

# Candidate evidence

## Candidate 1 French – Society scenario

Last summer you spent two weeks living with a French family in Marseille. You went there to practise your language skills. On your return, you are asked to write up a blog in French for the school/college webpage.

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- Where exactly you went **and** how you travelled
- Where the family home was situated
- How you got on with the family members
- What you did around the house to help out
- What steps you took to improve your language skills
- Why you think it is important to speak other languages

You should write approximately 150-180 words

Je suis partie à Marseille dans le sud de la France au mois de juillet dernier.

Je suis allée la-bas pour améliorer le français. Je suis restée chez une famille - je suis amie avec une des filles depuis un an. J'ai voyagé en avion car c'est loin d'ici et le voyage était très ennuyeux. J'ai changé de vol à Londres.

L'appartement était dans les environs alors je devais prendre le bus pour le centre tous les temps. C'était pénible. Je n'aime pas le quartier de l'appartement ou il y avait des distractions.

Je ne m'entends pas avec le frère de ma copine Isabelle, mais les autres c'était sans problème. Le frère était grognon, il a quatorze ans - un enfant gâté!

La maman s'occupait de moi et faisait à manger si j'avais faim. Elle était sympa et pour aider, j'ai balayé le sol et je faisais mon lit et j'ai range la chambre. Un jour j'ai repassé!

J'ai parlé tout les temps en français et j'ai perfectionné mon accent - ca va mieux ! Je comprends plus de choses maintenant ! Dans les magasins et les cafés, j'ai fait des efforts.

J'ai pensé que c'est une très bonne idée aller en France pour améliorer la langue et je crois que parler d'autres langues c'est important - comme ça, tu peux avoir des avantages dans le monde du travail.

J'espère revenir un jour à Marseille!

## Candidate 2 French - Culture scenario

Last summer you attended a festival in France. After your trip, your teacher/lecturer asks you to write an article in French about your experience for your school/college webpage.

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- With whom you travelled **and** what you thought of your accommodation
- Your impression of the place/festival location
- What you thought of the festival itself
- What you enjoyed most
- What you did on days you did not go to the festival
- Why you would recommend this type of cultural experience to others

You should write approximately 150-180 words

L'été dernière il y avait le festival a Nantes - 'les trois continents'. J'y suis passe trois jours.

Je suis allé à l'hotel qui était 5 étoiles et avec piscine, c'était genial!

Nantes est super mais il y a du bruit la nuit. Le festival est intéressant - il y a un choix de films pour les jeunes.

Mon film préférée était un film d'horreur car c'est effrayant et choquant!

Un jour (non au festival) on est allé dans la campagne, visiter un château. Mes parents

aimer l'histoire, moi non, c'est ennuyeux

Je recommanderais le 'trois continent' festival, car c'est varie et Nantes c'est super.

## Candidate 3 French – Employability scenario

Last summer you worked in a hotel in France. You have been asked to write a report in French on your work experience for the school/college magazine.

**You must include** the following information and **should try to add** other relevant details:

- Where the hotel was located **and** how you got there
- What the accommodation was like
- What kind of work/jobs you did in the hotel
- How you got on with the other employees
- How you used your language skills in your work
- Why you would recommend this experience to others

You should write approximately 150-180 words.

Pour commencer, l'année dernière je suis allée à Paris travailler dans un hôtel de trois étoiles. L'hôtel était dans le centre près de la Tour Eiffel et je suis restée deux semaines là-bas.

J'ai dû partir d'Aberdeen en train puis j'ai dû prendre l'avion d'Edimbourg à Paris. Le voyage en avion était court mais l'avion était plein à craquer.

En fait j'ai trouvé le travail sur internet et l'annonce a décrit le logement. En réalité j'ai eu une petite chambre mais c'était vraiment minuscule et j'ai dû partager les WC avec les autres stagiaires. C'était pénible car la chambre était au 7<sup>e</sup> étage et il faisait trop chaud. Malheureusement il n'y avait pas de climatisation et c'est utile au mois de juillet!

Nous étions trois jeunes pour faire un stage de deux semaines - une Allemande, une Hollandaise et moi. Moi, j'ai travaillé de femme de chambre avec l'Hollandaise; alors surtout on a parlé anglais.

