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NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

SEPTEMBER 2025

ENGLISH FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE P3 MARKING GUIDELINE

MARKS: 100

This marking guideline consists of 12 pages.



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INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

These marking guidelines must be used in conjunction with the attached English FAL assessment rubrics for SECTIONS A, B and C.

NOTE: All pieces of writing should be read at least **TWICE** during assessment, once for content and once for language respectively. Errors have to be indicated in your second reading.

SECTION A: ESSAY

QUESTION 1

INSTRUCTIONS TO MARKERS:

- Candidates are required to write on **ONE** topic only.
- The ideas listed below the topics are only **some ways** in which the topics can be interpreted.
- Full credit must be given for the candidates' own interpretation.
- Marking must be objective. Give credit for relevant ideas.
- Use the 50-mark grid to mark the essays. The texts produced by candidates must be assessed according to the following criteria:
 - Content and planning (30 marks)
 - Language, style and editing (15 marks)
 - Structure (5 marks)

NOTE:

- Adhere to the length of 250–300 words as prescribed in the CAPS document. However, should the maximum word count be reached mid-sentence, read to the end of that sentence, refer to the First Additional Language Examination Guidelines, Grade 12, 2021.
- No additional penalties may be imposed as the rubric itself imposes penalties.

1.1 If I could turn back time

Narrative/Descriptive/Reflective/Discursive/Argumentative

- If narrative, the essay must have a strong story line and an interesting ending.
- If descriptive, the writer should create a picture in words using as many senses as possible to make the description clear.
- If reflective, the essay should convey emotional reactions and feelings the candidate experiences/experienced.
- If discursive, the arguments for and against must be well-balanced and clearly analysed in the essay. The candidate may come to a particular conclusion at the end of the essay, which should include recommendations.
- If argumentative, the essay must reflect a specific argument or viewpoint for or against the topic. The candidate should give a range of arguments to support his/her view. The conclusion should be a strong, clear and convincing statement of the writer's opinion.

NOTE: A candidate may write an essay which contains elements of more than one type of essay/any other essay type.

[50]



1.2 Footprints in the sand ...

Descriptive/Reflective/Narrative/Discursive/Argumentative

- If descriptive, the candidate should create a picture in words using as many senses as possible to make the description clear.
- If narrative, the essay must have a strong story line and an interesting ending.
- If reflective, the essay should convey emotional reactions and feelings the candidate experiences/experienced.
- If discursive, the arguments for and against must be well-balanced and clearly analysed in the essay. The candidate may come to a particular conclusion at the end of the essay, which should include recommendations.
- If argumentative, the essay must reflect a specific argument or viewpoint for or against the topic. The candidate should give a range of arguments to support his/her view. The conclusion should be a strong, clear and convincing statement of the writer's opinion.

NOTE: A candidate may write an essay which contains elements of more than one type of essay/any other essay type.

[50]

1.3 A significant change I went through

Reflective/Descriptive/Narrative/Discursive/Argumentative

- If reflective the essay should convey the emotional reactions and feelings the candidate experiences/experienced
- If descriptive, the writer should create a picture in words using as many senses as possible to make the description clear.
- If narrative, the essay must have a strong story line and an interesting ending.
- If discursive, the arguments for and against must be well-balanced and clearly analysed in the essay. The candidate may come to a particular conclusion at the end of the essay, which should include recommendations.
- If argumentative, the essay must reflect a specific argument or viewpoint for or against the topic. The candidate should give a range of arguments to support his/her view. The conclusion should be a strong, clear and convincing statement of the writer's opinion.

NOTE: A candidate may write an essay which contains elements of more than one type of essay/any other essay type.

