AQA GCSE Physics | 8463

SPECIFICATION POINT 4.6.2.6

Visible light (physics only)

Mark schemes and examiner comments

Tier	**Foundation**
Question groups	**60**
Available paper years	**2006–2025**

Using this booklet

1. Booklet answer numbers match the question booklet.
2. Use the original question number within marking tables.
3. Examiner comments are included where available.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Where a precise marking extract is unavailable, the full source document is included in an appendix. Any missing mark scheme is explicitly identified.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 01 · Mark scheme November 2006 | PHY1B | Original Q1 | Legacy

One	**A**	infra red rays	**1**
	B	ultraviolet waves	**3**
	C	visible light	**2**
	D	X-rays	**4**

Answer 02 · Mark scheme November 2006 | PHY1B | Original Q2 | Legacy

Two	**A**	gamma rays	**1**
	B	infra red rays	**3**
	C	radio waves	**4**
	D	ultraviolet waves	**2**

Answer 03 · Mark scheme November 2006 | PHY1B | Original Q5 | Legacy

Five	**A**	a distant galaxy	**3**
	B	a satellite	**1**
	C	the Earth	**2**
	D	the Universe	**4**

Answer 04 · Mark scheme November 2006 | PHY1B | Original Q8 | Legacy

Eight	**3**	**2**	**3**	**3**

Answer 05 · Mark scheme March 2007 | PHY1B | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	***Key***		
One	**A**	infra red	**3**
	B	radio waves	**4**
	C	ultraviolet	**2**
	D	visible light	**1**

Answer 06 · Mark scheme June 2007 | PHY1B | Original Q7 | Legacy

Seven	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**

Answer 07 · Mark scheme June 2007 | PHY1F | Original Q4 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 45. Follow original question 4 in that document.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 08 · Mark scheme November 2007 | PHY1B | Original Q1 | Legacy

One	**A**	gamma rays	**2**
	B	infra red rays	**1**
	C	radio waves	**4**
	D	visible light	**3**

Answer 09 · Mark scheme November 2007 | PHY1B | Original Q3 | Legacy

Three	**A**	**3**
	B	**4**
	C	**2**
	D	**1**

Answer 10 · Mark scheme March 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question		Key	
One	**A**	infra red radiation	**3**
	B	gamma radiation	**4**
	C	visible light	**1**
	D	ultraviolet radiation	**2**

Answer 11 · Mark scheme March 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Three	**A**	SIRTF	**2**
	B	Hubble	**4**
	C	Chandra	**3**
	D	Compton	**1**

Answer 12 · Mark scheme March 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Four	**A**	alpha	**3**
	B	beta	**2**
	C	gamma	**1**
	D	visible light	**1**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 13 · Mark scheme June 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question			Key
One	**A**	infra red	**3**
	B	ultraviolet	**2**
	C	visible light	**1**
	D	gamma	**4**

Answer 14 · Mark scheme November 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question			Key
One	**A**	infra red rays	**4**
	B	visible light	**2**
	C	ultraviolet rays	**3**
	D	X-rays	**1**

Answer 15 · Mark scheme November 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Two	**A**	gamma rays	**1**
	B	radio waves	**4**
	C	ultraviolet rays	**2**
	D	visible light	**3**

Answer 16 · Mark scheme November 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Four	**A**	microwaves	**4**
	B	radio waves	**2**
	C	visible light	**1**
	D	X-rays	**3**

Answer 17 · Mark scheme November 2008 | PHY1BP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Five	**A**	alpha radiation	**3**
	B	beta radiation	**4**
	C	gamma radiation	**2**
	D	visible light	**1**

	A	**B**	**C**	**D**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 18 · Mark scheme

March 2009 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Key		
One	**A**	infra red	**4**
	B	visible light	**1**
	C	ultraviolet	**3**
	D	X-rays	**2**

Answer 19 · Mark scheme

March 2009 | PHY1BP | Original Q6 | Legacy

Six	**2**	**1**	**2**	**1**

Answer 20 · Mark scheme

June 2009 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Key		
One	**A**	infra red	**2**
	B	microwaves	**3**
	C	radio waves	**4**
	D	visible light	**1**

Answer 21 · Mark scheme

June 2009 | PHY1BP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Five	**A**	microwaves	**3**		
	B	X-rays	**1**		
	C	visible light	**2**		
	D	radio waves	**4**		
	A		**B**	**C**	**D**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 22 · Mark scheme June 2009 | PHY1F | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question 6

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)(i)	HESS	accept gamma	1
6(a)(ii)	infra red	accept IR accept answers written in table do **not** accept heat	1
6(b)	clearer / more detailed / sharper / less distorted image any **one** from: • no light pollution • light is not scattered by the atmosphere	do **not** accept image is bigger accept no clouds to prevent observations accept light is scattered by the atmosphere (implies William Herschel) accept light does (not have to) pass through the atmosphere accept air for atmosphere do **not** accept answers in terms of distance	1 1

Question 6 continues on the next page . . .

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F

Question 6 continued . . .

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(c)	any **two** from: • <u>microwaves absorbed</u> by water (molecules) • signal strength greater (in dry environment) • more sensitive (in dry environment) • detect weaker signals (in dry environment) • more detailed / clearer image (in dry environment)	accept more microwaves reach telescope accept harder to detect signals in a humid environment accept image contains more information do **not** accept better image	2
6(d)	a fourth / extra galaxy / star	accept a planet / another object / source	1
Total			**7**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 22 · Mark scheme June 2009 | PHY1F | Original Q6 | Legacy

PHY1F

Answer 23 · Mark scheme November 2009 | PHY1BP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Two	**A**	gamma	**2**
	B	infra red	**3**
	C	radio	**1**
	D	visible light	**4**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 24 · Mark scheme

Question 3

question	answers	extra information	mark
3(a)	85		1
3(b)(i)	thickness (of glass)	accept how thick the glass is do **not** accept light intensity	1
3(b)(ii)	transmits less infra red infra red has a heating effect **or** infra red warms the room	accept radiation / or heat for infra red accept transmits less energy (at all wavelengths) accept (glass **B**) absorbs more infra red accept infra red is the same as heat ignore reference to visible light ignore references to conservatory keeping cool	1 1
3(c)	**Z**		1
Total			**5**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 24 · Mark scheme January 2010 | PHY1F | Original Q3 | Legacy

PHY1F

Answer 25 · Mark scheme March 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Key		
One	**A**	microwaves	**4**
	B	ultraviolet rays	**1**
	C	visible light	**2**
	D	X-rays	**3**

Answer 26 · Mark scheme March 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Two	**A**	gamma	**3**
	B	infra red	**4**
	C	radio	**1**
	D	ultraviolet	**2**

Answer 27 · Mark scheme June 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Key		
One	**A**	gamma rays	**1**
	B	microwaves	**4**
	C	visible light	**3**
	D	X-rays	**2**

Answer 28 · Mark scheme June 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q8 | Legacy

Eight	3	3	4	2

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 29 · Mark scheme

June 2010 | PHY1F | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)(i)	infra red (rays) **or** radio (waves)	accept IR do **not** accept heat waves do **not** accept TV waves	1
2(a)(ii)	radio (waves)	this answer only	1
2(b)	frequency		1
2(c)(i)	need to know if it is harmful / makes you ill	answer should be in terms of establishing if harmful or not harmful ie trying to clear up any uncertainty do **not** accept answers that assume it is harmful eg Wi-Fi systems will make you ill accept idea that safety issue may worry people accept idea that (more) research may reassure people accept idea of finding out (the truth)	1
2(c)(ii)	an opinion		1
Total			**5**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 29 · Mark scheme June 2010 | PHY1F | Original Q2 | Legacy

PHY1F

Answer 30 · Mark scheme November 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question			Key
One	**A**	infra red	**1**
	B	ultraviolet	**4**
	C	visible light	**3**
	D	X-rays	**2**

Answer 31 · Mark scheme November 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Three	**A**	infra red	**4**
	B	microwaves	**3**
	C	radio waves	**1**
	D	visible light	**2**

Answer 32 · Mark scheme November 2010 | PHY1BP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Four	**A**	gamma	**1**
	B	infra red	**3**
	C	radio	**4**
	D	ultraviolet	**2**

Answer 33 · Mark scheme March 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question			Key
One	**A**	infra red	**3**
	B	microwaves	**2**
	C	radio waves	**1**
	D	visible light	**4**

Answer 34 · Mark scheme March 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Two	**A**	infra red	**3**
	B	microwaves	**2**
	C	visible light	**1**
	D	X-rays	**4**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 35 · Mark scheme

March 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q4 | Legacy

Four	**A**	gamma rays	**1**
	B	infra red rays	**3**
	C	radio waves	**4**
	D	ultraviolet rays	**2**

Answer 36 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Key		
One	**A**	infra red	**1**
	B	ultraviolet	**3**
	C	visible light	**2**
	D	X-rays	**4**

Answer 37 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q9 | Legacy

Nine	**2**	**3**	**4**	**1**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 38 · Mark scheme

June 2011 | PHY1F | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)(i)	microwave		1
2(a)(ii)	**C**		1
2(a)(iii)	Digital signals are less affected by interference.		1
2(b)(i)	infra red		1
2(b)(ii)	2 or 3 reflections shown	lines are straight and most angles look correct by eye four or more reflections gains **1** mark only ray must touch side of the fibre to qualify as a reflection ray must reach end of the fibre	2
Total			**6**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 38 · Mark scheme June 2011 | PHY1F | Original Q2 | Legacy

PHY1F

Answer 39 · Mark scheme November 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Key		
One	**A**	gamma rays	**1**
	B	infra red rays	**3**
	C	radio waves	**4**
	D	visible light	**2**

