

Example marked candidate responses

ESOL Skills for Life (QCF) – Entry 1

Below are two examples of candidate responses to the ESOL Skills for Life Entry 1 writing test, followed by the marks and rationales from the marker.


All names and personal data have been changed or removed.

Candidate 1 (strong pass)

Entry 1 – Writing

Task 1

Complete the form below.


Newtown Swimming Pool																					
Please complete this form																					
First name	Ruta																				
Surname	Paulauskierė																				
Address	London, Stamford Hill																				
Postcode	N1 4AA																				
Telephone	07123 456789																				
Date of birth	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>0</td><td>1</td><td>/</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>/</td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td>8</td><td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td><td>D</td><td></td><td>M</td><td>M</td><td></td><td>Y</td><td>Y</td><td>Y</td><td>Y</td> </tr> </table>	0	1	/	0	1	/	1	9	8	0	D	D		M	M		Y	Y	Y	Y
0	1	/	0	1	/	1	9	8	0												
D	D		M	M		Y	Y	Y	Y												
Nationality	Lithuanian																				
Signature																					

Entry 1 – Writing

Task 2

You are visiting the park today. Write a postcard to your friend. Tell your friend what you are doing.

Write about 30 words.

<p>Dear Sonia, I'm in a nice big park near my home. My brother is in the park too. I so love go to the park, because ^{there} everything is green. I also like ride a bike in the park, but now my bike is broken. When you will have free time, can you come to the park with my I will so happy!</p> <p>See you.</p>	<div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p style="text-align: right;">22 Green Street Newtown Midshire H03 3IT</p>
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Entry 1 – Writing

Task 3

Write about a room in your home for your teacher.

Write about 30 words.

A room in my home

I live in a Stamford Hill. My room is nice and big, but it isn't very cheap. I live with my husband. There are two nice windows and a nice bed. I like my room. The whole in my room are white. I also have two chairs in my room.

Candidate 1 marks and rationale

Assessment criteria		Mark (out of 4)	Rationale
Task 1 – form			
2.1	Record personal details on a simple form correctly	4	Although the address is incomplete (house/flat number is missing), the rest of the form is completed with a high level of appropriacy so the communicative aim is achieved. Correct use of upper and lower case is demonstrated.
Task 2 – correspondence			
1.1	Construct simple complete sentences correctly for an intended audience	3	Basic information is communicated effectively but doesn't address 'what you are doing', therefore there is some irrelevancy. The writer-reader relationship and layout are appropriate. Simple sentences are constructed accurately using correct word order and verb forms (eg <i>I'm in a nice big park near my home. My brother is in the park too</i>). Several level-appropriate functions and language items are used (eg express likes, describe a place, prepositions of place, adjectives). Errors do occur but they are restricted to language above the level and do not impede understanding.
1.2	Use full stops correctly	4	Full stops at the end of sentences are used correctly throughout the text.
1.3	Use capitalisation correctly	4	Use of capital letters at the start of sentences is correct throughout the text and 'I' is always capitalised.
1.4	Spell words correctly	4	All personal and familiar words related to task are spelt correctly except <i>also</i> .
Task 3 – article			
1.1	Construct simple complete sentences correctly for an intended audience	4	The text is well composed and basic ideas are communicated effectively. There is good control of word order and verb forms in simple sentences, eg <i>My room is nice and big..., I live with..., There are two nice windows....</i> There is a good range of language items of the level (<i>there are</i> , plurals, contracted form, possessives) used with accuracy.
1.2	Use full stops correctly	4	The use of full stops at the end of sentences is consistent.
1.3	Use capitalisation correctly	4	There is a consistent use of capital letters at the start of sentences and the word 'I' is always capitalised.
1.4	Spell words correctly	3	Correct spelling is used fairly consistently but errors occur with some familiar words (<i>husband, walls, chairs</i>).

Candidate 1 achieves 34 marks out of 36 (strong pass).

Candidate 2 (secure pass)

Entry 1 – Writing

Task 1

Complete the form below.


Newtown Swimming Pool																					
Please complete this form																					
First name	DANIELA ROJAS																				
Surname																					
Address	10 INGRAM STREET																				
Postcode	S12 3BC																				
Telephone	0141 765 4321																				
Date of birth	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1</td><td>0</td><td>/</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>/</td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td><td>D</td><td></td><td>M</td><td>M</td><td></td><td>Y</td><td>Y</td><td>Y</td><td>Y</td> </tr> </table>	1	0	/	1	0	/	1	9	9	0	D	D		M	M		Y	Y	Y	Y
1	0	/	1	0	/	1	9	9	0												
D	D		M	M		Y	Y	Y	Y												
Nationality	ECUADORIAN / SPANISH.																				
Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>																				

Entry 1 – Writing

Task 2

You are visiting the park today. Write a postcard to your friend. Tell your friend what you are doing.

Write about 30 words.

<p>Dear katty</p> <p>Hello How are you? I am in the Alexoudra Polac Park. Is very big and beautiful and there are a lot of thinks. I am doing a Barbacoa and a picnik after I play tennis. See yo soon</p>	<div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">22 Green Street Newtown Midshire H03 3IT</p>
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Entry 1 – Writing

Task 3

Write about a room in your home for your teacher.

Write about 30 words.

A room in my home

I live in two bedrooms flat in one of the rooms
is my ^{room}. In my room there is a double bed,
there are two wardroves, one bed side, a TV
and an armchair. I like my room because is very
big and very lighted.

Candidate 2 marks and rationale

Assessment criteria		Mark (out of 4)	Rationale
Task 1 – form			
2.1	Record personal details on a simple form correctly	4	Almost all of the form is completed with a high level of appropriacy. The communicative aim is achieved, despite the town/city being missing on the form. The use of upper case in forms is appropriate.
Task 2 – correspondence			
1.1	Construct simple complete sentences correctly for an intended audience	4	The main ideas (what she is doing in the park) are communicated fairly effectively in an appropriate format. There are simple sentences with correct word order and verb form, eg <i>How are you? I am in the Alexandra Park</i> . Although there are errors, such as a missing subject (<i>Is very big...</i>), there is a reasonable range of language items and functions for the level.
1.2	Use full stops correctly	3	Although there are instances where full stops could have been applied, two full stops and a question mark have been used to mark off sentences in the text.
1.3	Use capitalisation correctly	4	Capitalisation is applied consistently to all words at the beginning of a sentence, the name of the park and the personal pronoun 'I'. Capitalisation is only used incorrectly once (<i>barbecue</i>).
1.4	Spell words correctly	3	Although there are some mistakes with common words (<i>things, tennis, picnic</i>), most key and familiar words are spelt correctly, eg <i>beautiful, after, play, doing</i> .
Task 3 – article			
1.1	Construct simple complete sentences correctly for an intended audience	4	Basic ideas are communicated fairly effectively. Some simple sentences are constructed using correct word order, eg <i>In my room there is a double bed..., I like my room....</i> There is a range of language items of the level (<i>there is/are</i> , definite/indefinite articles, plurals, present simple). Some errors do occur (<i>is very big, very lighted, in one of the rooms is my room</i>).
1.2	Use full stops correctly	4	Full stops at the end of sentences are always used correctly.
1.3	Use capitalisation correctly	4	All sentences start with a capital letter and the word 'I' is capitalised consistently.
1.4	Spell words correctly	3	Correct spelling is used fairly consistently (eg <i>room, double bed, live, flat</i>) but errors do occur with some familiar words (<i>wardrobes, armchair</i>).

Candidate 2 achieves 32 marks out of 36 (secure pass).