaning, e.g., gentrefication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> interfere with the wildlife destroy (their/the wildlife's) habitats genterfication gentification 	1
18.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> partial privatization reinvestment (in the community) <i>[In any order]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (significant) areas are preserved for <u>public access</u> <u>earnings</u> (generated will be) channeled <u>back</u> to the community <i>[Or other wording with the same meaning, with the <u>underlined idea captured</u>]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (establishing) wildlife corridors (for animals to safely migrate and retain access to survival resources) remain impartial and unbiased (throughout the decision-making process) investment (in the community) 	2
19.	administrative costs (such as the equipment and wages of the staff)	<i>[Or other wording with the same meaning]</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> wages staff equipment additional costs without two examples 	1
20.	protecting the beach	<i>[Or other wording with the same meaning]</i>		1
				Total
				10

Text A

You are going to hear a professor talking to a political science class about the government’s use of artificial intelligence.

Professor	We know the government uses artificial intelligence, or AI, to accomplish different tasks – be it developing communication materials, or even screening job applications. In our lecture today, we'll look at the two major risks associated with AI, and what the government has in place to address them.
Professor	Let's start with the risks. The first one – bias.
Professor	Essentially, AI finds patterns in data and comes up with a suggested decision. This could lead to inequalities from the past being carried forward. For example, it was discovered that an AI model developed by a tech company favored male applicants, and this was because outdated training data were used, where past applications received were mostly from men. As you see, we need to think beyond the sample size when analyzing the effectiveness of an AI model for decision-making.
Professor	The second risk is the inability to justify decisions.
Professor	A few years ago, a financially disadvantaged family was denied rental assistance that they were eligible for, and the government couldn't explain why. The inability to explain a decision related to welfare provision like healthcare support, undermines people's faith in the government. With the hefty funds invested, the next step is to enhance the training of AI models.
Professor	Now, let's look at what the government has done so far.
Professor	As you see on this slide, the government recently introduced a regulation on the responsible use of AI. It applies to any new system adopted since April 2026. Other existing systems should catch up by December of the same year.
Professor	The regulation requires an initial testing of AI systems before implementation, much like any other system. Additional tests of AI outcomes must be conducted quarterly to eliminate unintended biases. It might even become once a month soon, but that's pending approval.
Professor	The regulation also requires that automated decisions made by AI must be accompanied by a statement of notice. This helps to keep clients informed and ensures a transparent process. In addition, a department needs to be able to explain the rationale of a decision in plain language that is accessible to anyone. In other words, technical wording is to be avoided.
Professor	The government is moving in the right direction. Do you have any questions so far?

Text B

You are going to hear an interview between podcast host Umar and the founder of Gift Now group, Hoa Tran.

Umar	Welcome to Sustainable Today! I'm Umar, your fabulous host! If you're active on social media, you must have come across the Gift Now group, which has become many people's go-to before heading to the mall because free stuff is up for grabs. It sounds too good to be true, but I confirm it works! We're thrilled to have the founder of the group, Hoa Tran here today, to tell us what it's all about. Welcome Hoa!
Hoa	Thanks Umar!
Umar	So the tagline of your group is: get stuff and get rid of stuff – for free. How does that work?
Hoa	The idea is, something that's collecting dust at your home could well be an item that's needed by another person. So it's a platform for you to gift it to your neighbour. It might sound like a charity, but we think of it as giving new life to unwanted items.
Umar	That's cool. So what kind of items do you often see in the group?
Hoa	Small things like used fans and blenders are common finds, and surprisingly perishables like eggs and vegetables, too. As expected, costly gadgets like smart watches are more scarce – but not unheard of.
Umar	It really helps to reduce household waste.
Hoa	Yes, but in fact my first intention for the group was to build community connections. That's why we encourage people to gift their time and talent too, like offer to do simple home repairs for those who can't afford a handyman. Just anything neighbourly.
Umar	Wow, that's cool. So anyone can join the group, right?
Hoa	HmMmh! You may offer or request as much as you'd like. You can even join a group specific to where you work, and a different one for where you live. But you must be of legal age in your jurisdiction. If not, you'll be asked to leave the group.
Umar	OK. I do see you have some group rules by the way... let's have a look.