Answer 40 · Mark scheme November 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Three	**A**	a distant galaxy	**3**
	B	a satellite	**1**
	C	the Earth	**2**
	D	the Universe	**4**

Answer 41 · Mark scheme November 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q5 | Legacy

Five	**A**	gamma rays	**1**
	B	infra red rays	**3**
	C	radio waves	**2**
	D	ultraviolet rays	**4**

	A	**B**	**C**	**D**

Answer 42 · Mark scheme November 2011 | PHY1BP | Original Q6 | Legacy

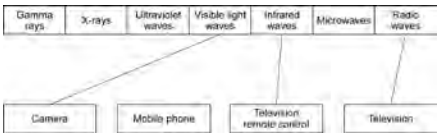
Six	**2**	**2**	**3**	**3**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 43 · Mark scheme

June 2012 | PH1FP | Original Q2 | Legacy

Question 2

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)	3 lines drawn linking: camera to visible light television to radio waves remote control to infrared 	 if more than one line is drawn from any device all those lines are incorrect	 1 1 1
2(b)	300 000 km/s **or** 300 000 000 m/s	unit required accept the same (as light) accept the speed of light	1
2(c)	a longer wavelength than		1
2(d)(i)	refraction	do **not** allow a misspelling that might be reflection	1
2(d)(ii)	travelling along the normal	accept light is at 90° to the surface / block light is not entering at an angle is insufficient	1
Total			**7**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 43 · Mark scheme June 2012 | PH1FP | Original Q2 | Legacy

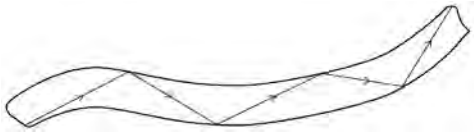
PH1FP

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 44 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | PH3FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question 1

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	middle box ticked 		1
1(b)	reflection	do **not** accept refraction	1
1(c)	endoscope		1
1(d)	eye surgery		1
Total			**4**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 44 · Mark scheme

June 2013 | PH3FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

PH3FP

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 45 · Mark scheme

June 2014 | PH1FP | Original Q6 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO spec ref
6(a)	decreases increases	correct order only	1 1	AO1 1.5.1e
6(b)	absorbed	makes the glass warmer is insufficient (energy) is wasted is insufficient	1	AO3 1.5.1
6(c)(i)	intensity (of transmitted light) depends on thickness **or** to enable a valid comparison **or** it is a control variable	accept absorption depends on thickness it would affect the results is insufficient fair test is insufficient	1	AO3 1.5.1
6(c)(ii)	transmits the least light **or** absorbs the most light	accept very little light is transmitted do **not** accept transmits none of the light do **not** accept absorbs all of the light any reference to heat negates this mark	1	AO3 1.5.1
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 46 · Mark scheme

June 2015 | PH1FP | Original Q6 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 57. Follow original question 6 in that document.

Answer 47 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | PH1FP | Original Q3 | Legacy

The full source mark scheme begins on page 73. Follow original question 3 in that document.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 48 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | PH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
1(a)	gas gravity protostar	correct order only accept correct word circled in box provided no answer given in answer space	1 1 1	AO1 2.6.2c
1(b)	the explosion of a massive star		1	AO1 2.6.2f
1(c)	The telescopes and measuring instruments were not sensitive enough.		1	AO3 2.6
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 48 · Mark scheme

June 2016 | PH2FP | Original Q1 | Legacy



4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 49 · Mark scheme

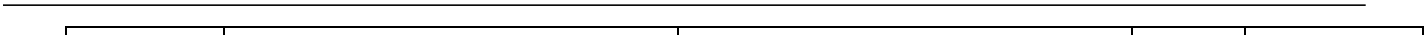
June 2017 | PH1FP | Original Q3 | Legacy

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)(i)	wavelength = N		1	AO1 1.5.1i
3(a)(ii)	amplitude = L		1	AO1 1.5.1i
3(b)	B		1	AO1 1.5.1e
3(c)(i)	equal to	accept the same as	1	AO1 1.5.2b
3(c)(ii)	the laser light is absorbed (by burglar's clothing) **or** the laser light is reflected (in a different direction)		1	AO2 1.5.1g
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 49 · Mark scheme

June 2017 | PH1FP | Original Q3 | Legacy



4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 50 · Mark scheme

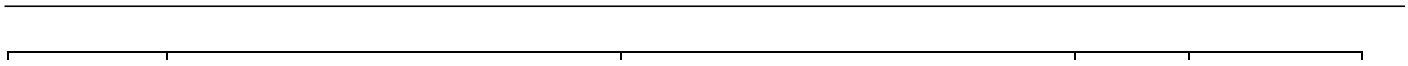
June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	glass vase		1	AO2 4.6.2.6
05.2	transmit		1	AO1 4.6.2.6
05.3	the T-shirt reflects all wavelengths / colours of light (equally)	allow T-shirt reflects (white / all) light	1	AO1 4.6.2.6
05.4	changes from red to black as the cap absorbs (all) the (blue) light **or** as the cap does not reflect the (blue) light	it appears black it is darker is insufficient	1 1	AO2 4.6.2.6
05.5	C ——— distance D ✕ the I ✕ time	all 3 lines correct allow **1** mark for 1 line correct if more than one line drawn from a variable all of those lines do not score	2	AO2 4.6.2.2
05.6	the (infrared) heater	allow infrared (radiation) do **not** accept answers where burning yourself is given as the hazard	1	AO2 4.6.2.2
05.7	answer must be a comparison, eg the matt / black surface is the better absorber (of infrared radiation)	matt black is a good absorber is insufficient	1	AO3 4.6.2.2
Total			**9**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 50 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q5



4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

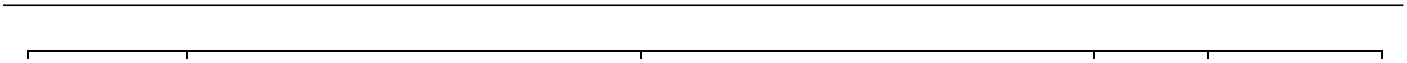
Answer 51 · Mark scheme June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q8

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	C		1	AO1 4.6.2.1
08.2	radio waves have a longer wavelength than ultraviolet		1	AO1 4.6.2.1
08.3	(risk of) skin cancer **or** (prematurely) ageing skin	cancer is insufficient skin damage is insufficient ignore kills skin cells	1	AO1 4.6.2.3
08.4	risk is higher (for X-ray of uds than X-ray of chest) by a factor of 50 **or** risk calculated for each type of X-ray chest X-ray = 1:200 000 (1) uds = 1:4000 (1)		1 1	AO2 4.6.2.3
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 51 · Mark scheme

June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q8



4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 52 · Mark scheme

June 2019 | 8463/1F | Original Q9

Question 9

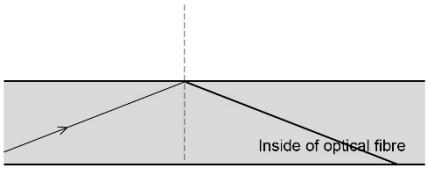
Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
9.1	The energy transferred each second to the bulb.		1	4.1.1.4 AO1
9.2	power = potential difference × current **or** $P = VI$		1	4.2.4.1 AO1
9.3	$40 = I \times 230$ $I = \frac{40}{230}$ I = 0.17 (A)	an answer of 0.17 (A) scores **3** marks a correct answer that rounds to 0.17 (A) scores **3** marks	1 1 1	4.2.4.1 AO2
9.4	efficiency = $\frac{\text{useful power output}}{\text{total power input}}$		1	4.1.2.2 AO1
9.5	$0.30 = \frac{\text{useful power output}}{9.0}$ useful power output = 0.30 × 9.0 useful power output = 2.7 (W)	an answer of 2.7 (W) scores **3** marks	1 1 1	4.1.2.2 AO2
9.6	bulbs also transfer thermal energy the efficiency of the light bulb also needs to be considered	allow light bulbs emit infrared radiation as well as visible light ignore so people know how bright the bulb is allow the cost to power the light bulb depends on the efficiency allow to see how much energy is wasted	1 1	4.1.2.2 4.1.1.4 AO1 AO3
Total			**11**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 53 · Mark scheme

November 2020 | 8463/2F | Original Q4

Question 4

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
04.1	Microwaves Radio waves		1 1	AO1 4.6.2.4
04.2	normal		1	AO1 4.6.1.3
04.3	reflected ray drawn to the right of the normal correct ray of light drawn using a ruler with i = r	ignore arrows 	1 1	AO2 4.6.1.3
04.4	they need to be flexible	ignore bendy / ductile / malleable / elastic	1	AO3 4.6.2.4
04.5	transmitted absorbed absorbed		1 1 1	AO1 4.6.2.6
Total			**9**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 54 · Mark scheme

November 2021 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	convex		1	AO1 4.6.2.5
05.2	image height = 0.8 (cm) **and** object height = 2 (.0 cm)	both correct for **1** mark	1	AO2 4.6.2.5
05.3	magnification = $\frac{0.8\ (cm)}{2\ (.0\ cm)}$ magnification = 0.4(0)	allow their measured object and image heights from question **05.2**	1 1	AO2 4.6.2.5
05.4	inverted real		1 1	AO3 4.6.2.5
05.5	black green	this order only	1 1	AO1 4.6.2.6
Total			**8**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 55 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

Question 5

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.1	ultraviolet travels at the same speed as visible light		1	AO1 4.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.2	D C	this order only	1 1	AO1 4.6.2.1

