



# Mark Scheme (Results)

## Spring 2026

PEARSON EDEXCEL GCSE in Mathematics  
Foundation 1MA1/3H (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 24.6 marks from these questions.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mark</b>	28.6	27.9	27.4	26.4	24.6	21.3	16.7

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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.  $2 \times 6 (=12)$  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”  $\times$  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]  $\times$  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

<b>M</b>	method mark awarded for a correct method or partial method
<b>P</b>	process mark awarded for a correct process as part of a problem-solving question
<b>A</b>	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)
<b>C</b>	communication mark awarded for a fully correct statement(s) with no contradiction or ambiguity
<b>B</b>	unconditional accuracy mark (no method needed)
<b>oe</b>	or equivalent
<b>cao</b>	correct answer only
<b>ft</b>	follow through (when appropriate as per mark scheme)
<b>sc</b>	special case
<b>dep</b>	dependent (on a previous mark)
<b>indep</b>	independent
<b>awrt</b>	answer which rounds to
<b>isw</b>	ignore subsequent working

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
1 (a)	5 730 000	B1	cao	
(b)	$3.5 \times 10^{-2}$	B1	cao	
2 (i)	1.426(8...)	M1	for a partial method, eg 84.9 oe or 41.7 oe or 2.03(5...) or 9.21... or 6.45(7...)  <b>or</b> 1.4(26...)  <b>or</b> digits 1426 or digits 1427	Allow values to at least 3 significant figures rounded or truncated. Check first 3 significant figures only.  Allow to at least 2 significant figures rounded or truncated. Check first 2 significant figures only.
		A1	for 1.426(8...) or 1.427	Answer must be given to at least 4 significant figures rounded or truncated. Check first 4 significant figures only. Accept consistent use of comma to indicate a decimal point.
(ii)	1.43	B1	for 1.43 or ft (a)(i) provided more than 3 sf in (a)(i)	Do not accept trailing 0, eg 1.430
3	23.75 and 23.85	B1	for 23.75 in the correct position	
		B1	for 23.85 in the correct position	Accept 23.849 or 23.8499(9...)

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
4	Explanation	C1	<p>for explanation, eg needs to make sure the total is 100</p> <p><b>Acceptable examples</b>  Total in diagram is 98  Total in diagram is not 100  Diagram is missing 2 people  eg <math>100 - 42 - 10 - 8 - 5 - 1 - 2 - 13 = 19</math> not 17</p> <p><b>Not acceptable examples</b>  Imran hasn't written all the values  The total is 81 (not 100)  The total (for the Venn diagram) is more than 100  The 17 shouldn't be there  The numbers don't add up correctly  Total doesn't add to the correct amount  The diagram is correct</p>	
5 (a)	$2.625 \times 10^{-1}$	M1	<p>for <math>a \times 10^{-1}</math>, <math>a \neq 2.625</math></p> <p><b>or</b> for <math>2.625 \times 10^n</math>, <math>n \neq -1</math></p> <p><b>or</b> for a correct value not in standard form,  eg 0.2625 or <math>\frac{21}{80}</math> oe eg <math>\frac{84000}{320000}</math> or eg <math>262.5 \times 10^{-3}</math></p>	
(b)	0.825, 0.835	A1 B1 B1	<p>cao</p> <p>for 0.825 in the correct position</p> <p>for 0.835 in the correct position</p>	Accept 0.8349 or 0.83499(9...)