Pour dire la vérité, je n'ai pas pratiqué mon français beaucoup au travail, c'était dommage. Par contre, pendant mon temps libre je suis allée au café pour bavarder avec les clients. Aussi je suis allée à 'Paris Plages' pour bronzer et là tu peux pratiquer le français!

Enfin, j'aimerais retourner à Paris un jour - je recommanderais un stage en France à tout le monde car on peut améliorer la langue.

## Candidate 4 French – Learning scenario

Last year you and a group from your school/college were selected to be part of an exchange visit to France. On your return, you were asked to write an account of your experiences for the languages page of your school/college website.

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- When you went **and** what the journey was like
- Where you stayed
- What places you visited
- How you spent your free time
- What you liked/disliked about the visit
- How you think the exchange will benefit you

You should write approximately 150-180 words.

L'été dernier je suis partie en échange scolaire. On est allés en France et nous sommes restés dans une petite ville. Il y avait vingt personnes dans le groupe - dix-sept élèves et trois profs. Heureusement les profs n'étaient pas trop sévères!

On a voyagé par le train et on a pris le ferry de Douvres à Calais. Le voyage était trop long. Il faut dire que moi je préfère voyager en avion! Pendant le voyage j'ai parlé à d'autres voyageurs. J'ai rencontré quelqu'un qui habite dans un village près de mon village. Quelle coïncidence!

Je suis restée dans une famille française. Ils m'ont accueilli et je me suis très bien entendue avec la famille.

On faisait souvent du tourisme. Un jour on est allés à Paris. On a monté la Tour Eiffel, jusqu'en haut et on a vu tout! C'était exceptionnelle! Aussi nous avons flâné aux Champs-Élysées et on est allés dans un café. C'était très, très cher!

Pendant mon temps libre j'allais dans les cafés avec mes amies. Aussi je me suis fait beaucoup d'amies et le soir on se retrouvait. Un jour nous avons décidé d'organiser une fête. On s'est bien amusés! La fête était fantastique!

En France la nourriture était délicieuse! Et c'était bien de pouvoir essayer beaucoup de nourriture différente qu'on ne mange jamais en Écosse.

J'ai beaucoup profité de mon séjour. J'ai appris pas mal de français et je me suis fait beaucoup d'amies!

## Candidate 5 Spanish – Learning scenario

You recently took part in an exchange trip to a school/college in Segovia. You stayed in a youth hostel and you attended the Spanish school/college most days. Your teacher/lecturer asks you to write an account in Spanish about your school/college exchange experience.

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- How you travelled **and** who you travelled with
- What the school/college was like
- What you did during the school/college day
- What you thought of the daily routine in Spain
- How you got on with the exchange teachers/lecturers
- If you would recommend such an experience to others

You should write approximately 150-180 words.

Fuimos de intercambio escolar a Segovia en España. Fuimos allí una semana.

Fue con mis amigos de clase y dos profes. Había 15 alumnos en total. El avión fue largo y aburrido. Por lo tanto vi una revista y escuché música en mi ipod.

En el centro era el colegio San Juan. Fue grande y moderno. Las aulas son muy sucias y pequeñas no me gusta nada.

Fue en clase de inglés, historia, ciencias y deporte durante los días. Jugamos un día al baloncesto - qué guay. No me gustó los profes del colegio como fueron estrictos. Los alumnos de España fueron vale.

El día de España es muy largo y se acostan tarde. En la noche hay más gente en la calle. Creo que la rutina de escuela está buena.

Para mí recomendaría una experiencia escolar al extranjero porque fue divertido y se puede mejorar el idioma. Es un gran beneficio en mi opinión.

## Candidate 6 Spanish – Culture scenario

You recently went to Spain with your school/college on a cultural trip. You have been asked to write a report about this in Spanish.

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- Who you travelled with **and** what you thought of the journey
- What type of accommodation you had
- Which places you visited
- What you thought of the local festivals/culture
- How you were able to use your Spanish
- Why you would recommend a cultural trip to friends

You should write approximately 150-180 words.