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.3	A 400 – 315 = 85 (nm) B 315 – 280 = 35 (nm) C 280 – 100 = 180 (nm) (ultraviolet) C (UVC)	three calculations correct 2 marks one or two calculations correct 1 mark mark dependent on all three calculations being made	2 1	AO2 4.6.2.1

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 55 · Mark scheme

June 2022 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.4	**Level 2:** Relevant points (reasons/causes) are identified, given in detail and logically linked to form a clear account.	3–4	AO3 4.6.2.3
	Level 1: Points are identified and stated simply, but their relevance is not clear and there is no attempt at logical linking.	1–2	
	No relevant content.	0	
	Indicative content: • ozone absorbs all of the UVC • UVC is the most dangerous • ozone absorbs nearly all (95%) of the UVB • UVB has a medium risk • ozone does not absorb any UVA • ozone does not reduce risk from UVA • UVA is the least dangerous • the greater the ionising power the greater the absorption by ozone • the greater the ionising power the greater the risk • UV damages skin cells • can lead to skin cancer • can cause sunburn • UV can damage eyes • leads to problems with eyesight		

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
05.5	our eyes detect visible light	allow it would be dark all the time allow specific effect ie plants couldn't grow	1	AO1 4.6.2.1

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 55 · Mark scheme

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

Total Question 5		13

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

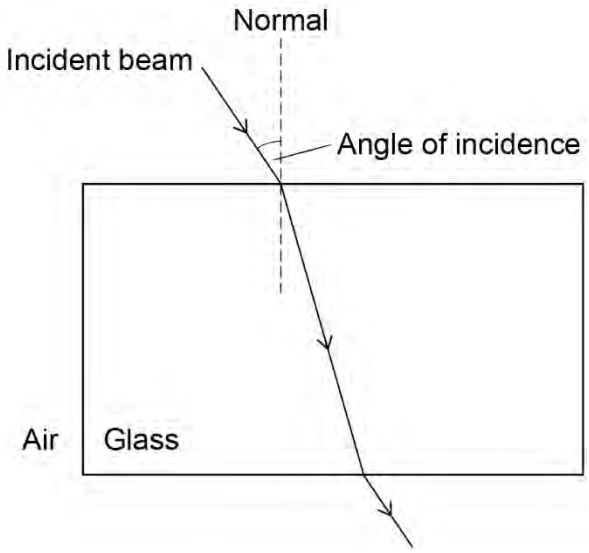
Answer 56 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8463/2F | Original Q6

Question 6

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.1	it is harder to judge where the centre of the beam is		1	AO3 4.6.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.2	ray shown refracted to the right of the normal as it enters the glass block refraction towards the normal emergent ray parallel to incident ray	 do **not** accept a continuation of the incident ray through the glass block ignore arrows	1 1 1	AO1 4.6.2.2



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.3	1 degree		1	AO2 4.6.1.3

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 56 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.4	33 (°)		1	AO2 4.6.1.3

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

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.6	wave speed = frequency × wavelength **or** $v = f\lambda$	allow correct re-arrangement	1	AO1 4.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
06.7	$3.0 \times 10^8 = 4.0 \times 10^{14} \times \lambda$ $\lambda = \frac{3.0 \times 10^8}{4.0 \times 10^{14}}$ $\lambda = 7.5 \times 10^{-7}$ (m)	 allow 0.000 000 75 (m)	1 1 1	AO2 4.6.1.2

Total Question 6	11

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 57 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8463/2F | Original Q7

Question 7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.1	a satellite		1	AO1 4.8.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.2	arrow drawn towards the centre of the Earth from the Hubble Space Telescope		1	AO1 4.8.1.3

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.3	any correct change in distance with the correct change in time	e.g. 38 (km) and 5 (s)	1	AO2 4.5.6.1.4
	a correct substitution of a correct pair of values	e.g. $v = \frac{38}{5}$	1	
	a correctly calculated answer	e.g. v = 7.6 (km/s)	1	

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.4	galaxy **C**		1	AO3 4.8.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.5	galaxy **C**		1	AO3 4.8.2

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 57 · Mark scheme

June 2023 | 8463/2F | Original Q7

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
07.6	to check the observations are correct		1	AO1 4.8.2

Total Question 7	**8**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 58 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8463/2F | Original Q1

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

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 58 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8463/2F | Original Q1

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

Total Question 1	8

Answer 59 · Mark scheme

June 2024 | 8463/2F | Original Q6

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) bees can detect UV radiation (but humans can't)	allow bees cannot detect red (light but humans can)	1 1	AO3 4.6.2.6

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

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**

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 60 · Mark scheme

June 2025 | 8463/2F | Original Q8

Question 8

Question	Answers	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.1	**Level 2:** Scientifically relevant facts, events or processes are identified and given in detail to form an accurate account	4–6	AO1 4.6.1.1 4.6.2.1
	Level 1: Facts, events or processes are identified and simply stated but their relevance is not clear	1–3	
	No relevant content	0	
	Indicative content **Differences** • sound waves are mechanical whereas visible light waves are electromagnetic waves • sound waves require a medium to travel through whereas visible light waves can travel through a vacuum • sound waves are longitudinal whereas visible light waves are transverse • sound waves travel slower (in air) than visible light waves • sound waves travel faster in solids than in air whereas visible light waves travel slower in solids than in air • sound waves have longer wavelengths than visible light • sound waves have a lower frequency than visible light waves **Similarities** • both types of waves can be reflected • both types of waves can be refracted • both types of waves can be diffracted • both types of wave transfer energy		

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 60 · Mark scheme

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.2	speed = $\frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$		1	AO1 4.5.6.1.2

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
08.3	$330 = \frac{13\,200}{t}$ **or** $13\,200 = 330 \times t$ $t = \frac{13\,200}{330}$ 40 (s)		1 1 1	AO2 4.5.6.1.2

Total Question 8	10

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Version 1.0: 0707

ASSESSMENT and QUALIFICATIONS ALLIANCE

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Science B 4462 / Physics 4451

PHY1F Unit Physics 1

Mark Scheme

2007 examination - June series

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' 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.

Further copies of this Mark Scheme are available to download from the AQA Website: www.aqa.org.uk

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Dr Michael Cresswell, Director General.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME

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 his or her judgement and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded.

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.

2. Emboldening

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 lines 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**. (Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a / ; eg allow smooth / free movement.)

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which candidates 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 error/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.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

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

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	4,8	0
2	green, 5	0
3	red*, 5	1
4	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Candidate	Response	Marks awarded
1	Pluto, Mars, Moon	1
2	Pluto, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.2 Use of chemical symbols / formulae

If a candidate writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, 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

Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, as shown in the column 'answers', without any working shown.

However if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution / working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column;

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

Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward are kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation e.c.f. in the marking scheme.

3.6 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **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 Unexpected Correct Answers not in the Mark Scheme

The Examiner should use professional judgement to award credit where a candidate has given an unexpected correct answer which is not covered by the mark scheme. The Examiner should consult with the Team Leader to confirm the judgement. The Team Leader should pass this answer on to the Principal Examiner with a view to informing all examiners.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 1

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	grid	accept any way of indicating correct answer	1
(ii)	increases voltage	accept any way of indicating correct answer	1
(iii)	230 V	accept any way of indicating correct answer	1
(iv)	reduce	accept any way of indicating correct answer	1
(b)(i)	increases the temperature	accept make it hotter / heat goes into the air accept convection currents accept sensible comment eg sound energy / it buzzes ignore pollutes the air	1
(ii)	less than 100%		1
total			6

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 2

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	coal		1
(b)	fossil fuels can be used to generate electricity at any time a few large power stations can generate the electricity for a million homes	if more than 2 boxes ticked, mark incorrect boxes first	1 1
(c)(i)	no fuel is burnt	accept a named fuel accept nothing is burnt accept does not use (fossil) fuel	1
(ii)	kinetic		1
(iii)	any **two** from: • cause <u>noise</u> pollution • cause <u>visual</u> pollution • need concrete for bases • new roads / infrastructure needed • may interfere with TV / radio / mobile phone signals • dangerous to birds • do not generate all of the time • need a lot of generators • high <u>initial</u> / <u>capital</u> costs • reduces house prices	accept causes pollution for **1** mark accept generates <u>only</u> when the wind blows do **not** accept 'generate when the wind blows' do **not** accept 'take up a lot of space / land'	2
total			7

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 3

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	7pm	accept 19.00 / 1900	1
(ii)	8pm	accept 20.00 / 2000	1
	temperature drops more slowly	accept heat for temperature accept line is less steep	1
(b)	insulator		1
	conduction*	*answers can be either way around	1
	convection*		1
(c)(i)	4 (years)		1
(ii)	it is the cheapest / cheaper / cheap	do **not** accept answers in terms of heat rising or DIY	1
	has the shortest / shorter payback time	do **not** accept short payback time	1
total			9

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 4

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	any **one** from: • gamma • X-rays • infra red • microwaves • radio	 accept correct symbol accept IR do **not** accept heat do **not** accept TV	1
(ii)	all the waves travel at the same speed		1
(b)(i)	(skin) cancer / melanoma	accept damage eyesight accept sunburn do **not** accept sun tan do **not** accept sunstroke	1
(ii)	higher levels of UV greater risk to health / risk of skin cancer / (more) protection needed / most likely to get burnt / damage skin	accept UV at its strongest / sun's rays are strongest ignore 'sun is at its hottest' ignore 'sun is at its highest' accept greater damage to / easier to damage cells / mutate cells ignore just 'affect your health' must be idea of greater adverse effect on health	1 1
total			5

