
GCSE
PHYSICS
8463/2F

Paper 2 Foundation Tier

Mark scheme

June 2024

Version: 1.0 Final



Mark schemes are prepared by the Lead Assessment Writer and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation events which all associates participate in and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation process ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every associate understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for standardisation each associate analyses a number of students' scripts. Alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed and legislated for. If, after the standardisation process, associates encounter unusual answers which have not been raised they are required to refer these to the Lead Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

No student should be disadvantaged on the basis of their gender identity and/or how they refer to the gender identity of others in their exam responses.

A consistent use of 'they/them' as a singular and pronouns beyond 'she/her' or 'he/him' will be credited in exam responses in line with existing mark scheme criteria.

Further copies of this mark scheme are available from [aqa.org.uk](https://www.aqa.org.uk)

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Information to Examiners

1. General

The mark scheme for each question shows:

- the marks available for each part of the question
- the total marks available for the question
- the typical answer or answers which are expected
- extra information to help the examiner make their judgement
- the Assessment Objectives and specification content that each question is intended to cover.

The extra information is aligned to the appropriate answer in the left-hand part of the mark scheme and should only be applied to that item in the mark scheme.

At the beginning of a part of a question a reminder may be given, for example: where consequential marking needs to be considered in a calculation; or the answer may be on the diagram or at a different place on the script.

In general the right-hand side of the mark scheme is there to provide those extra details which confuse the main part of the mark scheme yet may be helpful in ensuring that marking is straightforward and consistent (for example, a scientifically correct answer that could not reasonably be expected from a student's knowledge of the specification).

2. Emboldening and underlining

- 2.1** In a list of acceptable answers where more than one mark is available 'any **two** from' is used, with the number of marks emboldened. Each of the following bullet points is a potential mark.
- 2.2** A bold **and** is used to indicate that both parts of the answer are required to award the mark.
- 2.3** Alternative answers acceptable for a mark are indicated by the use of **or**.
Alternative words in the mark scheme are shown by a solidus eg allow smooth / free movement.
- 2.4** Any wording that is underlined is essential for the marking point to be awarded.

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which students have provided extra responses. The general principle to be followed in such a situation is that 'right + wrong = wrong'.

Each error / contradiction negates each correct response. So, if the number of errors / contradictions equals or exceeds the number of marks available for the question, no marks can be awarded.

However, responses considered to be neutral (indicated as * in example 1) are not penalised.

Example 1: What is the pH of an acidic solution?

[1 mark]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	green, 5	0
2	red*, 5	1
3	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name **two** magnetic materials.

[2 marks]

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	iron, steel, tin	1
2	cobalt, nickel, nail*	2

3.2 Use of symbols / formulae

If a student writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, or uses symbols to denote quantities in a physics equation, full credit can be given if the symbol / formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.3 Marking procedure for calculations

Marks should be awarded for each stage of the calculation completed correctly, as students are instructed to show their working. At any point in a calculation students may omit steps from their working. If a subsequent step is given correctly, the relevant marks may be awarded.

Full marks are **not** awarded for a correct final answer from incorrect working.

3.4 Interpretation of 'it'

Answers using the word 'it' should be given credit only if it is clear that the 'it' refers to the correct subject.

3.5 Errors carried forward

An error can be carried forward from one question part to the next and is shown by the abbreviation 'ecf'.

Within an individual question part, an incorrect value in one step of a calculation does not prevent all of the subsequent marks being awarded.

3.6 Phonetic spelling

Marks should be awarded if spelling is not correct but the intention is clear, **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.7 Brackets

(.....) are used to indicate information which is not essential for the mark to be awarded but is included to help the examiner identify the sense of the answer required.

3.8 Allow

In the mark scheme additional information, 'allow' is used to indicate creditworthy alternative answers.

3.9 Ignore

Ignore is used when the information given is irrelevant to the question or not enough to gain the marking point. Any further correct amplification could gain the marking point.

3.10 Do **not** accept

Do **not** accept means that this is a wrong answer which, even if the correct answer is given as well, will still mean that the mark is not awarded.

3.11 Numbered answer lines

Numbered lines on the question paper are intended to support the student to give the correct number of responses. The answer should still be marked as a whole.