[50]



1.4 **Artificial intelligence and machines will replace educators in classrooms in the future**

Discursive/Argumentative/Reflective/Narrative/Descriptive

- If discursive, the arguments for and against must be well-balanced and clearly analysed in the essay. The candidate may come to a particular conclusion at the end of the essay, which should include recommendations.
- If argumentative, the essay must reflect a specific argument or viewpoint for or against the topic. The candidate should give a range of arguments to support his/her view. The conclusion should be a strong, clear and convincing statement of the writer's opinion.
- If reflective the essay should convey the emotional reactions and feelings the candidate experiences/experienced
- If narrative, the essay must have a strong story line and an interesting ending.
- If descriptive, the candidate should create a picture in words using as many senses as possible to make the description clear.

NOTE: A candidate may write an essay which contains elements of more than one type of essay/any other essay type.

[50]

1.5 **"You have to believe in yourself when no one else does." – Serena Williams**

Reflective/Narrative/Descriptive/Discursive/Argumentative

- If reflective the essay should convey the emotional reactions and feelings the candidate experiences/experienced.
- If narrative, the essay must have a strong story line and an interesting ending.
- If descriptive, the candidate should create a picture in words using as many senses as possible to make the description clear.
- If discursive, the arguments for and against must be well-balanced and clearly analysed in the essay. The candidate may come to a particular conclusion at the end of the essay, which should include recommendations.
- If argumentative, the essay must reflect a specific argument or viewpoint for or against the topic. The candidate should give a range of arguments to support his/her view. The conclusion should be a strong, clear and convincing statement of the writer's opinion.

NOTE: A candidate may write an essay which contains elements of more than one type of essay/any other essay type.

[50]

Interpretation of pictures

The candidate:

- Must give the essay a suitable title
- May interpret the pictures in any way, relevant to the picture
- May choose to write any type of essay, relevant to the picture
- Must link the interpretation to the picture



1.6 Picture: Females in the workplace

Narrative/Descriptive/Reflective/Argumentative/Discursive

- Literal interpretations: breaking gender stereotypes, woman empowerment, etc.
- Figurative interpretations: future of work, woman and construction, women are just as competent as men, etc.

[50]**1.7 Picture: Child's hand in an adult's hand**

Narrative/Descriptive/Reflective/Argumentative/Discursive

- Literal interpretation: a child's dependence on his parent, for guidance and safety, etc.
- Figurative interpretation: inheritance and legacy, mentoring etc.

[50]**1.8 Picture: Nature has eyes**

Narrative/Descriptive/Reflective/Argumentative/Discursive

- Literal interpretations: nature is connected to us, the impact nature has on us, etc.
- Figurative interpretations: accountability to nature, the magic of nature, nature is watching us, etc.

[50]**TOTAL SECTION A: 50**

**SECTION B: LONGER TRANSACTIONAL TEXTS****QUESTION 2****INSTRUCTIONS TO MARKERS:**

- Candidates are required to answer ONE question.
- Marking must be objective. Give credit for relevant ideas.
- Use the 30-mark assessment rubric to mark the responses in this section. The texts produced by candidates must be assessed according to the following criteria as set out in the assessment rubric:
 - Content, planning and format (18 marks)
 - Language, style and editing (12 marks)

NOTE:

- Adhere to the length of 120–150 words as prescribed in the CAPS document. However, should the maximum word count be reached mid-sentence, read to the end of that sentence.
- No additional penalties may be imposed as the rubric itself imposes penalties.

2.1 LETTER TO THE PRESS

Letter to the editor.

- The letter should have an introduction, a body and a conclusion.
- The tone and register of the letter should be formal.
- The following aspects of format must be included:
 - Address of sender
 - Address of the recipient
 - Date
 - Greeting/Salutation
 - Subject line
 - Suitable ending
- The reasons/causes why municipalities struggle to supply communities and schools with water and among others suggestions/advice on how communities' schools might overcome this problem.

[30]

2.2 DIALOGUE

A conversation between you and your mother.

