



**Qualifying Examination for the Post of Correctional Officer within the
Correctional Services Agency
17th September 2024 – Marking Scheme**

Section A: Reading **50 marks**
Task A1 Read the text below and answer the questions which follow. 10 marks

Look at the infographic and underline the correct answer. **5 marks**

1. This text is mainly (positive, negative, neutral).
2. Visits to museums and galleries have (increased, decreased, remained constant).
3. (More than, Less than, As many as) 275,000 events were shown by the National Portfolio Organisations.
4. Engaging in cultural activities and events makes the community (closer, more competitive, stronger).
5. (An email, A website, A postal) address is provided to the readers.

According to the information provided, are the following sentences True (T) or False (F)? Tick (✓) the correct answer below. **5 marks**

		T	F
1.	The Arts Council sponsors schools.	✓	
2.	The British audience felt honoured with the opening ceremony at the Cultural Olympiad.	✓	
3.	Galleries are popular amongst children in the UK.		✓
4.	All this information in the text is based on UK data gathered in 2018.		✓
5.	The British Museum attracted the most visitors.		✓

Task A2 **(40 marks)**
Read the text below and answer all the questions that follow.

Underline the correct answer. 1 mark

1. Which is the best title for the text?
 - a. Popular Films
 - b. Prison Films**
 - c. Police Films

2. On which internet site would you be able to read the text? 1 mark

- a. an online newspaper article.
- b. **a website with film reviews.**
- c. a personal social media blog post.

3. Below are the missing subheadings for the four movies A to D in the text. Write the correct letter of each paragraph in the space below. One subheading is extra.

4 marks

Subheading	Movie
Fighting in prison	
A well-planned break out	C
A lasting friendship	B
An execution is ordered	A
A positive transformation	D

4. Tick (✓) the 6 correct answers.

6 marks

Which movie	A	B	C	D
stars Tim Robbins?		✓		
is the most recent?	✓			
was a box-office success?			✓	
has scenes that did not happen in the book?				✓
has a corrections officer playing a leading role?	✓			
relies on camera work rather than dialogue?			✓	

5. In your own words, why can some films seem unrealistic?

2 marks

Accept answers that paraphrase the following “overdramatic and sensational and provide an exaggerated picture of life in prison”. Answers should emphasise how the subject matter is treated in a way that attracts attention or causes excitement / they include scenes that attract attention or cause excitement.

6. In the film The Green Mile, what happens to Coffey in the end?

1 mark

He is executed.

7. Underline the correct answer:

1 mark

The phrase ‘Their struggles and triumphs will continue to inspire people...’ means that people

- a. might find it hard to understand this film in the future.
- b. who lived in the 90s can understand this film best.

c. in the past and future feel encouraged by this film.

8. Copy a phrase of 3 words from the text that shows that *Escape from Alcatraz* was well-received by the audience. 1 mark
was highly praised
9. In a paragraph of between 60 to 70 of your own words, summarise the facts about Robert Stroud and his time in prison found in paragraph D. 10 marks

SUMMARY - 10 MARKS	
Identification of facts – 4 marks	
4 marks (8 x ½m)	1. Robert Stroud was a convicted murderer 2. He served time in different prisons 3. He was transferred to Alcatraz 4. In prison he raised and studied birds 5. He was a violent criminal 6. He became a respected scientist 7. He behaved well in prison 8. He was denied parole
Accuracy - 3 marks	
3 marks	Grammatical structures and syntax are accurate.
2 marks	Grammatical structures and syntax are mostly accurate.
1 mark	Grammatical structures are limited and mostly inaccurate.
Organisation & Structure - 3 marks	
3 marks	Writing is well organised and structured. Good use of linking words.
2 marks	Writing is adequately organised and structured. Adequate use of linking words.
1 mark	Writing is poorly organised and unstructured. Few or no linking words.
Important Points for Markers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No marks to be awarded for organisation and structure unless at least 4 of the points included. • 1 mark is to be deducted from the total if the summary is longer or shorter than the indicated number of words. 	

10. Are the following statements True (T) or False (F)? Circle the correct answer and give a reason. 6 marks
- a. Paul Edgecombe carries out his investigation on his own.
F because he looked for the real reasons with the help of other guards.
- b. One of Stephen King's novels is called *The Green Mile*.
T because the movie is based on the 1996 Stephen King novel of the same name.

- c. Andy was sent to prison because he was a bank fraudster.
F because he was sentenced to prison for murder.
- d. Andy has a good relationship with the prison guards.
T because Andy was respected by the guards.
- e. Don Siegel is considered to be a very good film director.
T because in the movie *Escape from Alcatraz* he shows his special skill.
- f. The movie *Escape from Alcatraz* is about an escape from prison amongst other things.
T because it also shows what everyday life in prison is like.