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 5

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	C		1
(b)(i)	easy to maintain / access **or** (currently) cheaper than a space telescope **or** can modify (easily) an existing telescope **or** telescopes can be larger **or** can test new types of telescope (easily)	do **not** accept 'easier to use' do **not** accept easier to supply with power	1
(ii)	atmosphere does not block / distort the image	accept picture / data for image accept 'more detailed / clearer image / data / picture accept 'no light pollution' accept 'can look at the Earth' do **not** accept 'can see further' do **not** accept 'better view' do **not** accept 'clear view' do **not** accept 'can see more clearly'	1
total			3

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 6

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)(i)	electromagnetic (wave / radiation)	accept em (wave / radiation) ignore reference to frequency	1
(ii)	gamma can penetrate the crate / box / packaging	accept converse (but must relate to both alpha and beta) ignore just gamma radiation kills bacteria accept can get through to food	1
(iii)	neutrons		1
(b)(i)	absorb gamma / radiation	accept it stops / reduces the radiation	1
(ii)	any **one** from: • slow down the conveyor belt • food does more than one circuit • stay on the conveyor belt longer • food closer to the source / radiation	ignore larger doses / use more of the source ignore thinner packaging	1

Continued on next page

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question 6 continued

	answers	extra information	mark
(c)(i)	idea of testing food on humans / animals		1
	no (measured) ill effects **or** monitor their health	accept monitor people that have eaten the food accept a measurement / comparison for **1** mark eg measure the amount of radiation in treated food comparison plus a reason for the comparison would get **2** marks eg idea of measuring level of radiation in treated food **with** no measurable increase in level = **2** marks **or** comparing it to untreated food = **2** marks	1
(ii)	so can make own decision about eating or not eating treated food	accept may be against their religious / moral views accept some people prefer food that hasn't been tampered with ignore in case they don't like the idea of eating treated food accept don't want to eat treated food ignore might be allergic to the food eg think it will give them cancer = **0** marks think it will give you cancer so I need to know so that I can choose = **1** mark	1
total			8

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PHY1F Question 7

	answers	extra information	mark
(a)	the outside colour of the cans		1
(b)(i)	18 (°C) **or** 88 to 70	ignore negative sign	1
(ii)	8 (°C) **or** 70 to 62	ignore negative sign	1
(c)	greater temperature difference between water and surroundings (at start)	must mention temperature difference ignore just water hotter accept energy used to heat cans initially	1
(d)	black		1
	temperature falls the fastest (in L)	accept (can L) loses more heat / cools quicker accept heat for temperature	1
	black is a good / the best / better emitter (of heat / radiation)	accept converse ignore black is best absorber	1
total			7

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

PMT

AQA

GCSE

Science A / Physics

PH1FP

Mark scheme

4405/4403
June 2015

Version/Stage: 1.0 Final

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

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 Assessment Writer.

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Further copies of this mark scheme are available from aqa.org.uk

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4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Mark Scheme

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 his or her judgement and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded
- 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.

2. Emboldening

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**. Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a / ; 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.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

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 planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	Neptune, Mars, Moon	1
2	Neptune, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.1 Use of chemical symbols / formulae

If a student writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, full credit can be given if the symbol / formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.2 Marking procedure for calculations

Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, without any working shown.

However, if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution / working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column or by each stage of a longer calculation.

3.3 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.

3.4 Errors carried forward

Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward is kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation e.c.f. in the marking scheme.

3.5 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.6 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.

3.2 Ignore / Insufficient / Do not allow

Ignore of insufficient 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.

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

4. Quality of Communication and levels marking

In Question **7a** students are required to produce extended written material in English, and will be assessed on the quality of their communication as well as the standard of the scientific response.

Students will be required to:
- use good English
- organise information clearly
- use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

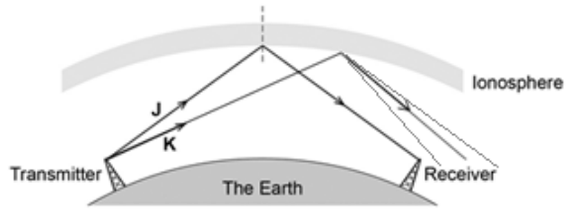
The following general criteria should be used to assign marks to a level:

Level 1: basic
- Knowledge of basic information
- Simple understanding
- The answer is poorly organised, with almost no specialist terms and their use demonstrating a general lack of understanding of their meaning, little or no detail
- The spelling, punctuation and grammar are very weak.

Level 2: clear
- Knowledge of accurate information
- Clear understanding
- The answer has some structure and organisation, use of specialist terms has been attempted but not always accurately, some detail is given
- There is reasonable accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar, although there may still be some errors.

Level 3: detailed
- Knowledge of accurate information appropriately contextualised
- Detailed understanding, supported by relevant evidence and examples
- Answer is coherent and in an organised, logical sequence, containing a wide range of appropriate or relevant specialist terms used accurately.
- The answer shows almost faultless spelling, punctuation and grammar

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
1(a)(i)	reflection of wave **K** at or within the ionosphere angle i = angle r 	allow dashed lines 'judge by eye' tolerance for the reflected ray is between the first e and last r ignore arrows a reflected ray to the receiver doesn't score 2nd mark additional rays shown doesn't score 2nd mark	1 1	AO2 P1.5.2b
1(a)(ii)	normal		1	AO1 P1.5.2a
1(b)(i)	microwave		1	AO1 P1.5.1k
1(b)(ii)	refraction		1	AO1 P1.5.1g
1(c)	All electromagnetic waves are transverse. All electromagnetic waves have the same speed in a vacuum.		1 1	AO1 P1.5.1b, c, d
Total			7	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2015

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
2(a)	chemical kinetic sound	correct order only	1 1 1	AO1 P1.2.1a
2(b)	48% or 0.48	an answer of 0.48 with a unit gains **1** mark an answer of 0.48% gains **1** mark an answer of 48 with or without a unit gains **1** mark	2	AO2 P1.2.1d
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
3(a)(i)	because they contain free electrons		1	AO1 P1.1.3a
3(a)(ii)	because they are good absorbers of infrared radiation		1	AO1 P1.1.1c
3(b)(i)	insulators		1	AO1 P1.1.3a
3(b)(ii)	the rate of energy transfer would be lower.		1	AO1 P1.1.3c
3(c)	power time	allow the temperature (of the oven) watts or wattage is insufficient	1 1	AO1 P1.3.1b
3(d)	it can be switched on / off remotely	accept sensible suggestions about remote operation eg can be turned on / off from work **or** food can be cooked before you get home	1	AO3 P1.1
Total			**7**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2015

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
4(a)	20 790 (J)	an answer of 21 000 (J) (2 s.f.) gains **2** marks allow **1** mark for correct substitution: ie E = 0.33 x 4200 x 15 provided no subsequent step shown	2	AO2 P1.1.4d
4(b)	temperature		1	AO1 P1.1.4d
4(c)	(top pan) balance	accept scales do **not** accept a scale do **not** accept weighing scales do **not** accept newtonmeter do **not** accept spring balance	1	AO1 P1.1.4d
4(d)	dark / black / (dark) grey convection	 correct order only	1 1	AO1 P1.1.1c P1.1.3c
4(e)(i)	created	accept made	1	AO1 P1.2.1a
4(e)(ii)	increases		1	AO1 P1.2.1c
Total			**8**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO/Spec. ref.
5(a)(i)	high levels of infrared radiation (from the Sun)	allow lots of (solar) energy (available) do **not** accept 'heat' for infrared 'it is hot' is insufficient 'lots of sunlight' is insufficient	1	AO2 P1.4.1a
5(a)(ii)	reflected		1	AO1 P1.5.1g
5(a)(iii)	boiler turbine transformer	correct order only	1 1 1	AO1 P1.4.1a
5(b)	2 100 000 (kWh)	allow **1** mark for correct substitution i.e. 140 000 x 15 provided no subsequent step	2	AO2 P1.3.1c
5(c)(i)	only 1 wind turbine was considered **or** other wind turbines may have generated more electricity only 1 week's weather was reported on **or** wind speed varies from one week to another	accept only one location is considered accept insufficient sample size 'wind speed varies' is insufficient	1 1	AO3 P1.4
5(c)(ii)	any **one** from: • wind speed is too high / low • wind is unreliable	allow no wind allow too windy allow wind is variable	1	AO1 P1.4

Question 5 continues on the next page . . .

Question 5 continued . . .

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO/Spec. ref.
5(c)(iii)	any **one** from: • wind is a renewable energy source • do not use fuel • energy source is free • do not release carbon dioxide • do not release greenhouse gases • do not release sulfur dioxide • do not cause acid rain • do not cause climate change • do not cause global warming • do not cause global dimming	answer must be an advantage of wind, converse answers in terms of fossil fuels are insufficient accept do not release pollutant gases 'no pollution' is insufficient	1	AO1 P1.4.1f
Total			**11**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
6(a)(i)	C		1	AO2 P1.5.4a
6(a)(ii)	The speed of star **B** is less than the speed of star **D**.		1	AO3 P1.5.4b
6(b)	300 000 000 m/s	allow **1** mark for correct substitution ie 200 000 x 1500 provided no subsequent step shown allow unit correctly indicated in list if not written in answer space	2 1	AO2 AO1 P1.5.1j
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
7 (a)	Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 4 and apply a 'best-fit' approach to the marking.		6	AO2 AO3 P1.2 HSW

0 marks	Level 1 (1-2 marks)	Level 2 (3-4 marks)	Level 3 (5-6 marks)
No relevant information	There is a relevant statement about an energy saving method	There is at least one clear comparison of energy saving methods and their cost effectiveness with an appropriate calculation	There is a comparison of energy saving methods and their cost effectiveness with appropriate calculations. Comparison to include further detail.

examples of physics points made in the response	extra information
examples of relevant statements • energy efficient boiler saves the most (energy / money) per year • loft insulation costs the least to install • double-glazing costs the most to install **examples of statements that include cost effectiveness** • loft insulation is the most cost effective in the long term • double-glazing is the least cost effective • loft insulation has the shortest payback time • double-glazing has the longest payback time • payback time calculated for any method **examples of further detail** • for cost effectiveness install in the following order: loft, cavity wall, boiler, double-glazing • for reducing energy use install in the following order: boiler, loft, cavity wall, double glazing • don't install double-glazing for insulation purposes • double-glazing won't pay for itself in your lifetime • justified choice of best / worst method	payback times: energy efficient boiler: 6.25 years loft insulation: 2 years double glazing: 100 years cavity wall insulation: 2.86 years

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question 7 continued . . .