- The tone must be formal
- A brief scenario (context) must be sketched before the speakers start speaking.
- The names of the speakers must appear on the left-hand side of the page.
- A colon must appear after the name of each speaker.
- A new line must be used to indicate each speaker.
- Stage directions (tone of voice, actions etc.) must be written in brackets, if applicable.
- The following ideas must be explored, among others:
 - Why the cell phone was confiscated (the reason).
 - Explanation of why the game was played in class.

[30]**2.3 MAGAZINE ARTICLE**

An article for a magazine.

- The article must have a suitable heading.
- The article must have clearly defined paragraphs.
- The style should be personal, addressing the reader.
- The language must be formal.
- The article must make the reader aware of the reasons why learners are anxious and frustrated and among others must provide advice on how to overcome this.

[30]**2.4 SPEECH**

A speech in which the donor of the money for sports equipment is thanked.

- The speech should be written using a suitable salutation/greeting.
- The tone and register should be appropriate for the audience.
- The speech must include the following:
 - An introduction that captures the listener's attention.
 - Well-developed points.
 - A suitable conclusion.
 - The speech must thank the donor of the money for sports equipment.

TOTAL SECTION B: 30



SECTION C: SHORTER TRANSACTIONAL TEXTS

QUESTION 3

INSTRUCTIONS TO MARKERS:

- Candidates are required to answer ONE question.
- Marking must be objective. Give credit for relevant ideas.
- Use the 20-mark assessment rubric to mark the responses in this section. The texts produced by candidates must be assessed according to the following criteria as set out in the assessment rubric:
 - Content, planning and format (12 marks)
 - Language, style and editing (8 marks)

NOTE:

- Adhere to the length of 80–100 words as prescribed in the CAPS document. However, should the maximum word count be reached mid-sentence, read to the end of that sentence.
- No additional penalties may be imposed as the rubric itself imposes penalties.

3.1 DIARY ENTRY

The candidate's feelings BEFORE and AFTER the reading competition and winning the laptop.

- There must be two diary entries with two different times/dates.
- The entries must express the candidate's feelings before and after the reading competition.
- The diary entries must be written in the first person.
- The language should be simple and informal.
- The tone must reflect suitable emotions.
- The language may be formal or informal but not slang or colloquialism.

[20]

3.2 INVITATION CARD

Invitation to a surprise retirement celebration event for grandfather.

- Type of function should be clear.
- Language should be suited to the context.
- Full sentences are not necessary.
- The following aspects of format must be included:
 - Name of invitee
 - Date
 - Venue
 - Time
- The following aspects of format may be included:
 - Dress code
 - RSVP

NOTE: The response may be in the form of a letter. No marks are awarded for drawings or illustrations.

[20]



3.3 DIRECTIONS

Directions from the point of entry to the venue.

- The directions may either be in point or paragraph form.
- Complete sentences are not necessary.
- Directions must be in the correct chronological order.
- Landmarks, approximate distances and specific directions must be included.

NOTE: No marks are awarded for drawings or illustrations.

[20]

TOTAL SECTION C: 20
GRAND TOTAL: 100



SECTION A: RUBRIC FOR ASSESSING ESSAY – ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE [50 MARKS]

Always use the rubric when marking the creative essay (Paper 3, SECTION A):

- The marks from 0–50 have been divided into 5 major level descriptors.
- In the Content, Language and Style criteria, each of the five level descriptors is divided into an upper and a lower-level sub-category with the applicable mark range and descriptors.
- Structure is not affected by the upper level and lower-level division.

