Paper 01: Answer guide

Grade 10 English | First-term revision

Separate answer and marking guide. Award equivalent correct answers. Do not require the exact model wording. Maximum score: 100.

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Test 1 (5 marks)

1. centre; 2. library; 3. Saturday; 4. morning; 5. help

Test 2 (5 marks)

1. works; 2. each other; 3. politely; 4. herd; 5. ought to

Test 3 (5 marks)

1. 8.00 a.m.; 2. Wednesday; 3. 12.00 noon; 4. Library; 5. 3 hours

Test 4 (5 marks)

1. E; 2. B; 3. A; 4. C; 5. D

Test 5 (5 marks)

1. Green Club; 2. 18 February; 3. school gate; 4. 7.30 a.m.; 5. water / a cap

Test 7 (5 marks)

1. A new student / Imran

2. Kavindi

3. Kandy

4. The library / the school timetable

5. Yes

Marking short answers

Tests 1-5 and 7: 1 mark per correct item. Accept equivalent forms for times and dates and supported alternatives. In comprehension, do not penalise a minor language error if the meaning is clear. If an item asks for one answer, one correct answer is enough.

Language answers and reasons

Test 9 (5 marks)

1. explanation

2. clearly

3. assistant

4. dangerous

5. patiently

Reason: select the word class required by its position. A noun follows an article or possessive in these items; an adverb modifies how an action is done; an adjective describes a noun. The answer must also fit the meaning.

Test 10 (10 marks)

1. Nimali said that she was ready.

2. Ravi said that he lived near the school.

3. The boys said that they were tired.

4. Amal said that he could help.

5. Sithumi said that she had a map.

Award 1 mark for the correct reporting structure and pronoun changes, plus 1 mark for the correct tense/modal change. Accept omission of "that". Do not penalise a missing full stop. Present simple normally changes to past simple; am/is/are to was/were; can to could; have to had. Accept a supported gender choice where the speaker's gender is not specified.

Test 11 (10 marks)

1. to

2. at

3. a

4. us

5. and

6. and

7. quietly

8. to

9. because

10. for

Award 1 mark per blank. Repeated words are deliberately included in the bank; their identical copies are interchangeable.

Reading answers and marking

Test 12 (10 marks)

1. Beside the gate

2. A heavy bag

3. A child

4. found

5. A little time; a gentle word

Each item: 2 marks. For a two-part item, award 1 per part. For a single factual or interpretive item, award 2 for a complete supported answer and 1 for a partly correct answer. For a rhyme, award 2 for the correct word. Accept other reasonable interpretations supported by the poem.

Test 13 (10 marks)

1. There was no clear timetable at the bus stop. [2 marks]

2. Ten [1 mark]

3. The transport office [1 mark]

4. Large letters; a map of nearby roads [2 marks]

5. The local council's [1 mark]

6. Every Friday [1 mark]

7. Information is useful only when it is accurate and kept up to date. [2 marks]

For a two-point answer worth 2 marks, award 1 per valid point. For an explanation worth 2 marks, award 2 for a complete reason and 1 for a partly correct reason. For one-mark items, accept a concise correct phrase.

Writing models

These are examples, not the only correct answers.

Test 6: note (5 marks)

Dear Sahan,
Could I please borrow your dictionary for our English club activity on Friday? We need to check the meanings of some new words. I can collect it from you after school on Thursday. I will return it on Friday afternoon. Please let me know if that is convenient.
Thank you,
Amal

Test 8: short paragraph (5 marks)

My aunt helps our community in many ways. She teaches children who need extra help with reading. Every Saturday, she spends two hours at the community centre. She is patient and explains difficult words simply. I admire her because she gives her time freely and makes children feel confident.

Test 14: extended writing (15 marks)

Dear Nethmi,
Last Saturday, I joined a clean-up organised by our youth club at Lake Park. We met at eight in the morning and worked in small groups. My group collected plastic bottles and sorted them for recycling. Another group put up notices asking visitors to keep the park clean.
At first, we did not have enough bags. Our leader spoke to a nearby shopkeeper, who kindly gave us some large sacks. We wore gloves and avoided picking up broken glass. An adult handled anything sharp or unsafe.
By noon, the paths looked much cleaner. We washed our hands, had a snack and thanked everyone who had helped. I felt tired but proud of our work. I learnt that a small group can make a real difference when people plan carefully and work together. I also learnt that keeping a place clean is an ongoing responsibility.
I hope you can join our next activity. Please write soon and tell me about your school club.
Best wishes,
Amal

Writing assessment

An EWS practice rubric, not an official marking scheme.

Tests 6 and 8: 5 marks each

Content and task fulfilment: 2 marks. Award 2 for relevant, complete coverage; 1 for partial coverage; 0 for irrelevant or missing content. Language: 2 marks. Award 2 for mostly accurate, clear sentences; 1 when errors occur but meaning is generally clear; 0 when errors prevent understanding. Organisation and format: 1 mark for a clear, logical response with an appropriate note or paragraph format.

Test 14: 15 marks

Content: 5 marks. Award 5 for full relevant development, 3-4 for generally relevant coverage, 1-2 for limited content and 0 for an irrelevant or missing response. Language: 5 marks. Award 5 for generally accurate and varied language, 3-4 for mostly clear language with errors, 1-2 for frequent errors that limit communication and 0 when meaning cannot be understood. Organisation: 3 marks. Award 3 for logical paragraphs and clear links, 2 for a generally clear sequence, 1 for weak sequencing and 0 for no organisation. Mechanics: 2 marks. Award 2 for generally correct spelling and punctuation, 1 for noticeable errors and 0 when errors frequently obstruct reading.

Fair marking

Mark the writing actually produced. Do not require advanced vocabulary for full marks. Do not double-penalise the same error. Judge a response outside the suggested length through task fulfilment and development; apply no automatic word-count deduction. Do not award content credit for memorised text unrelated to the task.

Scope and source record

This set revises selected written-language skills around Grade 10 Units 1-4: People, On Your Way, Travel and Let's Talk. It includes original dialogues, notices, passages, poems and writing tasks. A Ministry-hosted Western Province first-term paper was inspected for task variety and the 40 + 60 written-mark structure. This set changes some task types, including using table reading in place of picture description. It is a revision resource, not an exact replica, an NIE-approved paper, or confirmation of any school's January 2027 term allocation. Listening and speaking require separate assessment.

Ministry course and unit outline: https://e-thaksalawa.moe.gov.lk/lcms/course/section.php?id=12720
First-term reference paper: https://e-thaksalawa.moe.gov.lk/lcms/mod/resource/view.php?id=39935&redirect=1
Sources checked: 16 October 2026.