

EDEXCEL • GCSE COMBINED SCIENCE 1SC0

Physics — Foundation Tier, Paper 2

June 2025 exam series

MARK SCHEME

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Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Combined Science Physics
(1SC0) Paper 2PF

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Summer 2025

Question Paper Log Number P78714RA

Publications Code 1SC0_2PF_2506_MS

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Mark schemes have been developed so that the rubrics of each mark scheme reflects the characteristics of the skills within the AO being targeted and the requirements of the command word. So for example the command word 'Explain' requires an identification of a point and then reasoning/justification of the point.

Explain questions can be asked across all AOs. The distinction comes whether the identification is via a judgment made to reach a conclusion, or, making a point through application of knowledge to reason/justify the point made through application of understanding. It is the combination and linkage of the marking points that is needed to gain full marks.

When marking questions with a 'describe' or 'explain' command word, the detailed marking guidance below should be consulted to ensure consistency of marking.

Assessment Objective		Command Word	
Strand	Element	Describe	Explain
AO1*		An answer that combines the marking points to provide a logical description	An explanation that links identification of a point with reasoning/justification(s) as required
AO2		An answer that combines the marking points to provide a logical description, showing application of knowledge and understanding	An explanation that links identification of a point (by applying knowledge) with reasoning/justification (application of understanding)
AO3	1a and 1b	An answer that combines points of interpretation/evaluation to provide a logical description	
AO3	2a and 2b		An explanation that combines identification via a judgment to reach a conclusion via justification/reasoning
AO3	3a	An answer that combines the marking points to provide a logical description of the plan/method/experiment	
AO3	3b		An explanation that combines identifying an improvement of the experimental procedure with a linked justification/reasoning

*there will be situations where an AO1 question will include elements of recall of knowledge directly from the specification (up to a maximum of 15%). These will be identified by an asterisk in the mark scheme.

Combined Science- Physics 1SC0_2PF

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
1 (a) (i)	24 (Ω)		(1) AO1.2

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
1 (a) (ii)	substitution (1) (V=) 0.50×12 evaluation (1) 6.0 (V)	accept 6 award full marks for the correct answer without working	(2) AO2.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
1 (a)(iii)	time converted to s (1) 300 (s) substitution (1) (E=) $0.4 \times 4.5 \times 5 \times 60$ evaluation (1) 540 (J)	accept 5×60 seen $0.4 \times 4.5 \times 300$ scores first 2 marks 9 (J) scores 2 marks (no conversion to seconds) 540 to any other power of ten scores 2 marks award full marks for the correct answer without working	(3) AO2.1

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1(b)(i)	B the ammeters measure the current in the circuit A is incorrect because the switch is in the closed position not open C is incorrect because the resistors are fixed resistors not variable D is incorrect because the circuit does not have an a.c. power supply the supply is a cell which is d.c.	(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
1(b)(ii)	(current in the circuit) decreases (1)	accept reduces/gets smaller/is less/goes down ignore slows down (the current)	(1) AO1.1

Total for Question 1 = 8 marks

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(a)	A particles move around and are very close together B is incorrect because describes particles in a gas C is incorrect because does not describe solid, liquid or gas as the particles always move D is incorrect because describe particles in a solid	(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
2(b)	a description including: use the balance to find the mass of the key (1) (add water and) measure (initial) volume / level of water using the (measuring) <u>cylinder</u> (1) place the key in the measuring <u>cylinder</u> (1) subtract the (two) volumes (to give the volume of the key) (1)	accept weigh the key using the balance allow scales for balance ignore weight accept fill measuring <u>cylinder</u> to a named volume e.g. 100ml accept find the increase/ difference in volume / level of water allow alternative method: use the balance to find the mass of the key (1) fill beaker/eureka can (to the top) with water (1) place key in beaker/eureka can and catch overflow (in measuring cylinder) (1) measure volume / level of water using the (measuring) <u>cylinder</u> (1)	(4) AO1.2

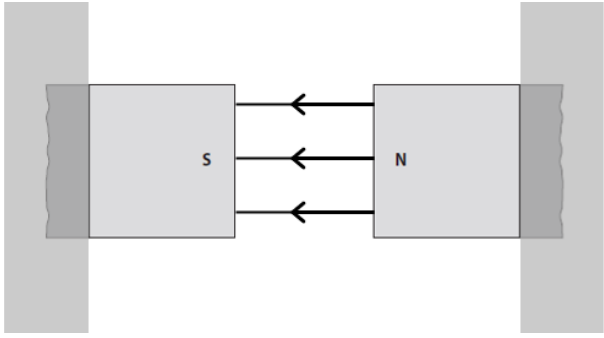
Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
2(c) (i)	substitution (1) ($\Delta Q =$) $0.96 \times 920 \times 17$ evaluation (1) 15000 (J)	$0.96 \times 920 \times (35-18)$ accept 15014 (.4) 15000 to any other power of ten scores 1 mark award full marks for the correct answer without working	(2) AO2.1