Criteria	Exceptional	Skilful	Moderate	Elementary	Inadequate
CONTENT AND PLANNING (Response and ideas) Organisation of ideas for planning Awareness of purpose, audience and context 30 MARKS	Upper level 28–30 - Outstanding/Striking response beyond normal expectations. - Intelligent, thought-provoking and mature ideas - Exceptionally well organised and coherent (connected) including introduction, body and conclusion/ending.	22–24 - Very well-crafted response. - Fully relevant and interesting. - Ideas with evidence of maturity - Very well organised and coherent (connected) including introduction, body and conclusion/ending.	16–18 - Satisfactory response - Ideas are reasonably coherent and convincing. - Reasonably organised and coherent including introduction, body and conclusion/ending.	10–12 - Inconsistently coherent response - Unclear ideas and unoriginal - Little evidence of organisation and coherence.	4–6 - Totally irrelevant response. - Confused and unfocused ideas. - Vague and repetitive. - Unorganised and incoherent.
	Lower level 25–27 - Excellent response but lacks the exceptionally striking qualities of the outstanding essay - Mature and intelligent ideas - Skilfully organised and coherent (connected) including introduction, body and conclusion/ending.	19–21 - Well-crafted response. - Relevant and interesting ideas. - Well organised and coherent (connected) including introduction, body and conclusion.	13–15 - Satisfactory response but some lapses in clarity. - Ideas are fairly coherent and convincing. - Some degree of organisation and coherence including introduction, body and conclusion.	7–9 - Largely irrelevant response. - Ideas tend to be disconnected and confusing. - Hardly any evidence of organisation and coherence.	0–3 - No attempt to respond to the topic - Completely irrelevant and inappropriate - Unfocused and muddled
LANGUAGE, STYLE AND EDITING Tone, register, style, vocabulary appropriate to purpose/effect and context Word choice Language use and conventions, punctuation, grammar, spelling 15 MARKS	Upper level 14–15 - Tone, register, style, vocabulary highly appropriate to purpose, audience and context - Language confident: exceptionally impressive – compelling and rhetorically effective in tone. - Virtually error-free in grammar and spelling. - Highly skilfully crafted.	11–12 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary very appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Language is effective and a consistently appropriate tone is used. - Largely error-free in grammar and spelling. - Very well crafted.	8–9 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Appropriate use of language to convey meaning. - Tone is appropriate. - Rhetorical devices used to enhance content.	5–6 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary not appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Very basic use of language. - Tone and diction are inappropriate. - Very limited vocabulary.	0–3 - Language incomprehensible - Tone, register, style and vocabulary less appropriate to purpose, audience and context - Vocabulary limitations so extreme as to make comprehension impossible
	Lower level 13 - Language excellent and rhetorically effective in tone. - Virtually error-free in grammar and spelling. - Skilfully crafted.	10 - Language engaging and generally effective - Appropriate and effective tone. - Few errors in grammar and spelling. - Well-crafted	7 - Adequate use of language with some inconsistencies. - Tone generally appropriate and limited use of rhetorical devices.	4 - Inadequate use of language. - Little or no variety in sentence. - Exceptionally limited vocabulary.	
STRUCTURE Features of text Paragraph development and sentence construction 5 MARKS	5 - Excellent development of topic - Exceptional detail - Sentences, paragraphs exceptionally well-constructed	4 - Logical development of details - Coherent - Sentences, paragraphs logical, varied	3 - Relevant details developed - Sentences, paragraphs well-constructed - Essay still makes some sense	2 - Some valid points - Sentences and paragraphs faulty - Essay still makes sense despite flaws.	0–1 - Necessary points lacking - Sentences and paragraphs faulty

SECTION B: ASSESSMENT RUBRIC FOR LONGER TRANSACTIONAL TEXT – ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE [30 marks]