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
7(b)(i)	how effective a material is as an insulator	accept 'heat' for energy accept how effective a material is at keeping energy in accept the lower the U-value the better the insulator accept the lower the U-value the lower the rate of energy transfer	1	AO1 P1.1.4a
7(b)(ii)	(the U-value) decreases		1	AO1 P1.1.4b
Total			**8**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
8(a)(i)	0.5 °C		1	AO3 P1.1
8(a)(ii)	data is continuous **or** both variables are continuous **or** independent variable is continuous **or** time is continuous	accept results / measurements for data accept data is not categoric one variable is continuous is insufficient air temperature is continuous is insufficient	1	AO3 P1.1
8(b)(i)	20.5 (°C)		1	AO2 P1.1
8(b)(ii)	60 (minutes)	accept 1 hour	1	AO2 P1.1
8(c)(i)	so a comparison can be made **or** outside temperature is a control variable	accept: (outside) temperature would affect energy required (to maintain temperature of the house) **or** (outside) temperature would affect internal temperature (of the house) **or** heat loss will be faster on a cold day outside temperature will affect the results is insufficient fair test is insufficient	1	AO3 P1.1

Question 8 continues on the next page . . .

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. ref.
8(c)(ii)	the cost is equal to the number of kWh x the cost per kWh calculation 0.8 / 8.0 = 0.1 or 10%	accept (heating) bill depends on (number of) kWh used accept energy for kWh allow 7.2 / 8.0 = 0.9 or 90%	1 1	AO3 AO2 P1.1
8(c)(iii)	heating is on for more / less time (than anticipated) because some days it is cooler / warmer (than anticipated)	 accept other sensible suggestions an answer giving two sensible situations gains **2** marks possible examples: • some houses have different amounts of insulation • there are different styles of house temperature (inside / outside) is always changing is insufficient	1 1	AO3 P1.1
Total			**9**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

AQA

GCSE

Science A / Physics

PH1FP

Mark scheme

4405/4403
June 2016

Version 1.0: Final Mark Scheme

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

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 Assessment Writer.

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.

Further copies of this mark scheme are available from aqa.org.uk

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4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Mark Scheme

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 his or her judgement and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded
- 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.

2. Emboldening

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**. Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a / ; 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.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

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 planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	Neptune, Mars, Moon	1
2	Neptune, Sun, Mars, Moon	0

3.2 Use of chemical symbols / formulae

If a student writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, 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

Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, without any working shown.

However, if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution / working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column or by each stage of a longer calculation.

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

Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward is kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation e.c.f. in the marking scheme.

3.6 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **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 Accept / allow

Accept is used to indicate an equivalent answer to that given on the left-hand side of the mark scheme. Allow is used to denote lower-level responses that just gain credit.

3.9 Ignore / Insufficient / Do not allow

Ignore of insufficient 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.

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

4. Quality of Communication and levels marking

In Question **7(b)** students are required to produce extended written material in English, and will be assessed on the quality of their communication as well as the standard of the scientific response.

Students will be required to:
- use good English
- organise information clearly
- use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

The following general criteria should be used to assign marks to a level:

Level 1: basic
- Knowledge of basic information
- Simple understanding
- The answer is poorly organised, with almost no specialist terms and their use demonstrating a general lack of understanding of their meaning, little or no detail
- The spelling, punctuation and grammar are very weak.

Level 2: clear
- Knowledge of accurate information
- Clear understanding
- The answer has some structure and organisation, use of specialist terms has been attempted but not always accurately, some detail is given
- There is reasonable accuracy in spelling, punctuation and grammar, although there may still be some errors.

Level 3: detailed
- Knowledge of accurate information appropriately contextualised
- Detailed understanding, supported by relevant evidence and examples
- Answer is coherent and in an organised, logical sequence, containing a wide range of appropriate or relevant specialist terms used accurately.
- The answer shows almost faultless spelling, punctuation and grammar.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2016

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
1(a)	geothermal nuclear biofuel		1 1 1	AO1 1.4.1a 1.4.1d
1(b)	gravitational (potential) kinetic sound		1 1 1	AO1 1.3.1a 1.4.1b
1(c)(i)	90% or 0.9(0)	an answer of 0.9(0) with a unit gains **1** mark an answer of 90 with no unit or an incorrect unit gains **1** mark	2	AO2 1.2.1d
1(c)(ii)	60 (MW)	allow 10%	1	AO2 1.2.1b
1(c)(iii)	increased		1	AO1 1.2.1c
Total			**10**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
2(a)	46 200	accept 46 000 allow **1** mark for correct substitution ie 0.5 x 4200 x 22 provided no subsequent step	2	AO2 1.1.4d
2(b)	Energy is used to heat the kettle.		1	AO2 1.2.1b
2(c)	9 (pence)	allow **1** mark for correct substitution ie 0.6 x 15 provided no subsequent step	2	AO2 1.3.1d
2(d)(i)	conduction and convection		1	AO1 1.1.3a
2(d)(ii)	any **one** from: • water stays hotter for longer (than a 'conventional' kettle) • water boiled less often • less energy transferred to the surroundings • (new design is) more efficient		1	AO2 1.2
Total			**7**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2016

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
3(a)(i)	any **one** from: • (visible) light • UV / ultra violet • X-ray • gamma / γ-ray		1	AO1 1.5.1e
3(a)(ii)	less than less than the same as		1 1 1	AO1 1.5.1d 1.5.1e
3(b)(i)	(the) Big Bang (theory)		1	AO1 1.5.4e
3(b)(ii)	the red-shift of light from distant galaxies		1	AO1 1.5.4c
Total			**6**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2016

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
4(a)	dependent		1	AO3 1.1.3b
4(b)	The equipment has a better resolution.		1	AO3 1.1.3
4(c)	(probe) C largest difference between reading and actual temperature	allow 103.2 reason only scores if C chosen accept larger it is 3.2 greater is insufficient comparing C with only one other probe is insufficient	1 1	AO3 1.1.3
4(d)(i)	12(°C)	accept a value between 12.0 and 12.2 inclusive	1	AO2 1.1.3d
4(d)(ii)	140 (seconds) <u>temperature</u> starts to rise	accept an answer between 130 and 150 inclusive only scores if time mark awarded accept the <u>temperature</u> was lowest (at this time)	1 1	AO2 AO3 1.1.3b
4(d)(iii)	increase	accept faster (rate)	1	AO1 1.1.3b
Total			**8**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2016

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
5(a)	it would decrease the time		1	AO3 1.2.1a
5(b)	720 (J)	allow **1** mark for correct substitution ie 12 x 60 provided no subsequent step	2	AO2 1.3.1c
5(c)	dense rises falls	 accept equivalent words accept equivalent words	1 1 1	AO1 1.1.3a
5(d)	 decreases decreases decreases	more than one tick in any row negates the mark	 1 1 1	AO3 1.1.3c 1.1.3d
Total			**9**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

MARK SCHEME – GCSE SCIENCE A / PHYSICS – PH1FP– JUNE 2016

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
6(a)	frequency		1	AO1 1.5.3b
6(b)	echo(es)		1	AO1 1.5.3c
6(c)	spreading (out) equal to	changing direction is insufficient moving apart is insufficient bending is insufficient accept: similar to same (order of magnitude) as slightly smaller than slightly larger than	1 1	AO1 1.5.1g
6(d)	340 (m/s)	allow **1** mark for correct substitution ie 25 000 x 0.0136 provided no subsequent step or allow 1 mark for a correct calculation showing an incorrect value from conversion to hertz x 0.0136 an answer of 0.34 gains **1** mark	2	AO2 1.5.1j
6(e)	(a wave where the) oscillations are parallel to the direction of energy transfer causing (areas of) compression and rarefaction	both marking points may appear as labels on a diagram accept vibrations for oscillations accept in same direction as for parallel to allow direction of wave (motion) for direction of energy transfer accept correct description in terms of particles mechanical wave is insufficient needs a medium to travel through is insufficient	1 1	AO1 1.5.1b
Total			**8**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
7(a)	any **one** from: • high cost of installing overhead power lines or underground cables or pylons • high cost as (very) long cables needed • amount of electricity required is too low	allow not enough (surplus) electricity would be generated	1	AO1 1.4.1e

Question 7 continues on the next page . . .

