Mark Scheme (Results)

Spring 2026

PEARSON EDEXCEL GCSE in Mathematics
Foundation 1MA1/2H (Calculator)

Aiming for Grade 5

The following table shows the marks scored on average at certain grades on similar questions from live exams.

For example: A student who achieved a Grade 5 on similar questions from either the Summer 2025 or November 2025 exam sittings achieved on average 27.6 marks from these questions**.**

Grade	**9**	**8**	**7**	**6**	**5**	**4**	**3**
Mark	30.7	30.3	29.8	29.2	27.6	23.9	17.8

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General Marking Guidance

These notes offer general guidance, but the specific notes for examiners appertaining to individual questions take precedence.

1 All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the last candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the first.

Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded; exemplification/indicative content will not be exhaustive. When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the response should be sent to review.

2 All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded; mark schemes should be applied positively. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme. If there is a wrong answer (or no answer) indicated on the answer line always check the working in the body of the script (and on any diagrams), and award any marks appropriate from the mark scheme.

Questions where working is not required: In general, the correct answer should be given full marks.
Questions that specifically require working: In general, candidates who do not show working on this type of question will get no marks – full details will be given in the mark scheme for each individual question.

3 **Crossed out work**
This should be marked **unless** the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

4 **Choice of method**
If there is a choice of methods shown, mark the method that leads to the answer given on the answer line.

If no answer appears on the answer line, mark both methods **then award the lower number of marks.**

5 **Incorrect method**
If it is clear from the working that the "correct" answer has been obtained from incorrect working, award 0 marks. Send the response to review for your Team Leader to check.

6 **Follow through marks**
Follow through marks which involve a single stage calculation can be awarded without working as you can check the answer, but if ambiguous do not award.
Follow through marks which involve more than one stage of calculation can only be awarded on sight of the relevant working, even if it appears obvious that there is only one way you could get the answer given.

7 **Ignoring subsequent work**
It is appropriate to ignore subsequent work when the additional work does not change the answer in a way that is inappropriate for the question or its context. (eg. an incorrectly cancelled fraction when the unsimplified fraction would gain full marks).

It is not appropriate to ignore subsequent work when the additional work essentially makes the answer incorrect (eg. incorrect algebraic simplification).

8 Probability

Probability answers must be given as a fraction, percentage or decimal. If a candidate gives a decimal equivalent to a probability, this should be written to at least 2 decimal places (unless tenths).
Incorrect notation should lose the accuracy marks, but be awarded any implied method marks.
If a probability fraction is given then cancelled incorrectly, ignore the incorrectly cancelled answer.

9 Linear equations

Unless indicated otherwise in the mark scheme, full marks can be gained if the solution alone is given on the answer line, or otherwise unambiguously identified in working (without contradiction elsewhere). Where the correct solution only is shown substituted, but not identified as the solution, the accuracy mark is lost but any method marks can be awarded (embedded answers).

10 Range of answers

Unless otherwise stated, when an answer is given as a range (e.g 3.5 – 4.2) then this is inclusive of the end points (e.g 3.5, 4.2) and all numbers within the range.

11 Number in brackets after a calculation

Where there is a number in brackets after a calculation E.g. 2 × 6 (=12) then the mark can be awarded **either** for the correct method, implied by the calculation **or** for the correct answer to the calculation.

12 Use of inverted commas

Some numbers in the mark scheme will appear inside inverted commas E.g. "12" × 50 ; the number in inverted commas cannot be any number – it must come from a correct method or process but the candidate may make an arithmetic error in their working.

13 Word in square brackets

Where a word is used in square brackets E.g. [area] × 1.5 : the value used for [area] does **not** have to come from a correct method or process but is the value that the candidate believes is the area. If there are any constraints on the value that can be used, details will be given in the mark scheme.

14 Misread

If a candidate misreads a number from the question. Eg. uses 252 instead of 255; method or process marks may be awarded provided the question has not been simplified. Examiners should send any instance of a suspected misread to review.