Criteria	Exceptional 15-18	Skilful 11-14	Moderate 8-10	Elementary 5-7	Inadequate 0-4
CONTENT PLANNING AND FORMAT (Response and ideas) Organisation of ideas for planning Purpose, audience and features/conventions and context 18 MARKS	- Outstanding response beyond normal expectations. - Intelligent and mature ideas. - Extensive knowledge of features of the type of text. - Writing maintains focus. - Coherence in content and ideas. - Highly elaborated and all details support the topic. - Appropriate and accurate format.	- Very good response demonstrating good knowledge of features of the type of text. - Maintains focus – no digressions. - Coherent in content and ideas, very well elaborated and details support topic. - Appropriate format with minor inaccuracies.	- Adequate response demonstrating knowledge of features of the type of text. - Not completely focused – some digressions. - Reasonably coherent in content and ideas. - Some details support the topic. - Generally appropriate format but with some inaccuracies.	- Basic response demonstrating some knowledge of features of the type of text. - Some focus but writing digresses. - Not always coherent in content and ideas. - Few details support the topic. - Has vaguely applied necessary rules of format - Some critical oversights.	- Response reveals no knowledge of features of the type of text - Meaning is obscure with major digressions. - Not coherent in content and ideas. - Very few details support the topic. - Has not applied necessary rules of format.
LANGUAGE, STYLE AND EDITING Tone, register, style, purpose/effect, audience and context Language use and conventions. Word choice Punctuation, spelling 12 MARKS	10-12 - Tone, register, style, vocabulary highly appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Grammatically accurate and well-constructed - Virtually error-free.	8-9 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary very appropriate to purpose, audience and context - Generally, grammatically accurate and well-constructed - Very good vocabulary - Mostly free of errors	6-7 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Some grammatical errors - Adequate vocabulary - Errors do not impede meaning	4-5 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary less appropriate to purpose, audience and context - Inaccurate grammar with numerous errors - Limited vocabulary - Meaning is obscured.	0-3 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary do not correspond to purpose, audience and context. - Error-ridden and confused - Vocabulary not suitable for purpose - Meaning seriously impaired

SECTION C: ASSESSMENT RUBRIC FOR SHORTER TRANSACTIONAL TEXT – ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE [20 marks]

Criteria	Exceptional 10-12	Skilful 8-9	Moderate 6-7	Elementary 4-5	Inadequate 0-3
CONTENT PLANNING AND FORMAT (Response and ideas) Organisation of ideas for planning Purpose, audience and features/conventions and context 12 MARKS	- Outstanding response beyond normal expectations - Intelligent and mature ideas - Extensive knowledge of features of the type of text - Writing maintains focus - Coherence in content and ideas. - Highly elaborated and all details support the topic - Appropriate and accurate format	- Very good response demonstrating good knowledge of features of the type of text. - Maintains focus – no digressions. - Coherent in content and ideas, very well elaborated and details support topic. - Appropriate format with minor inaccuracies.	- Adequate response demonstrating knowledge of features of the type of text. - Not completely focused – some digressions. - Reasonably coherent in content and ideas - Some details support the topic - Generally appropriate format but with some inaccuracies.	- Basic response demonstrating some knowledge of features of the type of text. - Some focus but writing digresses. - Not always coherent in content and ideas. - Few details support the topic. - Has vaguely applied necessary rules of format - Some critical oversights.	- Response reveals no knowledge of features of the type of text - Meaning is obscure with major digressions. - Not coherent in content and ideas. - Very few details support the topic. - Has not applied necessary rules of format.
	7-8 - Tone, register, style, vocabulary highly appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Grammatically accurate and well-constructed - Virtually error-free.	5-6 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary very appropriate to purpose, audience and context - Generally, grammatically accurate and well-constructed - Very good vocabulary - Mostly free of errors.	4 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary appropriate to purpose, audience and context. - Some grammatical errors - Adequate vocabulary - Errors do not impede meaning.	3 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary less appropriate to purpose, audience and context - Inaccurate grammar with numerous errors - Limited vocabulary - Meaning is obscured.	0-2 - Tone, register, style and vocabulary do not correspond to purpose, audience and context. - Error-ridden and confused - Vocabulary not suitable for purpose - Meaning seriously obscured
LANGUAGE, STYLE AND EDITING Tone, register, style, purpose/effect, audience and context Language use and conventions. Word choice Punctuation, spelling 8 MARKS					