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
7 (b)	Marks awarded for this answer will be determined by the Quality of Written Communication (QWC) as well as the standard of the scientific response. Examiners should also refer to the information on page 5 and apply a 'best-fit' approach to the marking.		6	3 AO1 2 AO2 1 AO3 1.4.1b

0 marks	Level 1 (1-2 marks)	Level 2 (3-4 marks)	Level 3 (5-6 marks)
No relevant information	at least **one** advantage **or one** disadvantage of either method	at least **one** advantage **and one** disadvantage is stated for **one** method **and** a different advantage **or** disadvantage is stated for the other method	clear comparison of advantages **and** disadvantages of **each** method

examples of physics points made in the response	extra information
Advantages of both methods: • both renewable sources of energy • both have no fuel (cost) • both have very small (allow 'no') running costs • no carbon dioxide produced	 accept carbon neutral accept no greenhouse gases accept doesn't contribute to global warming
Advantages of wind: • higher average power output	 produces more energy is insufficient
Advantages of hydroelectric: • constant / reliable power (output) • lower (installation) cost	
Disadvantages of wind: • higher (installation) cost • variable / unreliable power output • (may) kill birds / bats	
Disadvantages of hydroelectric: • lower power output • (may) kill fish or (may) damage habitats • more difficult to set up (within river)	
Disadvantages of both methods • (may be) noisy • visual pollution	 ignore payback time unless no other relevant points made ignore time to build for both

Total			7

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Spec. Ref.
8(a)	a proportion / percentage of the energy is wasted	allow heat for energy allow some energy is wasted	1	AO2 1.2.1b 1.2.1c
	(wasted) energy is transferred to surroundings **or** energy is needed to heat pan (before food is heated)		1	
8(b)	(fins have a) large(r) surface area	accept fins increase the surface area	1	AO1 1.1.1c 1.1.1e 1.1.3c
	(black metal surface is a) good / better absorber of infrared radiation	allow 'heat' or 'energy' for infrared radiation ignore good emitter of infrared radiation not a good reflector is insufficient	1	
8(c)	the higher the temperature (of the saucepan) the greater the rate at which infrared radiation is emitted	accept converse answer allow the higher the temperature the more infrared radiation is emitted allow there is a positive correlation	1	AO2 1.1.1b
Total			**5**	

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 50 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

Question 5 (Low demand)

05.1 96% of students scored this mark.

05.2 Answers were split almost equally between the three options.

05.3 Many students seemed confused about the fact that white is not in itself a colour but is made up of the colours of the spectrum. It was common to see answers such as 'the T-shirt absorbs all the colours but reflects white'. The terms reflection, absorption, transmission and emission were often used incorrectly and many students confused their answers with comments such as 'the white light reflected the T-shirt'. Vague answers such as 'It looks white because it is white' were commonly seen.

05.4 About 25% of the students realised that the red cap would absorb the blue light. Of those only 3% said the cap would look black, most of the students suggested that the red and blue would mix to give purple or dark blue.

05.5 46% of students scored both marks, with a further 32% scoring one mark.

Answer 50 · Examiner comments

June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

05.6 The difficulty in this question was distinguishing between the main hazard in the investigation and the risk that the hazard presented. The acceptable hazards were the heater, the infrared radiation and the hot metal surface. Over half of the students only stated the risk and so scored zero.

05.7 The majority of the students were able to correctly compare the absorption of infra-red radiation by a matt black and a shiny silvered surface. Common misconceptions are that the matt black surface attracted the infra-red radiation better and that it is a better conductor.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 51 · Examiner comments June 2018 | 8463/2F | Original Q8

Question 8 (Low and Standard demand)

08.1 Position ‘C’ was the most popular answer with 65% of the students scoring the mark.

08.2 The direction in which the wavelength and the frequency change in the electromagnetic spectrum was less well known, with 45 % of the students choosing the correct answer,

08.3 Of the students that scored this mark (44%) most responded with ‘skin cancer’, fewer referred to ‘premature aging of the skin’**.** The majority of the students gave responses that were too general and often not related to the skin. The most common was to state that the radiation causes cancer, rather than specifying skin cancer.

08.4 78% scored at least one mark for recognising that the risk of developing cancer increased with increased radiation dose. Fewer were able to quantify that it was fifty times more likely. Some of the students assumed that having an X-ray on a part of the body would mean that the cancer would be in the same part of the body.

Answer 55 · Examiner comments June 2022 | 8463/2F | Original Q5

Question 5 (Low and standard demand)

05.1 Very few of the students seemed to know that all electromagnetic waves travel at the same speed in a vacuum.

05.2 The order of the waves in the electromagnetic spectrum was not well known with only about 40% of the students scoring both marks.

05.3 The majority of the students demonstrated an understanding of ‘range’. About 10% of students did not attempt the question.

05.4 Very few of the students related the information in Table 4 and Figure 10 to the relative risk of harm to people. Few of the students scored more than 1 mark with about 13% of the students not attempting the question. Most of the students that scored 1 mark did so for giving a general trend or stating that UV can cause skin cancer.

05.5 Many of the students tried to give a more complex answer than required, which were commonly incorrect. The most common correct answers involved being able to see or the idea that if light did not get through it would be dark all the time.

05.6 Nearly three quarters of the students scored at least one mark, often for completing the second blank space correctly.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 56 · Examiner comments — June 2023 | 8463/2F | Original Q6

06.1

50% of students knew that a wide beam of light makes it more difficult to judge where the centre of the beam is.

06.2

Many students found completing the path taken by the ray through the block very difficult very difficult, with many scoring no marks. Some treated the normal line as mirror and drew a reflected ray either inside the block or against the edge of it.

06.3

21% of students were able to identify the resolution of the protractor.

06.4

The vast majority of students were able to calculate the mean.

06.5

Only 25% of students gave the correct word ‘absorbed’. Common incorrect answers included blocked, emitted, filtered, reflected and refracted.

06.6

The vast majority of students gave the correct equation. For those few that didn’t score, it was most frequently because they did not attempt the question, in spite of having the formula sheet.

06.7

A significant number of students scored 2 marks because they could not calculate the powers of ten correctly, giving an answer of 7.5×10^{21}. A number of students scored no marks because they showed an incorrect rearrangement but omitted to show the substitution step first.

Answer 57 · Examiner comments — June 2023 | 8463/2F | Original Q7

07.1

75% of students knew that satellite is the name given to an object that orbits a planet.

07.2

A significant number of students did not attempt this question. This is common when students are asked to complete a diagram. Many did show an arrow from the Hubble Space Telescope to Earth. Some drew multiple arrows. A lack of precision from where the arrow started prevented some students from scoring the mark.

07.3

53% of students scored full marks on this calculation of speed from a distance–time graph. The most obvious way of doing this was to use the full gradient which gives 38km in 5 seconds, which was the most common method used by the students. However, many students took different intervals along the line and provided they used the correct numbers the calculation was accepted. This meant a range of velocities could be derived. Common ones were 15km in 2s, 4km in 0.5s,

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 57 · Examiner comments June 2023 | 8463/2F | Original Q7

23km in 3s. 8% scored one mark for correctly identifying a change in distance with the corresponding change in time.

07.4

65% of students could identify the galaxy moving away from Earth the fastest from the light spectra.

07.5

77% of students could identify the galaxy furthest away from Earth from the light spectra.

07.6

74% of students understood why it is important that scientific observations are peer reviewed.

Answer 58 · Examiner comments June 2024 | 8463/2F | Original Q1

01.1
98% of students could name our galaxy correctly.

01.2
This question was well answered with 80% of students knowing what the Sun was formed from.

01.3
70% of students were able to name a force involved in the formation of the Sun.

01.4
There was some confusion about the process which releases energy in stars, with only 56% choosing fusion. The most common wrong answer was combustion. Very few students did not attempt this question.

01.5
This question proved more challenging, with only 15% of students understanding that all types of electromagnetic radiation travel at the same speed in a vacuum or space.

01.6
53% of students knew that infrared radiation has a greater frequency than visible light.

01.7
This question was well answered with 49 % of students scoring one mark for knowing that the Sun emits infrared radiation at a greater rate than Earth and a further 34% of students scoring both marks because they could give a reason why.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

Answer 59 · Examiner comments June 2024 | 8463/2F | Original Q6

06.1
Many responses for this question were too vague. The questions asked for equipment that can be used to detect infrared waves, so responses that involved emitters of IR waves were incorrect. A significant number focussed on the word radiation and gave their response as a Geiger counter.

06.2
23% of students interpreted the information correctly and chose the correct wavelength.

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Answer 59 · Examiner comments June 2024 | 8463/2F | Original Q6

06.3
A correct response required the use of the information given to identify differences between the sight of bees and humans. Simply quoting wavelengths that could and could not be detected was not sufficient. A minority of students gained marks.

06.4
This question was about white light shining onto a coloured flower. A significant number of students chose the correct words but not always in the incorrect order.

06.5
60% of students were aware of the affect a filter has on the appearance of a coloured object.

06.6
Less than 2% of students were able to name diffuse reflection.

4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

AQA

GCSE
PHYSICS

8463/1F: Paper 1
Report on the Examination

8463
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4.6.2.6 Visible light (physics only)

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General

Grade 1-3 calculation questions were well answered, where the equation is always given and students will not be required to rearrange the equation. Grade 4-5 calculation questions involving equation recall were answered better this year than in 2018 and students are scoring many of their marks on the paper by answering the subsequent calculation questions correctly. At grade 4-5 students are expected to be able to either rearrange an equation or convert a unit, so it is beneficial for students to be able to quickly identify if the units given in a question are correct for the use in the equation. Question 10.1 was generally well attempted and students who had carried out Required Practical Activity 2 would have had a material advantage over those who hadn't.

Handwriting sometimes makes it very difficult for examiners to read what has been written. Students who have handwriting that is difficult to read may benefit from a scribe or from word processing their answers in exams.

Levels of demand

Questions are set at two levels of demand on this paper:

- low demand questions are targeted at students working at grades 1–3
- standard demand questions are targeted at students working at grades 4–5.

