

WRITTEN CRITERIA

Band 5: 17-20	Good range of structure and vocabulary within the task set. (a) Minimal errors of structure, vocabulary, spelling and punctuation. Points covered as required with evidence of original output. Text suitably set out and ideas clearly linked. (b) Register appropriate to task and sustained. (c) Very positive effect on target reader.
Band 4: 14-17	Good range of structure and vocabulary within the task set but text not always fluent. Errors only when more complex vocabulary/structure attempted. Spelling and punctuation generally accurate. Points covered as required with sufficient detail. Text suitably set out and ideas clearly linked. (b) Register appropriate to task and sustained. (c) Positive effect on target reader.
Band 3: 10-14	An adequate range of structure and vocabulary to fulfil the requirements of the task. Some errors which do not impede communication. Points covered but some non-essential details omitted. Text suitably set out and ideas clearly linked; linking devices fairly simple. Register on the whole appropriate to the task. Satisfactory effect on target reader.
Band 2: 7-10	Range of structure and vocabulary too limited to meet all requirements of the task. Errors sometimes obscure communication/distract the reader. Some omissions or large amount of lifting/irrelevant material. Text not clearly laid out; linking devices rarely used. Some attempt at appropriate register but no consistency. Message not clearly communicated to target reader. Negative effect on target reader.
Band 1: 3-7	Range of structure and vocabulary very narrow. No evidence of any systematic control of language. Notable omissions in coverage of points needed and/or considerable irrelevance. Poor organization of text; lack of linking. No awareness of appropriacy of register. A very negative effect on target reader.
Band 0: 0-3	Too little language for assessment (fewer than 50 words) or totally irrelevant or totally illegible. (d)

(Based on the REVISED FCE - GENERAL MARK SCHEME)

- (a) Task achievement entails completing the task within the word limits.
- (b) Conventions of paragraphing, letter format, etc., expected here.
- (c) Fine-tuning of register is not expected at this level but some distinction between semi-formal (neutral) and informal needs to be demonstrated and sustained to fit into Bands 4 and 5.
- (d) Poor handwriting is penalized.