Guidance on the use of abbreviations within this mark scheme	
M	method mark awarded for a correct method or partial method
P	process mark awarded for a correct process as part of a problem-solving question
A	accuracy mark (awarded after a correct method or process; if no method or process is seen then full marks for the question are implied but see individual mark schemes for more details)
C	communication mark awarded for a fully correct statement(s) with no contradiction or ambiguity
B	unconditional accuracy mark (no method needed)
oe	or equivalent
cao	correct answer only
ft	follow through (when appropriate as per mark scheme)
sc	special case
dep	dependent (on a previous mark)
indep	independent
awrt	answer which rounds to
isw	ignore subsequent working

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
1	1380 2070 3450	M1	for beginning to work with ratio, eg 6900 ÷ (2 + 3 + 5) (= 690) **or** 6900 ÷ 2 (= 3450) **or** 6900 ÷ 5 (= 1380) **or** one accurate value correctly assigned	Award M0 for a correct value assigned to an incorrect person
		M1	for full method to find the value for two people, eg two of: "690" × 2 (= 1380) **or** "690" × 3 (= 2070) **or** "690" ×5 (= 3450) **or** (6900 – "3450") ÷ 5 × 2 (= 1380) **or (**6900 – "3450") ÷ 5 × 3 (= 2070) **or** (6900 – "1380") ÷ 8 × 3 (= 2070) **or (**6900 – "1380") ÷ 8 × 5 (= 3450) **or** 6900 ÷ 2 (= 3450) **and** 6900 ÷ 5 (= 1380)	Award M0 for a correct value assigned to an incorrect person
		A1	for Sid (£) 1380 Tam (£) 2070 Musa (£) 3450 If M1M0, award SCB2 for Sid (£) 3450 Tam (£) 2070 Musa (£) 1380	Correct values not assigned or assigned to an incorrect person, coming from an incorrect method, eg (Sid =) 6900 ÷ 2 =3450 **and** (Tam =) 6900 ÷ 3 =2300 **and** (Musa =) 6900 ÷ 5 =1380 will score no marks
2	Drawn	B3 (B2 (B1	for a fully correct box plot for 3 or 4 correctly plotted values including box and whiskers/tails) for 2 correctly plotted values including box or whiskers/tails or 5 correct values plotted or clearly identified and no box or whiskers/tails)	Min = 21 LQ = 31 Med = 35 UQ = 42 Max = 80

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
3 (a)	2×5^3	M1	for a complete method to find prime factors; could be shown on a complete factor tree with no more than one arithmetic error or by division by prime factors with no more than one error **or** for 2, 5, 5, 5	Condone the inclusion of 1s for this mark
		A1	accept $2 \times 5 \times 5 \times 5$	
(b)	150	M1	for at least 3 multiples of both 30 and 25 (can include 30 and 25) **or** for the prime factors 2, 3, 5 and 5, 5 (could be shown in a factor tree with no more than 1 arithmetic error or Venn diagram or table) **or** identifies the factors 5, 5 and 6 (may be seen in a grid) **or** for a different common multiple, eg 300	30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175 $30 = 2 \times 3 \times 5$ $25 = 5 \times 5$ Condone the inclusion of 1s for this mark
		A1	150 or $2 \times 3 \times 5 \times 5$ oe	
4 (a)	0.2, 0.15,0.85,0.15	B2 (B1	all placed correctly for 2 or 3 placed correctly)	
(b)	0.29	M1	for one correct product, ft their tree diagram eg 0.8×0.85 (= 0.68) **or** $0.8 \times$ "0.15" (= 0.12) **or** "0.2" × "0.85" (= 0.17) **or** "0.2" × "0.15" (= 0.03)	Working for part (b) may be seen in part (a) To apply ft values must be <1
		M1	for a complete method, ft their tree diagram eg "0.2" × "0.85" + $0.8 \times$ "0.15" or 1 – (0.8×0.85 + "0.2" × "0.15")	
		A1	for 0.29 oe or ft their tree diagram	Cannot award A1ft if answer > 1
5 (a)	56 300 000	B1	cao	
(b)	3.54×10^{-5}	B1	cao	