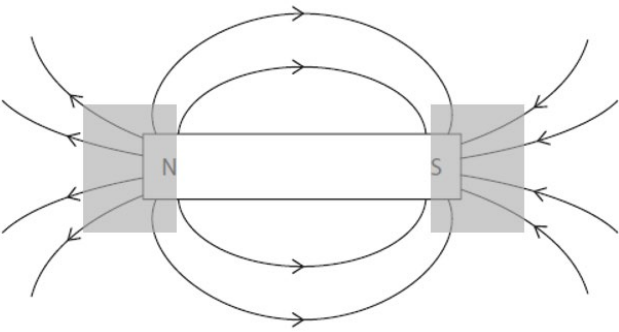
Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
2(c)(ii)	add insulation (around aluminium block) (1)	accept any named insulator allow polish aluminium block allow wrap in foil or put in a box ignore 'lids' unless with a (named) insulator	(1) A03b

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
2(c)(iii)	any one from: energy needs (time) to transfer (through the aluminium) (1) heater and thermometer are not close together (1) there is a gap between the thermometer and the block (1)	accept heat for energy accept travel/conduct/spread for transfer	(1) AO1.1

Total for Question 2 = 9 marks

Question Number	Answer	Mark
3(a)	C steel A, B and D are incorrect because they are non-magnetic	(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
3(b)	 at least three straight lines between N and S poles (equally spaced) (1) all drawn arrows on lines are from N to S (1)	Ignore drawn lines which start inside the shaded regions judge by eye lines do not have to touch magnets ignore lines drawn above or below magnets / edge effects for this mark	(2) AO2.2

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
3(c) (i)	X drawn in either of the shaded regions (1) 		(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
3(c) (ii)	the (magnetic) field is strongest (1) (because the field) lines are close(r) together (1)	accept strongest (magnetic) force allow more lines	(2) AO3.2a/2b

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
3(d)(i)	an explanation linking: (the compass needle) always points in the same direction (1) (because) the Earth's magnetic field exerts a force (on the needle) (1)	accept points north / south ignore aligns with Earth's magnetic field do not accept (always) points towards core accept attracted to (magnetic) pole	(2) AO2.2

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
3(d) (ii)	any one from: motor/generator/ loudspeaker/ microphone / (plotting) compass	accept any named device containing a permanent magnet e.g. door closer / fridge magnet / phone / any device with an electric motor / MRI ignore (bar) magnet	(1) AO2.1

Total for Question 3 = 9 marks

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4(a)	B squashing a piece of modelling clay A ,C and D are incorrect because all return to original shape when the force is removed. The distortion is elastic.	(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
4(b)(i)	a description including any four of the following: measure initial d / distance / height (1) change weight (1) measure new d / distance / height (1) repeat / continue (changing weight and measuring d) (1) plot a graph (d against weight)(1)	accept reference to 16 (mm)	(4) AO3a AO 3.2a/2b

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
4b(ii)	any one from: distance between the clamp and the masses (1) (change) strip (1)	accept ruler for strip throughout accept length of the strip accept thicker strip / thinner strip / material of strip / strip of different density etc.	(1) AO3.3b

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
4(c)(i)	substitution (1) $(k =) \frac{2}{6.2 \times 10^{-2}}$ evaluation (1) 32 (N/m)	accept answers which round to 32 32 to any other power of ten scores 1 mark award full marks for the correct answer without working ignore 3.1 (from 6.2/2)	(2) AO2.2

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
4(c) (ii)	substitution (1) $(E =) 0.5 \times 25 \times 0.06^2$ evaluation (1) 0.045 (J)	accept 0.05 (J) 0.045 to any other power of ten scores 1 mark award full marks for the correct answer without working	(2) AO 2.1

Total for Question 4 = 10 marks

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
5(a)(i)	substitution with conversion (2) $(m =) \frac{4.1}{10 \times 0.26}$ $(=1.58)$	accept 9.8(1) instead of 10 for g throughout alternative method substitution and rearrangement with conversion (2) e.g. $\Delta g_{pe} = 10 \times 0.26 \times 1.6$ $(=4.1)$ Allow for 1 mark: $(m =) \frac{4.1}{10 \times 26}$ allow 26 to any power of 10 for this mark OR $\Delta g_{pe} = 10 \times 26 \times 1.6$ allow 26 to any power of 10 for this mark OR height converted to m 0.26 (m) or $26 \times 10^{-2} \text{ (m)}$	(2) AO 2.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
5(a)(ii)	substitution (1) $(v^2 =) \frac{2 \times 4.1}{1.6}$ evaluation of v^2 (1) $5.1(25)$ evaluation of v (1) 2.3 (m/s)	ecf from part a(i) throughout accept use of 1.58 accept 5.2 (use of 1.58) accept values that round to 2.3 e.g. 2.264 award full marks for the correct answer without working	(3) AO2.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
5(a)(iii)	addition of any lubricant / oil / grease	make runway steep(er) use an air track instead streamline trolley	(1) AO 3.3b

