National
Qualifications
2024

2024 French

Reading

Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2024

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by SQA appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

The information in this document may be reproduced in support of SQA qualifications only on a non-commercial basis. If it is reproduced, SQA must be clearly acknowledged as the source. If it is to be reproduced for any other purpose, written permission must be obtained from permissions@sqa.org.uk.

General marking principles for Higher French Reading

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

(a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.

(b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.

(c) Award a mark for each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.

(d) Marks are available as follows:

- **(i)** The first set of questions (worth 18 marks in total) asks candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. There are generally 1-3 marks available for each question.
- **(ii)** The penultimate question is the overall purpose question, and candidates must identify the overall purpose of the text and draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 2 marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged mark descriptors (2/1/0) and associated commentary are available, along with further guidance, in the detailed marking instructions.
- **(iii)** The last question is the translation. For this question, candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation is divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, award 2, 1 or 0 marks: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.

(e) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
1.	(a)		• a (really) enriching/rewarding/instructive **experience** from a linguistic **and** cultural point of view • a (really) enriching/rewarding/instructive linguistic **and** cultural **experience** • an enriching/rewarding/instructive **experience**, **linguistically and culturally** **Any 1 from 3**	**1**	**they** gain a point of view/perspective it's from **their** point of view/perspective
	(b)		• find/look into/for/ask for/search for information/do research on/make enquiries about/the town/where they are going to spend the year • decide if they want to share a **flat/apartment** with (other) students (in town) • decide/prefer to have a/their own room in **halls**/a **university residence** **Any 1 from 3**	**1**	know information people

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
	(c)		• see/view pictures/images/photos of the interior/inside (of the flat) • check/verify/make sure/confirm which neighbourhood/area/district/part of the town/city/it is (situated) in • know/find out/see if it has **good** transport (service/links)/is **well-served** by (public) transport	**3**	part (on its own) village check where the area is situated servings lead into public transport
2.			• the **rent** is/remains/stays reasonable/affordable • he is/feels **a lot/much** less isolated (because there are four other flatmates) • they share the shopping (trips)/groceries which allow(s) them to **save time and money**	**3**	remainder it is easier to pay rent amongst four/accessible lonely courses/classes/errands
3.	(a)		• it's bigger than/very big compared to her parents'	**1**	
	(b)		• (after three months) she went/left to do a **work placement/experience/internship/course/training (period)** in the USA to improve her English	**1**	job learn English
	(c)		• you get to/the opportunity/chance/occasion to/can **taste/try** food/cuisine from different countries (of the world) • you **learn** to appreciate other way(s) of life/lifestyles • you make lifelong friends/long-term friends/for a long-time • **in some cases**, the friendships become relationships/couples • in difficult times/when you miss your family and friends there is always someone to cheer you up/lift your mood **Any 3 from 5**	**3**	life/lives (on its own) keeping long-time friends friends that stay for a long time support

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
4.			• some flatmates **never** do the (household) chores/housework • not (always) easy to find the **ideal**/**perfect** place to study (even in your bedroom) • flatmates are noisy/loud when they **come back/home late preventing/stopping** others from sleeping	**3**	tasks don't like doing chores waking others up
5.			• become bilingual • put an end to/put to rest/stop prejudice(s) • they are (a lot) **more** open to other cultures **Any 2 from 3**	**2**	learn more than one language their life was transformed for the better

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
6.			*Assertion (1 mark):* Yes, because the text is (mainly/mostly) positive and points out the many advantages/has more positive than negative points. **OR** The text has a balanced view by highlighting some of the advantages and disadvantages. When candidates indicate a **balanced** view, they should include a positive **and** negative justification. Award **0 marks** for assertion where: • the candidate states that the experience is **entirely** positive/negative • the candidate states "Yes, it is a valuable experience" without expanding. Justification (1 mark): The writer refers to advantages and personal benefits, such as: • it enables students to have a bigger flat • you feel much less isolated as there are other flatmates • there is always someone to cheer you up • you can learn about a different culture, new dishes, new lifestyles • you can make new/long-term friends • friendships might end up in a couple/relationship	**2**	Award **2 marks** where the candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text. Award **1 mark** where the candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of some justification. Award **0 marks** where the candidate simply provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
			• it enables you to become bilingual • to end prejudices • students return home saying their lives have been changed for the better • it's an enriching experience from a linguistic and cultural point of view • financial benefits eg rent/shopping is cheaper • positive language used throughout the text, such as 'on s'entendait à merveille', positive title – Vive la colocation! • word choice such as 'typique' shows that many people share flats and have a positive experience The writer refers to disadvantages such as: • it's difficult to find the ideal place to study • flatmates who are noisy when they come back late may prevent you from sleeping • some flatmates never do household chores • there are sometimes arguments • it can be a source of problems Award **0 marks** for justification where the candidate quotes in French without explanation.		

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
7.			**Translate in to English (lines 16 to 18)** *Beaucoup d'etudiants . . . loin de sa famille*	**10**	The translation into English is allocated **10 marks**. The text for translation is divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth **2 marks**. Award marks according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English. Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows: **2 marks — good** The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English. **1 mark — satisfactory** The candidate understands and conveys essential information clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. They convey the key message in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English. **0 marks — unsatisfactory** The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.

Text	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
Unit 1 Beaucoup d'étudiants partagent un appartement	Many/lots of/a lot of students share a flat/an apartment		studiers
Unit 2 avec quelqu'un d'une nationalité différente de la leur.	with someone of/with a different nationality to/from them/theirs/their own. with someone of/with a different nationality than them/theirs/their own.	**from** a different nationality themselves someone **that's** a different nationality	Some/those/people (for 'quelqu'un')
Unit 3 C'est tout à coup un nouveau monde qui s'ouvre	It is/it's suddenly a new world which/that opens up	is opening omission of 'up' opens out Suddenly a new world opens up (omission of 'c'est')	It is (all) a shock works/worker opened is open omission of 'tout à coup'
Unit 4 où chacun devra apprendre à	where each person/everyone/ everybody/will have to learn to	in which (for 'où') each (without person) must/has to/is having to/should learn	which (for 'où') 'having to learn' without 'is' somebody/every time (for 'chacun') omission of 'devra' omission of 'apprendre'

Text	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
Unit 5			
se débrouiller seul, loin de sa famille.	manage/cope/get by manage to do things on their own/alone/by themselves far (away) from their family/families. NB: his/her family where 'each person' is used in unit 4	manage themselves away from their family (omission of 'loin') far from family (omission of 'sa')	to be independent look after themselves sort themselves out sort stuff alone work alone your family NB: his/her family where 'everybody/everyone' is used in unit 4

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]