Desde hace muchos años ya mi colegio organiza un intercambio con un colegio de Logroño.

Fui el año pasado y fui este año en septiembre con 15 alumnos de mi clase de español. Cogimos el avión desde Edimburgo a Bilbao, pero tuvimos que cambiar en Londres.

Yo pensé que el viaje fue demasiado largo porque desde Bilbao hasta Logroño hay el autocar y tardó tres horas. Es decir que pasamos un día entero para llegar a casa de los corresponsales ¡qué agobiante!

Me alojé en casa de Miguel (mi corresponsal) que está situado en el centro de la ciudad y se puede ir andando a cualquier sitio. Me gusta su piso porque es céntrico y cómodo, pero tuve que compartir la habitación.

Visité el museo de la Rioja donde había pantallas interactivas para dar explicaciones en inglés. Además, en septiembre con el festival de 'San Mateo' había un montón de cosas que ver. La gente llevaba pañuelos y los escoceses llevaron pañuelos también. Vimos los 'Gigantes' y había fuegos artificiales. Me encantó lo todo. Me gustó sobre todo los espectáculos de marionetas en la plaza del Ayuntamiento - muy divertidos.

Hablé español con Miguel en casa, pero la desventaja de un viaje con tu clase es que hablas inglés todo el rato. A pesar de esto, yo recomendaría a cualquier joven hacer un intercambio cultural. Se puede aprender mucho sobre una región y las costumbres.

## Candidate 7 Spanish - Society scenario

You have been to Spain on a recent holiday with your family or friends. You have been asked to write about it in Spanish for your school/college website

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- Where you went **and** what you thought of the journey
- What your accommodation was like
- How well you got on with others on the trip
- What activities you did
- Where you went on a day trip
- What your ideal holiday would be

You should write approximately 150-180 words.

Para empezar, fui a España con mi familia y mi amiga Jane. Fui a Benidorm y fui en avión de Glasgow Prestwick. Fue aburrido porque duró tres horas. Después pasar dos horas en el autocar para Benidorm. Al final, llegé a las once.

Pasé 15 días en el hotel 'Ambassador' - tiene tres estrellas. Compartí la habitación con mis hermanas y Jane. El cuarto de baño fue pequeño por 4 pero me gustó, fue propio. La comida fue rico. ¡Qué genial!

\*

Cada día fui a la piscina a las doce tomar el sol. Había mucha gente y muchos niños. Fui a la playa un día, no me gustó nada la arena.

Un día fui a 'Aqualandia', un parque acuático. Fue genial porque fue divertido. Había un tobogán alto. ¡Que susto!

En conclusión, me gustaría ir a Benidorm porque había mucha movida. Prefiero las vacaciones con los amigos porque puedes dormir el día - para mí, es ideal.

\* No me entendí bien con mi hermana mayor.

## Candidate 8 Spanish - Employability scenario

Last summer you got a holiday job in a campsite in Spain. You have been asked to write in Spanish an account of your experience for the languages online magazine in your school/college.

**You must include** the following information and **you should try to add** other relevant details:

- Where exactly you went **and** how long you stayed
- How you travelled
- What you thought of the campsite
- What you did in your job
- How you spent your evenings
- Why you think the experience was of benefit to you

You should write approximately 150-180 words.

El año pasado durante las vacaciones de verano fui a un campsite en las afueras de Barcelona para seis semanas. Fui con mi mejor amigo que se llama Gemma. Gemma es un chica muy simpatico y abierto.

Fui en avión y el vuelo duró tres horas. Era muy aburrido. Tengo que confesar que lo que mas me gusta era la musica. El campsite era muy hermoso. Hay muchos animals y árbols. Era increíble!

Tenía que organizar los actividades y juegos para los niños. El en segundo semana organizaba una excursión. Ibamos a Nou Camp.

Por los noches fui a los bares y clubs. Barcelona es un ciudad muy hermoso y la gente son muy simpática. La ambiente era fantástitico.

En mi opinión me beneficare con la experiencia porque ayudaría a una lengua muy hermoso y conocí a una cultura muy interesante.

# Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence contained in this pack has achieved the following marks for Higher Modern Languages directed writing (component 2, Question paper 1).

## Candidate 1 (French)

The candidate was awarded **16 marks** because...

### Content

This is a clear piece of writing and the candidate addresses the bullet points in a relatively balanced way. The language flows quite well and the paragraphs follow on from each other giving the writing a sense of structure.

### Accuracy

The language in this piece is mostly accurate and a range of verbs is used accurately in the perfect tense: *partir*, *rester*, *voyager*, *changer*, *penser* and *parler* to mention a few. Tenses are generally consistent although the candidate employs the present tense of *s'entendre* and *je n'aime pas le quartier* where past tense should have been used and this detracts somewhat from the overall impression. Use of accents is not always secure and these are omitted from *ou*, *frere*, *range* and *ca*. There is misspelling with *tout les temps* but otherwise the spelling is accurate.

### Language resource

The candidate uses detailed and complex language and there is a good range of language and structures: *la maman s'occupait de moi*, *j'ai perfectionné*, *j'ai fait des efforts*, *je crois que parler d'autres langues...* The language is however less detailed and complex in the third bullet point and perhaps the writing could have had additional flow with greater use of connectives and time phrases.

## Candidate 2 (French)

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because...

### Content

The content of the writing is limited. The first part of bullet point one is not addressed. Very few opinions and reasons are provided apart from *super*, *genial* and *preferee*. There is some sense of structure but the candidate struggles to go into any detail to cover the scenario.

### Accuracy

The language is inaccurate throughout and the present tense is nearly as prevalent as the perfect tense. *On est allé* and *il y avait* are used correctly but there is little evidence of any real control of verbs and tenses. An infinitive is used (where the verb should have been conjugated) and the conditional tense is misspelt.

### Language resource

There is little use of any detailed and complex language and the writing reads somewhat like a list of events with no connectives or time phrases used. The verbs are basic and limited to *avoir*, *être*, *aller*, *passer*, *visiter* and *aimer*. There is also evidence of other tongue interference affecting word order: *le 'trois continent' festival*.

## Candidate 3 (French)

The candidate was awarded **16 marks** because...

### Content

This is a very competent piece of writing and it flows well and ideas and opinions are well organised. Additional relevant information is provided, however the candidate does not address the fourth bullet point and therefore cannot be awarded a higher category mark.

### Accuracy

The writing is accurate throughout and there are only two spelling errors: *travails* and *recommanderais*. The only other notable error is the expression *j'ai travaillé de femme de chambre* but this does not really detract from the overall impression. Other aspects of language (adjectival agreement, verbs and tenses) are all used with a high level of accuracy.

### Language resource

The language used in this writing is detailed and complex throughout and there is a wide range of language resource – *j'ai dû partir, plein à craquer, en fait, en réalité, vraiment minuscule, nous étions trois jeunes, alors surtout on a parlé, pour dire la vérité, par contre, tu peux pratiquer* etc. The present, perfect and imperfect tenses are used effectively and there is a good variety of verbs – *rester, prendre, trouver, décrire, partager, pratiquer, bavarder* and *retourner*.

## Candidate 4 (French)

The candidate was awarded **20 marks** because...

### Content

The content is comprehensive and all bullet points are addressed fully. The candidate has also included some additional relevant information, which adds to the overall impression of a well-structured and organised piece.

### Accuracy

Overall the language is very accurate. There are only a very few errors which do not detract from the overall impression – *ils m'ont accueilli, on a monté, exceptionnelle*. A wide range of verbs is used and the perfect, imperfect and present tenses are all used accurately with correct agreements of past participles on almost every occasion.

### Language resource

The language used is detailed and complex throughout with a wide range of expressions – *heureusement, quelle coïncidence, jusqu'en haut, c'était bien de pouvoir essayer, qu'on ne mange jamais, j'ai beaucoup profité, pas mal de* – which add to the impression of a confident and fluent piece of writing.

## Candidate 5 (Spanish)

The candidate was awarded **8 marks** because...