4. Level of response marking instructions

Extended response questions are marked on level of response mark schemes.

- Level of response mark schemes are broken down into levels, each of which has a descriptor.
- The descriptor for the level shows the average performance for the level.
- There are two marks in each level.

Before you apply the mark scheme to a student's answer, read through the answer and, if necessary, annotate it (as instructed) to show the qualities that are being looked for. You can then apply the mark scheme.

Step 1: Determine a level

Start at the lowest level of the mark scheme and use it as a ladder to see whether the answer meets the descriptor for that level.

The descriptor for the level indicates the different qualities that might be seen in the student's answer for that level. If it meets the lowest level then go to the next one and decide if it meets this level, and so on, until you have a match between the level descriptor and the answer. With practice and familiarity you will find that for better answers you will be able to quickly skip through the lower levels of the mark scheme.

When assigning a level you should look at the overall quality of the answer. Do **not** look to penalise small and specific parts of the answer where the student has not performed quite as well as the rest. If the answer covers different aspects of different levels of the mark scheme you should use a best fit approach for defining the level.

Use the variability of the response to help decide the mark within the level, ie if the response is predominantly level 2 with a small amount of level 3 material it would be placed in level 2 but be awarded a mark near the top of the level because of the level 3 content.

Step 2: Determine a mark

Once you have assigned a level you need to decide on the mark. The descriptors on how to allocate marks can help with this. The exemplar materials used during standardisation will help. There will be an answer in the standardising materials which will correspond with each level of the mark scheme. This answer will have been awarded a mark by the Lead Examiner. You can compare the student's answer with the example to determine if it is the same standard, better or worse than the example. You can then use this to allocate a mark for the answer based on the Lead Examiner's mark on the example.

You may well need to read back through the answer as you apply the mark scheme to clarify points and assure yourself that the level and the mark are appropriate.

Indicative content in the mark scheme is provided as a guide for examiners. It is not intended to be exhaustive and you must credit other valid points. Students do not have to cover all of the points mentioned in the indicative content to reach the highest level of the mark scheme.

You should ignore any irrelevant points made. However, full marks can be awarded only if there are no incorrect statements that contradict a correct response.

An answer which contains nothing of relevance to the question must be awarded no marks.

Question 1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.1	Milky Way		1	AO1 4.8.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.2	dust and gas		1	AO1 4.8.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.3	gravitational force		1	AO1 4.8.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.4	fusion		1	AO1 4.8.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.5	visible light takes the same time as infrared radiation		1	AO1 4.6.2.1

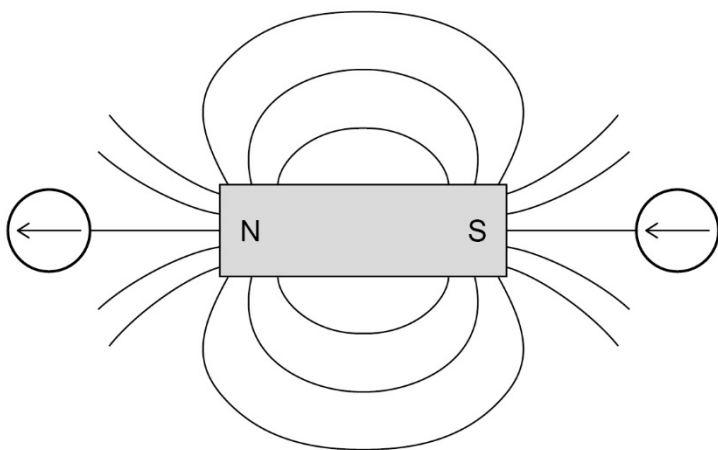
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.6	greater		1	AO1 4.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
01.7	greater rate than the Earth		1	AO3 4.6.3.1
	the Sun is at a higher temperature	allow the Sun has a greater surface area	1	
		MP2 is dependent on MP1		

Total Question 1	8
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Question 2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.1	cobalt		1	AO1 4.7.1.2

