CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY **0445/13**

Paper 1 Product Design **October/November 2025**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2025 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

PUBLISHED

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5: Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).
GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6: Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standard isation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Incorrect point
	Indicates that the point has been noted, but no credit has been given
	Correct point
Numbers	Indicating the mark allocated for the response

Performance description tables

Each question contains some marks which are awarded using the following performance description tables.

Part (c)				
Communication of ideas			**Suitable designs**	
Mark	**Performance description**		**Mark**	**Performance description**
5–6	Ideas are communicated with precision and clarity through the use of accurate drawings and reasoned annotations linked to most of the requirements.		5–6	Creative solutions which fully meet the requirements. Designs showing most aspects of construction detail.
3–4	Ideas are displayed with some clarity through clear drawings supported by annotations referring to some of the requirements.		3–4	Sensible solutions that mostly meet the requirements. Designs with moderate construction detail.
1–2	Simple drawings and limited annotations show little understanding of the requirements.		1–2	Solutions do not meet many of the requirements. Simplistic designs with little construction detail.
0	No creditable response.		0	No creditable response

Part (e)				
Quality of drawing			**Construction details**	
Mark	**Performance description**		**Mark**	**Performance Description**
4	High standard of line quality, use of colour and proportions. Appropriate techniques used that show clearly all detail.		5–6	All construction detail clear with good annotations and/or additional detail drawings as necessary.
2–3	Good line quality, use of colour and proportions. Most of the detail presented.		3–4	Most construction may be obvious from overall views or with some annotation.
1	Poor line quality and proportions. Little detail presented.		1–2	A simplistic design; little or no detail of construction used.
0	No creditable response.		0	No creditable response.

Guidance on using the performance description tables
Marking should be positive, rewarding achievement where possible but clearly differentiating across the whole range of marks available.
In approaching the assessment process, examiners should look at the work and then make a 'best fit' judgement as to which level statement it fits.
In practice the work does not always match one level statement precisely so a judgement may need to be made between two or more level statements.

Once a 'best fit' level statement has been identified the following guide should be used to decide on a specific mark:
- Where the candidate's work **convincingly** meets the level statement, the highest mark should be awarded
- Where the candidate's work **adequately** meets the level statement, the most appropriate mark in the middle of the range should be awarded
- Where the candidate's work **just** meets the level statement, the lowest mark should be awarded

Candidates answer **one** question, **either** 1 **or** 2 **or** 3.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
1(a)	Accept any **four** additional specification points – securely hold the tablet, adjustable holder for different sized tablets, angle adjustment, stable in windy conditions, compact size, lightweight, holds additional items such as plectrums for the guitar, water resistance/protection from the rain, shade to reduce glare when in use, aesthetic, simple to use, stable, waterproof, weather resistant, ergonomic, smooth corners so it does not harm anyone, durable, tough [1 × 4]	**4**	Each specification point – 1 mark No repeats from question – used outdoors, used at concerts, used while performing, hold a tablet, height adjustable, reduce in size for transportation, easy to transport, portable... Only accept unqualified answers (even if only word) if relevant to this specific design problem, **not** generic answers such as safe, strong, nice... Any other valid response
1(b)	Accept drawings of any **two** methods of height adjustment – different sized tubes that slide to adjust height, screw tightening mechanism that reduces the size of one tube to hold, location pins or button, wooden square shaft sliding inside a box section with pins locating in a range of holes, screw threaded shaft, stacking. [2 × 2]	**4**	Maximum of 2 marks for each drawing: Appropriate joining method – 1 mark Clear drawing – 1 mark Any other valid response
1(c)	Any **three** suitable ideas. Award up to **6 marks for communication of ideas** using the 'Communication of ideas' table. Award up to **6 marks for suitable designs** using the 'Suitable designs' table.	**12**	At least **three different** ideas for maximum marks. Pro rata if fewer.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
1(d)	Award up to **6 marks for evaluation** of the ideas: Evaluation [2 × 3] e.g. Advantage + disadvantage explained for each idea Selection [1] Justification – **not** single words, or generic terms such as the best, meets the specification or most suitable [1]	**8**	Simple descriptions or repeats of same points for each idea not rewarded. Specific not generic justification. Award maximum marks if only either advantage or disadvantage given for each as long as includes sophisticated reasoning.
1(e)	Award up to **4 marks for quality of drawing** using the 'Quality of drawing' table. Award up to **2 marks for dimensions:** 2 or 3 overall dimensions only – **1 mark** Additional detail dimensions – **1 mark** Award up to **6 marks for construction detail** using the 'Construction details' table.	**12**	Additional detail dimensions might show thickness of materials, diameters, etc.
1(f)	Accept any **two** suitable **specific** materials. [1 × 2] Accept any **appropriate** reason for choice of **each** material [1 × 2]	**4**	Each suitable specific material – 1 mark Generic terms such as wood, metal, plastic **not** accepted. Appropriate reason for each material – 1 mark Materials must be appropriate for the design shown in **(e)**
1(g)	Accept any suitable manufacturing process required to make a part of their design (not a stage in a process). [1 × 1] Award up to **3 marks for description of process**. Award up to **2 marks for names of tools, equipment or machines used**.	**6**	Process must be appropriate for design in **(e)**. Detailed description for 3 marks Basic marking out tools, such as pencil or rule, or just drawings of tools/equipment = 1 mark only