A student's final grade, however, is based on their attainment across the qualification as a whole, not just on questions that may have been targeted at the level at which they are working.

Question 1 (Low demand)

01.1 Around 77% of students scored 2 marks. Around 16% of students scored 1 mark.

01.2 Only around 8% of students scored 2 marks. Both evaporation and change of state were common, insufficient answers for the first marking point. Less than half of the students scored 1 mark. The marking points were independent, so if the change of state was incorrect eg melting, the student could still score the second marking point.

01.3 Around 91% of students scored 2 marks. In calculations where students are provided with the equation (grades 1-3) students are not expected to rearrange the equation. Some students incorrectly tried to convert the kg into g and scored 0 marks.

01.4 Approximately 82% of students scored 3 marks. In calculations where students are provided with the equation (grades 1-3) students are not expected to rearrange the equation. Some students incorrectly tried to convert the kg into g and scored 0 marks for the calculation. Some students set out their calculation, but then multiplied the two values rather than dividing.

Question 2 (Low demand)

02.1 About 67% of students identified the correct decay equation.

02.2 More than three quarters of the students identified why alpha radiation is dangerous inside the human body.

02.3 Just below three quarters of students scored 2 marks. Most correct answers read the values from the graph as intended (460, 280) and students didn't need the tolerance given in the mark scheme.

02.4 About 60% of students correctly estimated the mass remaining.

02.5 Students found this question difficult, with around 55% of students scoring 2 marks and around 27% of students scoring 1 mark.

Question 3 (Low demand)

03.1 Approximately 45% of students scored 1 mark for identifying a measuring instrument that could be used. About 9% of students scored 2 marks for describing an appropriate way to use it. Pythagoras was insufficient as the triangle described would not give the height of the zip wire.

03.2 Students were often very successful in calculation, with around 91% scoring 2 marks.

03.3 This question gave a good spread of marks. Over a fifth scored 3 marks, almost two fifths scored 2 marks and slightly below a quarter scored 1 mark. Gravitational potential energy or gravitational field strength were insufficient to score a mark.

Question 4 (Low demand)

04.1 Over a third of students answered this question correctly.

04.2 About 14% of students answered this question correctly.

04.3 This question about the alpha particle scattering experiment discriminated well between students. Around 16% of students scored 3 marks, around 45% of students scored 2 marks and around 30% of students scored 1 mark.

04.4 About 77% of students correctly identified what reproducible means. .

Question 5 (Low demand)

05.1 The most common correct answers linked CO_2 to global warming. Around 38% of students scored 2 marks and around 35% scored 1 mark. Common incorrect answers were usually vague and mentioned air pollution without being specific. There were many students who incorrectly linked CO_2 with the ozone layer.

05.2 Over half of the students scored 2 marks and over a third scored 1 mark. Insufficient answers included hydro and water. Answers using specification wording eg the tides were acceptable, as were terms like tidal, etc. Oil was insufficient as this was assumed to be non-renewable oil as opposed to palm oil or other biofuel oils.

05.3 Around 83% of students scored 2 marks for this percentage calculation. An answer of 78 scored 1 mark even if spurious calculations followed.

05.4 About 67% of students scored 2 marks. Quite a large number of misreads from the graph resulting in 0 marks and around 29% of students scored 0 marks.

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05.5 Only around 5% of students scored 2 marks whilst half of the students scored 1 mark. Some students failed to make the connection between the time of day and sunrise. Some students talked vaguely about the energy stored by solar panels, confusing them with solar heating panels rather than solar photovoltaic panels.

Question 6 (Low and Standard demand)

06.1 More than half of the students scored 2 marks. To score a mark a comparative statement was needed eg lower, not low mass of power source. A statement using the word 'better' would be insufficient.

06.2 Around 64% of students scored 2 marks. Many students scored 1 mark for truncating and not rounding their answers, an answer of 26.08 would score only 1 mark for the substitution.

06.3 This question discriminated well, with about 16% scoring 2 marks and more than half scoring 1 mark. 'Increases the battery's power output' was insufficient to score a mark. 'Battery lasts longer' was insufficient to score a mark.

06.4 The quantities in the question are given in alphabetical order; there is no need for students to recall the equation in this order. Any correct rearrangement of the equation or use of the correct symbols for quantities was allowed. A mixture of symbols and words would also score the mark. Approximately 70% of students answered this question correctly.

06.5 It was encouraging to see many Foundation tier students successfully rearranging the equation. Around 77% of students scored 3 marks.

Question 7 (Low and Standard demand)

07.1 About 86% of students answered this question correctly.

07.2 Approximately 83% of students answered this question correctly. Students should refer to the Physics specification for the accepted symbols for circuit components. Textbooks and revision guides do not necessarily use the specification symbols. The circles in the component symbol scored a mark even if shown as blobs rather than circles.

07.3 Around 93% of students scored 2 marks. At grade 1-3, the equation is given and no rearrangement of the equation is needed. Students need to simply substitute and calculate the answer.

07.4 Around 93% of students scored 2 marks. At grade 1-3, the equation is given and no rearrangement of the equation is needed. Students need to simply substitute and calculate the answer.

07.5 About 23% of students answered this question correctly.

07.6 About 38% of students answered this question correctly.

07.7 Students can recall the equation in any correct rearrangement. The stem of the question lists the quantities in alphabetical order, so that there is no suggestion of the correct order.

Correct letters for quantities are acceptable in place of the quantity names. Voltage or p.d. were acceptable for potential difference. Approximately 57% of students answered this question correctly.

07.8 The first mark is for the substitution into the correct equation. The second mark is for the correct rearrangement of the correct equation. The third mark is for the correct final answer. About 58% of students scored 3 marks for this question. Grade 4-5 calculation questions require either a unit change or a rearrangement of the equation.

Question 8 (Low and Standard demand)

08.1 Around 63% of students answered this question correctly.

08.2 Around 86% of students answered this question correctly. Some students gave a precaution instead of a risk, which was insufficient.

08.3 Around 62% of students answered this question correctly, demonstrating that students still confuse the terms resolution and range.

08.4 Around 96% of students answered this question correctly.

08.5 Many students failed to substitute correctly into the equation that was printed on the Physics Equations Sheet. Many students multiplied the 3 values given in the question, which scored zero marks. The unit mark was independent, but a large number of students failed to recognise the correct unit from the box. More than a third of students scored 4 marks and around 16% of students scored 3 marks. A quarter of students scored 1 mark for either the correct unit or the correct substitution.

Question 9 (Standard demand)

09.1 About 45% of students correctly identified the meaning of power input.

09.2 Only a quarter of students scored this mark. Students can recall the equation in any correct rearrangement. The stem of the question lists the quantities in alphabetical order, so that there is no suggestion of the correct order. Correct letters for quantities are acceptable in place of the quantity names. Voltage or p.d. were acceptable for potential difference.

09.3 Around 13% of students scored 3 marks and about 81% scored zero. Students found this question difficult to answer, presumably due to their inability to recall the correct equation in the preceding question.

09.4 More than half of students answered this correctly. Some students failed to score the mark by writing input for both the denominator and the numerator.

09.5 Students who successfully recalled the equation in **09.4** were likely to score all 3 marks for this question. Only around 15% of students scored zero.

09.6 Many students restated the stem, rather than going the extra stage in the reasoning and linking to efficiency because thermal energy is also transferred by the light bulb. A number of students believed that knowing the rate at which the bulbs emitted visible light was a

safety concern related to the household electrics. Only around 1% of students scored 2 marks, about 16% of students scored 1 mark and around 73% of students scored zero marks.

Question 10 (Standard demand)

10.1 This question produced a good spread of marks. A mean score of 2.1 was achieved by students on the Foundation tier. Students who had experience of a similar practical benefitted from this as they were able to describe a method in sufficient detail to achieve Level 2. To achieve Level 3, a student needed to indicate that several values of number of layers were used, referring to the interval of 8 layers (as the graph showed) or that the experiment should be done with no layers. A control variable was also needed, either the initial temperature of the water, or the volume of water in each experiment. Some students gained no credit by describing different required practical methods. Around 2% of students scored 6 marks, around 15% of students scored 4 marks and about a fifth of students scored 2 marks. Around 10% of students didn't attempt the question.

10.2 Many students stated that it wasn't necessary to use both as it would be confusing. The datalogger would produce too much data was a common insufficient answer. A number of students stated that using a normal thermometer would be more appropriate, scoring zero marks. Less than 1% of students scored 2 marks and less than a fifth of students scored 1 mark.

Question 11 (Standard demand)

11.1 Over two-fifths of students scored 3 marks for this question. It wasn't necessary to give the answer to an appropriate number of significant figures, so answers of 0.502, 0.50 and 0.5 were all creditworthy. Some students calculated the jump height to be unlikely values; students should be encouraged to consider whether it is likely that someone can jump a height of 4.92 m, a commonly seen answer achieved by multiplying the 2 values given (41 × 0.12). Less than half of the students scored zero marks.

11.2 A common incorrect answer was E_k = mass × speed, since these were the quantities given in the question. A number of students also left out the 0.5 value even if they remembered that speed should be squared. Velocity was allowed instead of speed in the equation. Correct symbols were acceptable for the quantities in the equation. About 30% of students answered this question correctly.

11.3 Despite being asked to recall the equation in 11.2, most students simply multiplied or divided the 2 values given in the question (3.0 and 270), scoring 0 marks. Only around 19% of students scored 3 marks.