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.2	 2 arrows pointing left allow 1 mark for 1 correct arrow	2	AO1 4.7.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.3	A		1	AO1 4.7.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.4	S-S		1	AO1 4.7.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.5	switching the current on / off		1	AO3 4.7.2.1
	causes the compass needle to move		1	
	OR			
	moving the compass (around the wire) (1)			
	changes the direction of the compass needle (1)			
		MP2 dependent on MP1		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.6	decreases		1	AO1 4.7.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
02.7	it reverses (direction)	allow it changes direction allow it goes clockwise	1	AO3 4.7.2.1

Total Question 2	9
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Question 3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.1	friction		1	AO3 4.5.6.2.2 RPA7

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.2	Variable Independent variable Dependent variable Quantity Acceleration of the trolley Length of the bench Total mass of the trolley Force pulling on the trolley	1 1	AO1 4.5.6.2.2 RPA7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.3	$\frac{1.58 + 1.53 + 1.54}{3}$ 1.55 (m/s ²)		1 1	AO2 4.5.6.2.2 RPA7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.4	the acceleration is inversely proportional to the mass	allow as the mass increases the acceleration decreases allow negative correlation	1	AO3 4.5.6.2.2 RPA 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
03.5	$F = 1.5 \times 0.62$		1	AO2 4.5.6.2.2
	= 0.93 (N)		1	
Total Question 3			8	

Question 4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec.
04.1	C		1	AO1 4.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec.
04.2	B		1	AO1 4.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec.
04.3	$\text{period} = \frac{1}{5000}$ $\text{period} = 0.0002 \text{ (s)}$		1	AO2 4.6.1.2
			1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec.
04.4	any named electromagnetic wave	allow electromagnetic (wave)	1	AO1 4.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec.
04.5	F		1	AO1 4.6.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec.
04.6	$\text{wavelength} = \frac{330}{750}$ $= 0.44 \text{ (m)}$		1	AO2 4.6.1.2
			1	

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.7	Level 2: The method would lead to the production of a valid outcome. The key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	3–4	AO1 4.6.1.2
	Level 1: The method would not lead to a valid outcome. Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not made clear.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content method of making sound eg cymbals, wooden blocks, starting pistol measuring distance - measuring distance between sound source and detector eg distance to wall, distance along track, distance between microphones - use of measuring instrument eg tape measure, trundle wheel, metre rule measuring time - timing started when sound made and timing stopped when sound heard - use of measuring instrument eg stopwatch, oscilloscope, data logger extra detail - dividing time by 2 or multiply distance by 2 for echo method - use of equation $\text{speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.8	increases		1	AO3 4.6.1.2

Total Question 4	13
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Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	distance		1	AO1
	speed		1	4.5.6.1.1 4.5.6.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	3200 (m)		1	AO2 4.5.6.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3	average speed = $\frac{3200}{2000}$	allow ecf from question 05.2	1	AO2
	= 1.6 (m/s)		1	4.5.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	B	MP2 is dependent on MP1	1	AO3
	It has the smallest gradient		1	AO1 4.5.6.1.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.5	gravity		1	AO3 4.5.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.6	3.0 m/s		1	AO1 4.5.6.1.2

Total Question 5	9
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Question 6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	infrared camera	allow thermometer, thermal imaging camera, night vision goggles	1	AO3 4.6.2.4 4.6.3.2 RPA10

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2	690 nm		1	AO3 4.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.3	bees cannot detect all the colours (a human can)	allow bees cannot detect red (light but humans can)	1	AO3 4.6.2.6
	bees can detect UV radiation (but humans can't)		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.4	reflected	this order only	1	AO1 4.6.2.6
	absorbed		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.5	black		1	AO1 4.6.2.6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.6	diffuse		1	AO1 4.6.2.6