Umar	So the top rule really emphasizes the idea of “free”. No trading in any form, or even bartering?
Hoa	That's right, we don't allow exchange of goods or services because we don't encourage the expectation of any reward.
Umar	So other than posting offers or requests, can you give shout-outs to the givers?
Hoa	Of course! Messages of gratitude are heart-warming and they're what keeps us going!
Umar	Have you ever found yourself in situations where you had to boot someone out from your group?

Hoà	There was indeed a member who called for others to refuse giving or taking items from certain individuals for wrong reasons. We suspended their membership right away as we would always do. After the investigation, this person got removed from the group eventually. Our group rules clearly state that there's no room for any hostile behaviours.
Umar	But normally people are pretty friendly and welcoming in the group, I suppose.
Hoà	Oh yes. By the way, we encourage users to do doorstep pickup – unlike delivery, it's hassle-free. And to avoid disputes, set expectations clearly. If there's a lot of interest in your gift, will you choose the receiver using a first-come, first-served approach, or a random draw? Group admins find the latter to be better and easier, but nothing is set in stone.
Umar	Interesting! Thanks, Hoà!

Text C

You are going to hear a public debate, between Tourism Minister Musa Kano and community spokesperson Kate Harris, on a beach construction project.

Host	Thank you for joining the public forum today. We have Tourism Minister Musa Kano and community spokesperson Miss Kate Harris, to discuss the plan to build private lavish lodging on the municipal beach. I'm your host Tony. The first question is for the Minister. Why does the government push forward the plan despite the opposition?
Minister Kano	Private developers will shoulder the responsibilities to maintain the beach, Tony. We are confronted by harsh economic realities right now, and we need to utilize our shrinking budgetary resources on other priorities that'll benefit the city as a whole, rather than just the upkeep of the beach. Moreover, the project will entail enhanced amenities. It's a win-win situation for all.
Kate Harris	I have to chime in here on behalf of local residents, Minister. What has the government done to our beach? The stewardship of the beach has practically been in the hands of locals for years, and the maintenance costs have, quite wrongly, always come out of our own pockets. This plan will simply let private companies exploit communal resources for their own benefits.
Minister Kano	Miss Harris. What you need to understand is that, the infrastructure, amenities, and services around access to the beach – all this exerts mounting financial strain on the government. I wish we had natural resources like oil or minerals as alternative revenue sources. The beach is an optimal economic tool to entice tourists and create opportunities.
Kate Harris	Then why did the government keep dismissing other funding mechanisms? And ignoring the environmental concerns that multiple conservation groups have raised? Fundamentally, the problem is this whole preferential treatment thing!
Host	Thank you both for the response. We'll continue with this after the break.

Host	Welcome back, everyone. So, Miss Harris, why are residents so resistant to this project?
Kate Harris	Well, it'll interfere with wildlife and destroy natural habitats. And for us, it leads to gentrification, where locals get displaced because of exorbitant housing prices. It breaks our heart to even think of this.
Minister Kano	Miss Harris – the government is understanding of how strong the community is, but we also want you to understand that the beach has never been exclusive to local residents. I wanted to highlight that this project was thought through from various perspectives. It only involves partial privatization, and significant areas are preserved for public access. We also actively collaborate with experts on establishing wildlife corridors for animals to safely migrate and retain access to survival resources. Moreover, the earnings generated will be channeled back to the community. This reinvestment protects the benefits of the residents. And we do remain impartial and unbiased throughout the decision-making process.

Kate Harris	If the city would just consider a beach access fee like we proposed, many of the problems would be solved easily.
Minister Kano	Yes, that will bring in money but how about the administrative costs associated with it? Such as the equipment and wages of the staff? These costs will outweigh the potential revenue and render the suggestion inviable.
Host	OK, it sounds like you don't see eye to eye with each other about a few things, but I sense that you are both working toward protecting the beach. Let's take another break and we'll continue our discussion after.