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
6 (a)	7, (2), -1, -2 (-1), 2, (7)	B2  (B1)	for all values correct  for 2 or 3 values correct)	
(b)	Graph drawn	M1  A1	fit (dep on B1 in (a)) for plotting at least 5 of the points from their table correctly  for correct curve drawn	Use overlay  Accept a freehand curve drawn that is not made of line segments Ignore anything drawn outside the required range
7	2	M1  A1	for a correct start, using one rule of indices, eg $3^n \times 3^{12} = 3^{14}$ or $3^n \times 3^{20} = 3^{22}$ or $3^{20} \div 3^8 = 3^{12}$ or $3^{14} \times 3^8 = 3^{22}$ or $\frac{3^{n+20}}{3^8} = 3^{14}$ or $3^{n-8} \times 3^{20} = 3^{14}$ <b>or</b> for forming an equation in $n$ , eg $n + 20 - 8 = 14$ oe or $(n =) 14 + 8 - 20$	
			cao  SCB1 for an answer of $3^2$ if M0 scored	Allow an answer of $3^n = 3^2$  An answer of 9 or $3^n = 9$ , $n \neq 2$ on its own is to be awarded 0 marks
8	12.6	M1  A1	for partial evaluation, eg $(4.777(294722))^2$ <b>or</b> $\sqrt[3]{5.969(47697)}$ <b>or</b> 22.822(54486) <b>or</b> 1.814(081699)	
			for answer in the range 12.58 to 12.6	12.58077014 If an answer is shown in the range in working and then incorrectly rounded award full marks

Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
9	Mistake identified	C1	<p>for identifying the mistake</p> <p><b>Acceptable examples</b>  <math>p - 5</math> should be multiplied by 3  <math>(-5)</math> should be multiplied by 3  All of left side / everything should be multiplied by 3  He failed to multiply the 5 as well  He should have / didn't put brackets around the <math>p - 5</math>  (The <math>3p - 5</math>) should be <math>3p - 15</math>  (The <math>- 5</math>) should be <math>- 15</math> / (the 5) should be 15  (The answer should be) <math>m = 3p - 15</math> / <math>m = 3(p - 5)</math>  He only times the <math>p</math> by 3</p> <p><b>Not acceptable examples</b>  The first line should be <math>3p = m + 5</math>  He should have multiplied everything  Ben didn't divide <math>p - 5</math> by 3  He failed to multiply the <math>p - 5</math>  He failed to multiply the <math>(-5)</math>  He only times the <math>p</math>  He should have multiplied by 3 first  He only multiplied one side by 3  He needs to get rid of the fraction  Should have used brackets  Just circling the <math>3 \times p - 5</math> and / or the <math>m = 3p - 5</math>  Needs to multiply the 5 by <math>-3</math>  He should have done <math>p - 5 \times 3</math></p>	



Question	Answer	Mark	Mark scheme	Additional guidance
11 (a)	45, 27	P1	for a start to the process, eg $2 \text{ (shares)} = 18$ or $18 \div 2 (= 9)$ or $5x - 3x = 18$ oe  <b>or</b> for a process to use a build up method by giving at least 2 further equivalent ratios, eg $5 \times 2 : 3 \times 2 (= 10 : 6)$ <b>and</b> $5 \times 3 : 3 \times 3 (= 15 : 9)$	One correct number eg 45 or 27 implies P1
(b)	390	A1	for 45, 27 (in either order)	Allow -45, -27
		P1	for a start to the process, eg $7 \text{ (shares)} = 210$ or $210 \div 7 (= 30)$ or $7x = 210$ oe  <b>or</b> for start of process to find the sum of the numbers, eg $4 + 7 + 2 (= 13)$  <b>or</b> for a process to use a build up method by giving at least 2 further equivalent ratios, eg $4 \times 2 : 7 \times 2 : 2 \times 2 (= 8 : 14 : 4)$ <b>and</b> $4 \times 10 : 7 \times 10 : 2 \times 10 (= 40 : 70 : 20)$	
		P1	for process to find the value of the other two numbers eg $4 \times \text{“30”} (= 120)$ <b>and</b> $2 \times \text{“30”} (= 60)$  <b>or</b> for eg $210 \div 7 (= 30)$ <b>and</b> $4 + 7 + 2 (= 13)$	Maybe written in a ratio eg $120 : (210 : ) 60$
		A1	cao	