Total Question 6	8
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Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	$W = 25\,000 \times 9.8$ $= 245\,000 \text{ (N)}$		1	AO2 4.5.1.3
			1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.2	$p = \frac{1\,960\,000}{49}$ $= 40\,000$ Pa		1	AO2
			1	AO2
			1	AO1 4.5.5.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.3	B		1	AO1 4.5.5.1.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.4	$a = \frac{1.3 - 0.7}{5.0}$ $= 0.12 \text{ (m/s}^2\text{)}$		1	AO2 4.5.6.1.5
			1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.5	$\frac{0.21}{0.84} \times 100$ 25%		1	AO2 4.5.3
			1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.6	force (applied to the spring) = spring constant $\times$ extension or $F = k \times e$		1	AO1 4.5.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.7	$336 = k \times 0.21$		1	AO2 4.5.3
	$\frac{336}{0.21} = k$		1	
	$k = 1600 \text{ (N/m)}$		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.8	$v^2 - 0 = 2 \times 9.8 \times 0.95$		1	AO2 4.5.6.1.5
	$v^2 = 18.62$	allow $v = \sqrt{(18.62)}$	1	
	$v = 4.3150\dots$		1	
	$= 4.3 \text{ (m/s)}$	allow an answer correctly rounded to 2 significant figures from an incorrect calculation which uses the values in the question	1	

Total Question 7	18
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Question 8

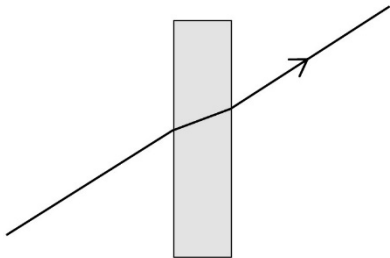
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	1 (°)		1	AO3 4.6.1.3 RPA9

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	Level 3: The method would lead to the production of a valid outcome. The key steps are identified and logically sequenced.	5–6	AO1 4.6.1.3 RPA9
	Level 2: The method would not necessarily lead to a valid outcome. Most steps are identified, but the method is not fully logically sequenced.	3–4	
	Level 1: The method would not lead to a valid outcome. Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not made clear.	1–2	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content Some indicative content could be indicated within a labelled diagram • place a glass block on a piece of paper • draw around the glass block • use the ray box to shine a ray of light through the glass block • mark the ray of light entering the glass block • mark the ray of light emerging from the glass block • join the points to show the path of the complete ray through the block • and draw a normal line at 90 degrees to the surface • use a protractor to measure the angle of incidence • use a protractor to measure the angle of refraction • use a ray box to shine a ray of light at a range of different angles (of incidence) • increase the angle of incidence in 10 degree intervals • from an angle of incidence of 10 degrees to an angle of incidence of 60 degrees Methods involving mirrors and reflection score zero		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	points plotted correctly	allow tolerance of $\pm$ half a small square	1	AO2 4.6.1.3 RPA9
	curve drawn passing through points	allow a line starting at the origin	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.4	the line curves	allow the line is not straight allow line does not pass through the origin if consistent with their answer to question 08.3	1	AO3 4.6.1.3 RPA9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.5	normal drawn	judge by eye	1	AO2 4.6.1.3
	ray reflected so $i = r$		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.6			1	AO1 4.6.2.2

Total Question 8	13
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Question 9

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.1	0 (N)		1	AO2 4.5.6.2.1
	the child isn't accelerating (vertically)	MP2 dependent on MP1	1	
	or upwards forces are equal to the downwards forces	allow forces are balanced		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.2	work done = force × distance		1	AO1 4.5.2
	or			
	$W = F \times s$			

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.3	$35 = F \times 2.8$		1	AO2 4.5.2
	$F = \frac{35}{2.8}$		1	
	$F = 12.5 \text{ (N)}$	allow 13 (N)	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.4	the resistive force has decreased	allow friction (between the wheels and the floor) has decreased	1	AO3 4.5.1.4 4.5.6.2.1 4.5.6.2.2
	so the resultant force increases		1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.5	moment = force $\times$ distance or $M = F \times d$		1	AO1 4.5.4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.6	7.5 cm = 0.075 m		1	AO2 4.5.4
	$M = 2.0 \times 0.075$	allow a correct substitution of an incorrectly / not converted value of d	1	
	$M = 0.15$ (Nm)	allow an answer consistent with an incorrectly / not converted value of d	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
09.7	gear B rotates in the opposite direction (to gear A) or gear B rotates clockwise or gear B rotates faster than gear A		1	AO2 4.5.4
	(because) gear A exerts a force on gear B or (because) gear A causes a moment about the pivot of gear B		1	

Total Question 9	14
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