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
OR			
2(a)	Accept any **four** additional specification points – stepped design to display titles of all 3 songbooks, music theme graphics, strong enough to prevent distortion, compact size, easy to assemble, clear instructions to assemble, stable when in use, aesthetic, ergonomic, portable, hold books securely, stable, colourful, lightweight (only if qualified), easy to access (assumes books can be taken off to look at), PoS display aesthetic/attractive so it can clearly be seen/noticed, lightweight so it can be posted to the shop, has additional space to store other books, durable so it will not get damaged in use. [1 × 4]	**4**	Each specification point – 1 mark No repeats from question – promote the sale of new songbooks, used in a music shop, countertop display, for/hold three songbooks, fold flat, books easily seen (display), easily stored (fold flat), for book sizes... Only accept unqualified answers (even if only word) if relevant to this specific design problem, **not** generic answers such as safe, lightweight, strong, nice... Any other valid response
2(b)	Accept drawings of any **two** methods of joining card without the use of glue: Velcro (accept if described but not named), fold over and interlocking flaps, tuck flaps, lock rudder flaps, crash locks, click rivets, screw fasteners including nuts and bolts, friction fitting joints [2 × 2]	**4**	Maximum of 2 marks for each drawing: Method – 1 mark Clear drawing – 1 mark Any other valid response Focus on the method and accept some details may be missing. E.g. finer details of screw fasteners, clips...
2(c)	Any **three** suitable ideas. Award up to **6 marks for communication of ideas** using the 'Communication of ideas' table. Award up to **6 marks for suitable designs** using the 'Suitable designs' table.	**12**	At least **three different** ideas for maximum marks. Pro rata if fewer.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
2(d)	Award up to **6 marks for evaluation** of the ideas: Evaluation [2 × 3] e.g. Advantage + disadvantage explained for each idea Selection [1] Justification – **not** single words, or generic terms such as the best, meets the specification or most suitable [1]	**8**	Simple descriptions or repeats of same points for each idea not rewarded. Specific not generic justification. Award maximum marks if only either advantage or disadvantage given for each as long as includes sophisticated reasoning.
2(e)	Award up to **4 marks for quality of drawing** using the 'Quality of drawing' table. Award up to **2 marks for dimensions:** 2 or 3 overall dimensions only – **1 mark** Additional detail dimensions – **1 mark** Award up to **6 marks for construction detail** using the 'Construction details' table.	**12**	Additional detail dimensions might show thickness of materials, diameters, etc.
2(f)	Accept any **two** suitable **specific** materials. [1 × 2] Accept any **appropriate** reason for choice of **each** material [1 × 2]	**4**	Each suitable specific material – 1 mark Generic terms such as wood, metal, plastic **not** accepted. Appropriate reason for each material – 1 mark Materials must be appropriate for the design shown in **(e)**
2(g)	Accept any suitable manufacturing process required to make a part of their design (not a stage in a process). [1 × 1] Award up to **3 marks for description of process**. Award up to **2 marks for names of tools, equipment or machines used**.	**6**	Process must be appropriate for design in **(e)**. Detailed description for 3 marks Basic marking out tools, such as pencil or rule, or just drawings of tools/equipment = 1 mark only

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
OR			
3(a)	Accept any **four** additional specification points – comfortable seat material, stability when in use, style fits with the piano design, easily adjusted by children, ease of maintenance (such as lubrication of the mechanism), lightweight, strong, durable, aesthetic, ergonomic, portable, rotate, comfortable... [1 × 4]	**4**	Each specification point – 1 mark No repeats from question – for people of different sizes, height adjustable, easily adjusted, adjusted by pianist, adjusted by the pianist without getting off the seat, references given to minimum and maximum sizes... Only accept unqualified answers (even if only word) if relevant to this specific design problem, **not** generic answers such as safe, nice... Any other valid response
3(b)	Accept drawings of any **two** methods of creating parallel movement of a surface, parallel linkage, link gear, delta-type parallel mechanism with wire-pulleys, twin screw mechanism (twin worm gears) [2 × 2]	**4**	Maximum of 2 marks for each drawing: Method – 1 mark Clear drawing – 1 mark Any other valid response Focus on the method and accept some details may be missing. E.g. finer details of screw mechanisms.
3(c)	Any **three** suitable ideas. Award up to **6 marks for communication of ideas** using the 'Communication of ideas' table. Award up to **6 marks for suitable designs** using the 'Suitable designs' table.	**12**	At least **three different** ideas for maximum marks. Pro rata if fewer.

Question	Answer	Marks	Guidance
3(d)	Award up to **6 marks for evaluation** of the ideas: Evaluation [2 × 3] e.g. Advantage + disadvantage explained for each idea Selection [1] Justification – **not** single words, or generic terms such as the best, meets the specification or most suitable [1]	**8**	Simple descriptions or repeats of same points for each idea not rewarded. Specific not generic justification. Award maximum marks if only either advantage or disadvantage given for each as long as includes sophisticated reasoning.
3(e)	Award up to **4 marks for quality of drawing** using the 'Quality of drawing' table. Award up to **2 marks for dimensions:** 2 or 3 overall dimensions only – **1 mark** Additional detail dimensions – **1 mark** Award up to **6 marks for construction detail** using the 'Construction details' table.	**12**	Additional detail dimensions might show thickness of materials, diameters, etc.
3(f)	Accept any **two** suitable **specific** materials. [1 × 2] Accept any **appropriate** reason for choice of **each** material [1 × 2]	**4**	Each suitable specific material – 1 mark Generic terms such as wood, metal, plastic **not** accepted. Appropriate reason for each material – 1 mark Materials must be appropriate for the design shown in **(e)**
3(g)	Accept any suitable manufacturing process required to make a part of their design (not a stage in a process). [1 × 1] Award up to **3 marks for description of process**. Award up to **2 marks for names of tools, equipment or machines used**.	**6**	Process must be appropriate for design in **(e)**. Detailed description for 3 marks Basic marking out tools, such as pencil or rule, or just drawings of tools/equipment = 1 mark only