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
6	$x^3 + 7x^2 - 6x - 72$	M1	for a method to find the product of any two linear expressions, 3 correct terms out of 4 terms or 4 terms correct ignoring signs, eg $x^2 + 4x - 3x - 12 \left(= x^2 + x - 12\right)$ **or** $x^2 + 4x + 6x + 24 \left(= x^2 + 10x + 24\right)$ **or** $x^2 - 3x + 6x - 18 \left(= x^2 + 3x - 18\right)$	Note that, for example, $3x - 18$ is regarded as three terms in the expansion of $(x - 3)(x + 6)$
		M1	(dep) for a complete method to obtain all terms, at least half of which are correct (ft their first product) eg $x^3 + 6x^2 + 4x^2 - 3x^2 + 24x - 18x - 12x - 72$ **or** $x^3 + 6x^2 + x^2 + 6x - 12x - 72$ **or** $x^3 - 3x^2 + 10x^2 - 30x + 24x - 72$ **or** $x^3 + 4x^2 + 3x^2 + 12x - 18x - 72$	First product must be a quadratic with at least 3 terms but need not be simplified or may be simplified incorrectly
		A1	cao	
7 (a)	6	P1	for a process to find a relevant area, eg $16 \times 14 \div 2$ (= 112) **or** $\pi \times \left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 \left(= 38.4...\right)$	May be implied by $\frac{49}{4}\pi$
		P1	for a process to find the shaded area, eg "112" – "38.4..." (= 73.51...) **or** "8.96" – "3.07…" (= 5.88…)	
		P1	for a complete process to find the number of bags required for a full or partial area, eg "73.51..." ÷ 12.5 (= 5.88...) **or** "112" ÷ 12.5 (= 8.96) or "38.4…" ÷ 12.5 (= 3.07...) **or** [area] ÷ 12.5 **or** uses12.5 in a build up method to exceed [area], eg 12.5×6 (= 75) oe	[area] can be any area but cannot be a length.
		A1	cao	

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
7 (b)	Statement	C1	for a valid statement relating to effect on number of bags needed, eg **Acceptable examples** Will need more bags It will increase Will need an extra bag or will now need 7 bags He won't have enough There is no change (ft their [area] but must be supported by calculation) **Not acceptable examples** Will cover less area Needs to change the number of bags needed There is no change (unsupported or incorrect ft their [area]) He may need more bags A calculation using 11 with no supporting statement	
8	25, 65, 195, 250, 280, 300	B1	cao	
9	**A** **C**	B2 (B1	both letters correct one letter correct) SCB1 if general form for equations given for both, eg $y = kx$ **and** $y = \frac{k}{x}$	Equation may be written in place of letters

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
10	Shown	M1	for a method to find the product of any two linear expressions (3 out of 4 terms correct or 4 terms ignoring signs) eg $2x^2 - 2x + 3x - 3 \left(= 2x^2 + x - 3\right)$ **or** $x^2 - x + 2x - 2 \left(= x^2 + x - 2\right)$ **or** $2x^2 + 4x + 3x + 6 \left(= 2x^2 + 7x + 6\right)$	Note that, for example, $2x^2 + x$ in the expansion of $(2x + 3)(x - 1)$ is regarded as 3 correct terms
		M1	(dep on M1) for a complete method to obtain all terms, half of which are correct (ft their first product) eg $2x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x^2 + 4x^2 - 3x - 4x + 6x - 6$ **or** $2x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x^2 - 4x + 3x^2 - 3x + 6x - 6$ **or** $2x^3 + 4x^2 + 3x^2 + 6x - 2x^2 - 4x - 3x - 6$ **or** $2x^3 + 4x^2 + x^2 - 3x + 2x - 6$ **or** $2x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x^2 - 4x + 3x - 6$ **or** $2x^3 - 2x^2 + 7x^2 - 7x + 6x - 6$	First product must be quadratic with at least 3 terms but need not be simplified or may be simplified incorrectly
		C1	for $2x^3 + 5x^2 - x - 6$ from correct working	Accept $a = 2$, $b = 5$, $c = -1$, $d = -6$ Condone $-1x$

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