11. What do the following words, found in bold in the text, refer to? 3 marks

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. Others – films / movies | d. which - ending |
| b. he – Coffey | e. Their – characters |
| c. it – the movie, <i>The Green Mile</i> | f. we – viewers / audience / readers |

12. From the first three paragraphs, find ONE word which means: 3 marks

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a. many - several | d. unfortunately - sadly |
| b. look - glimpse | e. avoiding - preventing |
| c. curing - healing | f. successful - bestselling |

13. After reading this article, which of the following video clips might interest the reader? Tick (✓) the correct answer. 1 mark



Section B: Writing**50 marks****Task B1****10 marks**

Answer the following question.

You are Sam White. When you reported to work this morning, you realised that the canteen had been vandalised and your line manager asked you to fill in the Incident Report Form below.

Section B: Writing**50 marks****Task B1****10 marks**

Short writing task				
Informs	the direct superior with all the details (venue, date, time)	1	1/2	0
Describes	what happened during the incident	2	1	0
Uses	appropriate formal register	1	1/2	0
Uses	a range of appropriate vocabulary	1	1/2	0
Uses	accurate grammatical structures	2	1	0
Uses	devices to make writing coherent and cohesive	1	1/2	0
Punctuation		1	1/2	0
Spelling		1	1/2	0
10 MARKS				

1 mark is to be deducted from the total if the writing task is 5 words shorter than 70 or longer than 80 words.

2 marks is to be deducted from the total if the writing task is 6 words or more shorter than 70 or longer than 80 words.

Section B: Writing					Task B2
Long Writing Task 40 marks	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically
	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
Task achievement (content, relevance, text type features) (5 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task is achieved in full Content is completely relevant Text type features are entirely appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task is achieved quite well Content is mostly relevant Text type features are mostly appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task is achieved in part Content is not always relevant Text type features are not always appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task is hardly achieved Content is under-developed Text type features are minimally appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task is not achieved Content is irrelevant Text type features are not appropriate
	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
Organisation and Linking (Coherence and Cohesion) (5 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and organise their writing in a cogent manner Cohesive devices are varied and link together well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and organise their writing into a coherent prose Cohesive devices are quite varied and generally correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph and sentence structure are fairly correct though unambitious Cohesive devices are rather limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph and sentence structure show lack of control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No attempt to structure and organise their writing
	10 - 9	8 - 7	6 - 5	4 - 3	2 - 0
Grammar and accuracy (10 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied and accurate grammatical structures and syntax Excellent choice of expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly accurate grammatical structures and syntax Quite varied grammatical structures Good choice of expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammatical structures and syntax are rather basic and sometimes inaccurate Adequate choice of expression but with some inaccuracies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammatical structures and syntax are limited and mostly inaccurate Limited choice of expression and with some inaccuracies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammatical structures and syntax are inaccurate Very poor choice of expression and inaccurate

	10 – 9	8 – 7	6 - 5	4 - 3	2 - 0
Vocabulary and Register (10 marks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Wide-ranging and appropriate vocabulary</i> • <i>Good use of register</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Good range and appropriate vocabulary</i> • <i>Appropriate use of register</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Choice of vocabulary is unambitious and sometimes inaccurate</i> • <i>Adequate use of register but with some inaccuracies</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Limited vocabulary, possibly seen in the repetition of words</i> • <i>Not sensitive to the choice of register</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Very limited and inappropriate choice of vocabulary</i> • <i>Register is ignored</i>
	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
Punctuation (5 marks)	<i>Accurate use of punctuation</i>	<i>Good use of punctuation</i>	<i>Adequate use of punctuation but some errors</i>	<i>Punctuation use is rather poor</i>	<i>Punctuation use is very poor</i>
	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
Spelling (5 marks)	<i>Spelling is accurate. 0 mistakes = 5 marks</i>	<i>Spelling of low-frequency words mostly accurate. 1-2 mistakes = 4½ marks 3-4 mistakes = 4 marks</i>	<i>Spelling of low-frequency words fairly accurate. 5 mistakes = 3½ marks 6 mistakes = 3 marks</i>	<i>Spelling of low-frequency words fairly accurate. 7 mistakes = 2½ marks 8 mistakes = 2 marks</i>	<i>Spelling of low- and high-frequency words mostly inaccurate. 9 mistakes = 1 mark 10 mistakes = ½ mark 10+ mistakes = 0 marks</i>