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
5(b)(i)	substitution (1) (P =) $\frac{48 \times 10 \times 2.9}{3.4}$ evaluation (1) 409 (W) to 2 s.f. (1) 410 (W)	accept 9.8(1) instead of 10 for g throughout $\frac{480 \times 2.9}{3.4}$ OR $\frac{1392}{3.4}$ accept values that round to 409 accept values that round to 402 (used g = 9.81) accept the result of any calculation to 2s.f. for this mark accept 400 (W) if 402 seen (used g = 9.81) award full marks for the correct answer without working	(3) AO 2.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
5(b)(ii)	an answer linking: measure the height of a step (1) multiply by number of steps (1)	accept add all step heights together	(2) AO2.2

Total for Question 5 = 11 marks

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
6(a)	50(Hz) (1)		(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
6(b)	substitution (1) ($P = 0.53 \times 230$) evaluation (1) 120 (W)	accept values that round down to 120 to 2s.f. e.g. 121.9 or 122 award full marks for the correct answer without working	(2) AO2.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
6(c)(i)	A live pin B is incorrect because the mains plug has no negative pin C is incorrect because the neutral pin is at 0 V D is incorrect because the mains plug has no positive pin		(1) AO1.1

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
6(c)(ii)	An explanation linking the fuse melts (1) (so) stops / switches off current (1)	allow fuse blows / breaks circuit is broken allow switches off {charge flow / circuit / TV / appliance / supply / electricity / voltage / power / energy}	(2) AO2.2

Question Number	Answer	Additional guidance	Mark
6(c)(iii)	any one from circuit breaker (1) earth (wire/pin) (1) surge protector (1) cable clamp (inside plug) (1) insulation / armouring (1) socket protector/cover (1)	accept RCD / ELCB / RCCB / GFCI / MCB allow ground accept SPD accept rubber coating accept plug cover ignore switch / fuse / fuse box	(1) AO1.1

Question number	Indicative content	Mark
*6(d)	Answers will be credited according to candidate's deployment of knowledge and understanding of the material in relation to the qualities and skills outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive, and candidates are not required to include all the material which is indicated as relevant. Additional content included in the response must be scientific and relevant. AO1 / AO3 Distribution • voltage at power station higher than in homes • transformers change voltages • electrical energy is transferred on overhead power lines • overhead power lines are at 132 kV Action of transformers • step-up transformers convert 25 kV to 132 kV • step-up transformers reduce the current • step down transformers convert high voltages of power lines to 230V for use in homes • low voltage is safer for use in homes Efficiency • transformers make the distribution of electricity more efficient • high currents cause heating effect • dissipation of thermal energy/heat to the atmosphere • increasing the voltage/ reducing the current in the overhead power lines reduces energy / heat loss	(6) AO1.1 AO3.3a

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No awardable content
Level 1	1–2	- Interpretation and evaluation of the information attempted but will be limited with a focus on mainly just one variable (AO3) - Presents an explanation with some structure and coherence(AO1)
Level 2	3–4	- Interpretation and evaluation of the information on both variables synthesises mostly relevant understanding (AO3) - Presents an explanation that has structure, which is mostly clear coherent and logical.(AO1)
Level 3	5–6	- Interpretation and evaluation of the information, demonstrating throughout the skills of synthesising relevant understanding(AO3) - Presents an explanation that has a well-developed structure which is clear, coherent and logical.(AO1)

Level	Mark	Additional Guidance	General additional guidance – the decision within levels
	0	No rewardable material.	e.g. - At each level, as well as content, the scientific coherency of what is stated will help place the answer at the top, or the bottom, of that level.
Level 1	1–2	<u>Additional guidance</u> Isolated facts about power distribution at any point.	<u>Possible candidate responses</u> power lines are at 132000V homes get electricity at 230V transformers change voltages improves efficiency
Level 2	3–4	<u>Additional guidance</u> Limited explanation giving link between voltage change and type of transformer OR link between high voltage and power lines and energy loss OR link between current and transformer / energy loss	<u>Possible candidate responses</u> the step-up transformer increases the voltage the step-down transformer changes the voltage from 132000 V to 230V A is a step-up transformer and B is a step-down transformer the high voltage in overhead power lines reduces heat losses it is more efficient because the power lines are at a high voltage transformers can reduce current low current means less energy loss
Level 3	5–6	<u>Additional guidance</u> Detailed explanation linking role of transformer WITH current decrease to reduce energy loss	<u>Possible candidate responses</u> transformer A decreases the current to reduce heat loss

Total for question 6 = 13 marks

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