



IDASARA ACADEMY

General Certificate of Education (Ord. Level) Examination, 2026

31 - ENGLISH LANGUAGE I (MARKING SCHEME).*For Examiners' Use Only | Total: 40 Marks | Model Paper 3***GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR MARKING PAPER I**

- Check all sections carefully. Ensure every item is marked and totals are transferred accurately to the cover grid.
- In objective cloze and matching tests (Tests 1, 2, 3, 4, 7), award marks strictly according to the specified key.
- In Test 5 (Information Transfer), do not penalize minor spelling or capitalization slips if the extracted fact is clear and unambiguous.
- In writing tests (Tests 6 and 8), evaluate Content and Language separately. **Crucial Rule:** If 0 (zero) mark is awarded for Content, 0 must be awarded for Language.

• Test 1 — Signs Matching (1 × 5 = 5 Marks)

(1) A (given) (2) C (3) E (4) D (5) F (6) B

• Test 2 — Dialogue Cloze (1 × 5 = 5 Marks)

(1) b (fever - given)
(2) e / temperature (3) f / prescription (4) c / medicine (5) d / rest (6) a / appointment
(Accept either the letter or the correctly spelled word)

• Test 3 — Picture Description ($\frac{1}{2} \times 10 = 5$ Marks)

(1) crowded (given) (2) selling (3) wearing (4) weighing (5) heap
(6) front (7) next (8) bunch (9) umbrella (10) empty (11) under
(Award $\frac{1}{2}$ mark per correct item. Deduct for incorrect spelling only if meaning becomes unrecognizable)

• Test 4 — Functional Word Cloze (1 × 5 = 5 Marks)

(1) in (given) (2) her (3) by (4) of (5) When (6) so

• Test 5 — Information Transfer (1 × 5 = 5 Marks)

Item	Expected Information / Acceptable Responses	Marks
(1)	Monaragala (District) (given)	-
(2)	eighty-five / 85	1
(3)	on the roof of the community hall [Accept: the community hall]	1
(4)	two hundred rupees / Rs. 200	1
(5)	evening classes OR higher O/L pass rate OR milk-chilling centre OR sewing group [Any one; accept: light for every home]	1
(6)	wild elephants (that wander near the community hall)	1

• **Test 6 — Writing a Notice (Total: 5 Marks | Content: 2, Language: 3)**

Criterion	Marks	Scoring Descriptors
Content (Required: Date/Time/Venue, Participants and theme, Items to bring)	2	All three required points included with clear, relevant facts.
	1	Only one or two points included.
	0	Prompt copied without additions, or totally irrelevant. <i>(If 0 for Content, 0 for Language).</i>
Language (Grammar, prepositions, spelling, layout)	3	High accuracy; well-constructed sentences; appropriate notice register; correct prepositions (<i>at, on, in</i>).
	2	Minor language errors; meaning remains completely clear.
	1	Only 1–2 correct sentences; heavy grammatical and spelling slips.
	0	All sentences incorrect or unintelligible.

Benchmark Model Answer (Full 5/5 Marks):**NOTICE – Art Competition**

The Art Circle will hold an Art Competition to mark World Children's Day on Thursday, 1st October 2026, at 8.30 a.m. in the art room. Students of Grades 6 to 11 can take part. The theme is "My Village". Please bring your own colours and brushes. Drawing paper will be provided.
24th September 2026
Dilini Fernando (Secretary)

• **Test 7 — Reading Comprehension (1 × 5 = 5 Marks)**

- (1) **b** (*a three-wheeler driver*)
 (2) **c** (*the prices of vegetables had gone up*)
 (3) **a** (*wood ash*)
 (4) **Snails ate the tender plants / a heavy shower washed away the seeds.** (*Accept either reason; accept direct line lifting*)
 (5) **She bought a school bag for her youngest brother.** (*Accept: bought a school bag*)

• **Test 8 — Paragraph Writing (Total: 5 Marks | Content: 2, Language: 3)**

Criterion	Marks	Scoring Descriptors
Content	2	Points fully developed; logical flow; required length (50–60 words).
	1	Topic partially addressed; few details. <i>(If word count < 20 words, overall marks cannot exceed 2).</i>
	0	Totally off-topic or prompt copied. <i>(If 0 for Content, 0 for Language).</i>
Language	3	Almost no grammatical errors; good variety of vocabulary; clear cohesive transitions.
	2	Some errors in language; meaning is clear throughout.
	1	Only 1–2 correct sentences; heavy errors.
	0	All sentences incorrect.

Benchmark Model Answer for Option (b) — Saving Water (Score: 5/5):

"Water is one of the most valuable gifts of nature. We need it to drink, cook, wash and grow our food. However, the amount of clean water in the world is limited. Therefore, we should close taps tightly, repair leaking pipes and collect rainwater for our gardens. If we save water today, there will be enough for tomorrow." (58 words)