### Content

Although the writing has some structure and the bullet points are covered, the content is relatively limited. The candidate expresses a few ideas and opinions mainly limited to *aburrido*, *no me gusta*, *creo que* and *divertido*. There are few reasons provided and the opinions are not really expanded upon.

### Accuracy

After the first part of the first bullet point, the accuracy of the language declines. Control of the past tense becomes less evident as the candidate goes on with the present tense being used more often. There are problems with the parts of 'ser' in the *preterite* tense and there is confusion about when to use 'ser' and 'estar'. The verb 'ver' is used incorrectly with *revista* and there are some careless spelling errors: *alunos*, *aburido*, *peqenas* and *se acostan*. There are some serious errors in gender and several missing accents: *un experiencia*, *el dia*, *Espana*, *ingles* and *esta*. More verbs are incorrect than correct.

### Language resource

With the exception of *para mi*, *creo que* and *por lo tanto*, the remainder of the range of structures and variety of vocabulary is limited. The candidate relies on listing some nouns and some of the sentences are brief: *Había 15 alumnos en total*, *El avión fue largo y aburrido*. There is evidence of some dictionary misuse and other tongue language interference: *fueron vale*, *como fueron estrictos* and *el avion fue largo* and *en la noche*. Overall, there is limited use of detailed and complex language.

## Candidate 6 (Spanish)

The candidate was awarded **20 marks** because...

### Content

This is very competent piece of writing and although not all the bullet points are covered evenly, they are all addressed. The candidate provides some additional information and the account is structured for the language to flow well.

### Accuracy

There is very good accuracy overall. The verb endings, gender and spelling are accurate as are most of the adjectival agreements (except *situado*). There is one serious error with the verb *gustar* (*me gusto sobre todo los espacactulos ..*) but this does not detract from the overall impression. The first person plural of verbs is used accurately as is the second person singular and third person singular and plural. The present and conditional tenses are also used accurately.

### Language resource

The language used is detailed and complex throughout: *desde hace muchos años ya, es decir que, se puede ir andando, donde había, la gente llevaba, a pesar de esto ...*  
The candidate uses a comprehensive range of verbs and verb structures such as *organizar, cambiar, tardar, dar explicaciones* etc.

## Candidate 7 (Spanish)

The candidate was awarded **12 marks** because...

### Content

The candidate covers the scenario adequately with all the bullet points addressed. The third bullet coverage is very thin with one sentence in the present tense. No additional relevant information is provided but ideas and opinions are expressed clearly.

### Accuracy

Overall there is more correct than incorrect in this piece and the verbs are generally secure with the correct endings. The candidate is unable to use the first person plural and tends to rely heavily on *fui* and *fue* but they are used correctly. At times, the candidate could have used the imperfect in place of the preterite: *Cada día fui a la piscine, la comida fue rico*. There are a few serious errors, missing words, spelling errors and missing accents: *pasar dos horas, llegé, por 4, la comida fue rico, las vacaciones, dormir el día, Espana, que susto* etc.

### Language resource

There are some examples of detailed and complex language such as *al final, para empezar, que susto*, but the writing would have benefitted from more connectives and time phrases as the sentences are brief at times. There is an attempt to vary the verbs to include *compartir, llegar* and *tomar* but the candidate has difficulty moving away from repetition of structures with *haber* and *ser*.

## Candidate 8 (Spanish)

The candidate was awarded **8 marks** because...

### Content

Although the writing has some structure and the bullet points are covered, the content is limited and any additional information does not enhance the writing. There are one or two opinions expressed but they are not expanded upon.

### Accuracy

The language is inaccurate throughout with errors in spelling – *arbols*, *abburido*, *intersante* – adjectival endings – *simpatico*, *abierto*, *hermoso*. Tenses are inconsistent – *lo que más me gusta era*, *organizaba*, *íbamos*, *ayudaría* – and there are other serious errors – *la gente son*, *un chica*, *un ciudad*, *la ambiente*, *el segundo semana*.

### Language resource

There is limited use of detailed and complex language with a lot of short sentences. There are one or two nice expressions – *tengo que confesar*, *en mi opinión* – but these are counterbalanced by the other language interference – *animals*, *campsite*. Overall, there is a limited range of vocabulary and structures.