11.4 Some students commented on muscle mass and strength which were insufficient to score marks. Clear comparisons, including at least one difference and one similarity, were needed to score 4 marks. This question discriminated well between students; around 6% of students scored 4 marks, around 29% of students scored 2 marks and around 13% of students scored zero.

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11.5 Some students failed to score a mark because they simply restated the question, 'the scientist wanted the highest muscle power reading' without adding any value. The answer either needed to refer to the effect of repetition on performance (improvement or worsening) or that it was the maximum (or peak) muscle power that the scientist was investigating. A fifth of students answered this question correctly.

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Use of statistics

Statistics used in this report may be taken from incomplete processing data. However, this data still gives a true account on how students have performed for each question.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the Results Statistics page of the AQA Website.

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Questions matter

GCSE

Physics

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General comments

Students should pay attention to the number of options that need to be ticked when doing multiple choice questions. They should make sure they cross out wrong options when they change their minds, as marks cannot be awarded where there are multiple ticks instead of one.

Many students demonstrated good maths skills, although there are always issues with rearrangements. Formula triangles are not always helpful. Students who had correctly written down an equation in a previous question and then tried to use a formula triangle often scored no marks, because they don't understand how to use them. If they had substituted into the equation from the equations sheet they would have scored the 1st mark.

Students had access to the equations sheet for this examination series. A minority of the students however did not use them to find the appropriate equation.

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01.1

Over 90 % of the students knew that a protractor is used to measure angles. The phonetic spelling of protractor was allowed.

01.2

Almost 70% of the students scored all four marks for completing the graph. Despite a clear instruction a significant number did not label the y-axis. A number of the students did not use a ruler to draw the line of best fit.

01.3

Most of the students correctly identified the relationship between the angle of incidence and the angle of reflection.

01.4

Half of the students knew which measurement was the amplitude of a wave. Most of the others thought the vertical distance between a peak and a trough was the amplitude.

01.5

About 80 % of the students knew which line showed the wavelength of the wave. The most common incorrect answer was the distance showing half the wavelength.

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01.6

Over 90 % of the students correctly calculated the wavelength. Those who did not achieve full marks mainly did so by not choosing the correct unit for wavelength, with Pa being a popular incorrect choice.

01.7

This was well answered, with most of the students scoring both marks. A few inverted the equation and thus calculated the period incorrectly.

02.1

Most of the students correctly calculated the weight of coal.

02.2

Just over 90% of the students were able to use the work done equation correctly. Those that did not get full marks tended to put an additional step into the calculation by dividing the answer 68 000 000 by 4; the number of engines in total.
Occasionally a student would attempt to convert the number calculated into standard form. Whilst not being penalised, this was not required.

02.3

Well answered by most students. As with part 02.2, occasionally a student would attempt to convert the number calculated into standard form.

02.4

Nearly 90% of the students could identify that friction was a contact force.

02.5

Most of the students identified the correct distance-time graph for constant speed.

02.6

This was the 1st calculation that was more challenging for many students. A common error was to use only one of the quoted velocities to calculate the acceleration rather than using the difference between the velocities. However just over 80 % did score full marks, with 10 % scoring zero or not attempting the question.

03.1

Approximately 60% of the students scored both marks. Often students did not know the correct word for a natural satellite. However, many correctly identified ‘star’ for the second word.

03.2

Most of the students knew that we are part of the Milky Way galaxy.

03.3

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Only about 40 % of the students knew that the Sun will eventually become a black dwarf. The most popular wrong answer was that it would become a black hole.

03.4

Just fewer than 40 % of the students knew that a very distant galaxy moves faster than a nearer galaxy.

03.5

About 70 % of the students knew that an increase in the wavelength of light from a distant galaxy is called red-shift.

03.6

About 60 % of the students selected the correct word to describe the beginning of the universe.

03.7

Almost 80 % of the students knew that the universe is expanding.

04.1

Just over 70 % of the students were able to make the connection between the mass of a vehicle and how it would affect the maximum acceleration.

04.2

Over 90 % of the students scored full marks for calculating the resultant force using F = ma. However, some of the students thought that the value of acceleration needed to be squared and then multiplied by mass.

04.3

This level of response question proved too challenging for many. Only just over 1 % of the students scored full marks. Most identified that the driving force would increase, but fewer recognised that as this happened the air resistance would also increase, with many stating that the air resistance would decrease as the cars speed increased.

04.4

Most of the students knew that the thinking distance is affected by the driver's reaction time.

04.5

Just fewer than 70 % of the students were aware that the braking distance is the distance travelled under the braking force.

04.6

Only just over 20 % of the students scored full marks for using the graph of distance against speed to find the stopping distance. The correct distances were often identified from the graph. However, these were then either subtracted from each other, divided or multiplied rather than added.

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04.7

Nearly 80 % of the students identified factors that would increase the stopping distance of a car. Despite two being emboldened twice in the question, some students only ticked one box.

05.1

The principal focus was correctly identified by just over 60 % of the students.

05.2

About 80 % of the students knew that the change in direction of light as it enters a lens is called refraction.

05.3

Nearly 70 % the students recognised the shape of a convex lens.

05.4

Under a half of the students managed to correctly measure the object height and image height. This may have been due to a lack of skill or a lack of equipment.

05.5

This was much more successfully answered than part 05.4 with nearly 90 % of the students scoring both marks. These students used their values from part 05.4 to calculate magnification.

05.6

Just fewer than 50 % of the students knew that magnification is a ratio, but almost the same number thought it is a power.

05.7

This was a challenging question. Most of the students that did score a mark were awarded only the first mark point. This was for explaining that white light is transmitted through colourless glass. A lot of the students think of white light as an entity in itself rather than the result of the colours of the visible light combined. Few used the word transmitted but rather described it as passing through or goes through.
For the 2nd and 3rd mark points many of the students decided that white light was reflected or refracted, reinforcing the misconception that white light is a single entity rather than being made up of a combination of wavelengths. The idea that filters would absorb different wavelengths of light seemed to be difficult for the students to express, with very few achieving the third mark.

06.1

Only just over 30 % of the students could identify two magnetic materials from the list, with about 60 % being able to identify one. Again, a number of students ticked just one box or more than two boxes.

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06.2
Just over 70 % of the students correctly named the iron nails as induced magnets.

06.3
Just fewer than 40 % of the students knew the direction of the magnetic field.

06.4
Nearly 80 % of the students recognised the shape of the magnetic field around a current carrying wire.

06.5
Very few of the students could give two changes that would increase the magnetic field strength. 'Increasing the current' was a common correct response. Many of the students answered 'increasing the number of coils' as such they were implying the wire was already coiled and not answering the question asked, which was about the straight wire shown in Figure 10.

07.1
Nearly 60 % of the students understood what is meant by the moment of a force. The most common incorrect option was 'The direction of the force.'

07.2
The correct resultant moment was selected by just over 80 % of the students.

07.3
Students generally answered this well, identifying position 7 and on which side of the balance the tag should be placed. Some indicated this on the diagram which was an accepted alternative response, provided what was written did not contradict it.

07.4
Some students wrote the equation for the moment of a force in words and then in symbols. This risks not gaining the mark if either is incorrect. Also, correct use of symbols should be stressed, especially when they are given in the question. It was surprising that some of the students scored zero or did not attempt to write down an equation despite having the equations sheet.

07.5
Almost three quarters of the students were able to rearrange the equation and then calculate the distance between the pivot and the tag on the balance.

08.1
Most of the students found this level of response question difficult to answer. Only just over 1 % gave a level 2 answer. Many of the students scored 2, 1 or 0 marks. Of those that scored a mark the most common response was light travels faster than sound. Many also tried to describe light and sound as transverse and longitudinal waves, with the majority getting this

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confused. Very few identified acceptable similarities. Common answers that did not gain credit included light travels at the speed of light, sound travels at the speed of sound, light can be seen and sound cannot be seen.

08.2

Just fewer than 80 % of the students choose the correct equation for calculating speed.

08.3

This question required students to rearrange the equation. About three quarters of the students scored all three marks.

09.1

About 65 % of the students correctly stated the independent variable in this investigation.

09.2

Just over 40 % of the students scored both marks for identifying a risk of harm and a suitable safety precaution to reduce the risk. Too few students connected a hazard, such as a falling weight, becoming a risk of harm when it hit or hurt the student.

09.3

Students were expected to clearly describe two improvements to the arrangement shown that would improve the accuracy of the results. Many had difficulty describing their ideas clearly and answers were often too vague to gain credit.

09.4

Almost 40 % of the students scored this mark usually by explaining that the spring length was not 0 cm rather than describing the relationship between spring length and force.

09.5

This was not successfully answered, with only about 2 % of the students scoring both marks and a further 13 % scoring one mark. The 1st mark point was for stating or giving a clear description of inelastic deformation. Of those who were awarded marks most of them described how the spring had reached or passed its limit of proportionality.

09.6

Over 90 % of the students selected the correct equation.

09.7

Nearly 80 % of the students scored all three marks. Those that did not often rearranged the equation incorrectly.

10.1

Only about 5% of the students correctly calculated the uncertainty correctly from either the range or the mean.

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10.2

Just over 40 % of the students identified that a random error had caused the variation in this investigation. A greater proportion of the students thought there was a systematic error but this would not have accounted for the variation in the results.

10.3

This mark was awarded for a clear description of variation in the way the ball was dropped. For example, through different heights, at different speeds, or a different delay each time. Common answers giving reaction time or human error were too vague, to be awarded marks unless qualified.

10.4

Just fewer than 30 % of the students scored all three marks. Many of the students took only one value from the graph rather than a corresponding pair of values and so scored 0. Those that used a pair of correct values often then used them the wrong way round when calculating the gradient.

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