

Qualifying Exam for SLSE June 2026 Marking Scheme

If candidates write 1-5 words more or less = deduct ½ mark

If candidates write 11-15 words more or less = deduct 1½ mark

If candidates write 6-10 words more or less = deduct 1 mark

If candidates write 16-20 words more or less = deduct 2 mark:

Long Writing	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically	Candidates characteristically
40 marks	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
Task achievement (content, text relevance, text type features) (5 marks)	- Task is achieved in full - Content is completely relevant - Text type features are entirely appropriate	- Task is achieved quite well - Content is mostly relevant - Text type features are mostly appropriate	- Task is achieved in part - Content is not always relevant - Text type features are not always appropriate	- Task is hardly achieved - Content is under-developed - Text type features are minimally appropriate	- Task is not achieved - Content is irrelevant - Text type features are not appropriate
Organisation and Linking (Coherence and Cohesion) (5 marks)	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
	- Structure and organise their writing in a cogent manner - Cohesive devices are varied and link together well	- Structure and organise their writing into a coherent prose - Cohesive devices are quite varied and generally correct	- Paragraph and sentence structure are fairly correct though unambitious - Cohesive devices are rather limited	Paragraph and sentence structure show lack of control	No attempt to structure and organise their writing
Grammar and accuracy (10 marks)	10 - 9	8 - 7	6 - 5	4 - 3	2 - 0
	- Varied and accurate grammatical structures and syntax - Excellent choice of expression	- Mostly accurate grammatical structures and syntax - Quite varied grammatical structures - Good choice of expression	- Grammatical structures and syntax are rather basic and sometimes inaccurate - Adequate choice of expression but with some inaccuracies	- Grammatical structures and syntax are limited and mostly inaccurate - Limited choice of expression and with some inaccuracies	- Grammatical structures and syntax are inaccurate - Very poor choice of expression and inaccurate
Vocabulary and Register (10 marks)	10 - 9	8 - 7	6 - 5	4 - 3	2 - 0
	- Wide-ranging and appropriate vocabulary - Good use of register	- Good range and appropriate vocabulary - Appropriate use of register	- Choice of vocabulary is unambitious and sometimes inaccurate - Adequate use of register but with some inaccuracies	- Limited vocabulary, possibly seen in the repetition of words - Not sensitive to the choice of register	- Very limited and inappropriate choice of vocabulary - Register is ignored
Punctuation (5 marks)	5	4	3	2	1 - 0
	Accurate use of punctuation	Good use of punctuation	Adequate use of punctuation but some errors	Punctuation use is rather poor	Punctuation use is very poor
Spelling (5 marks)	Spelling is accurate. 0 mistakes = 5 marks	Spelling of low-frequency words mostly accurate. 1-2 mistakes = 4½ marks 3-4 mistakes = 4 marks	Spelling of low-frequency words fairly accurate. 5 mistakes = 3½ marks 6 mistakes = 3 marks	Spelling of low-frequency words fairly accurate. 7 mistakes = 2½ marks 8 mistakes = 2 marks	Spelling of low-frequency and high-frequency words mostly inaccurate. 9 mistakes = 1 mark 10 mistakes = ½ mark 10+ mistakes = 0 marks

SECTION B ANSWERS

Questions

Underline the correct answer in questions 1–4.

(4 marks)

1. In which section of an online newspaper would you most likely find this article?

- a. Technology & Innovation
- b. Food & Culture**
- c. Travel & Experiences

2. The main purpose of this article is to

- a. explain how restaurants make large profits from selling pizzas.
- b. persuade people to visit Naples and to taste traditional pizza.
- c. inform readers about efforts to preserve authentic Neapolitan pizza.**

3. Which title would best fit this article?

- a. How Real Pizza is being protected around the world**
- b. How Pizza Became the World's Favourite Fast Food
- c. How to find the Best Pizza Restaurants in Europe

4. People interested in this text are most likely

- a. historians and students researching Italian traditions.
- b. scientists and researchers studying food production.
- c. chefs and food lovers interested in original pizza.**

5. Write FOUR consecutive words that show that the group of travellers referred to in line 1 is very close to San Gennaro Catacombs. (1 mark)

a stone's throw from

6. How does the writer bring out the importance of pizza in Naples at the beginning of the article? (1 mark)

The writer describes international travellers gathering near the catacombs to take an important pizza-making test, showing how seriously pizza is taken in Naples.

7. What does the writer mean when describing pizza as having "humble origins" (line 6)?

(1 mark)

It means pizza started as a simple, cheap food for ordinary people.

8. What is the main task of the True Neapolitan Pizza Association? (1 mark)

The True Neapolitan Pizza Association's main task is to promote and protect authentic Neapolitan pizza.

9. Give TWO examples of traditional Neapolitan pizzas mentioned in the text.
(1 mark)

i. Margherita

ii. Marinara

10. In **between 50–60 of your own words**, summarise the reasons why the Association has set strict rules to uphold the Neapolitan pizza tradition.
(10 marks)

SUMMARY: 10 MARKS			
Identification of three (or more) salient points*			
1 mark for each point mentioned (3 marks)			
1 mark for using own words (3 marks)			
	2	1	0
Accuracy 2 marks	Grammatical structures and syntax are accurate.	Grammatical structures and syntax are mostly accurate.	Grammatical structures are limited and mostly inaccurate.
	2	1	0
Organisation & Structure 2 marks	Writing is well organised and structured in a paragraph. A topic sentence is included. Good use of linking words.	Writing is adequately organised and structured in a paragraph. A topic sentence is included. Adequate use of linking words.	Writing is poorly organised and unstructured. No topic sentence is included. Few or no linking words.

Accept the following THREE salient points for this one-part summary.

Topic sentence: e.g. The Association has strict rules to protect the traditional identity of Neapolitan pizza.

- 1. To keep the original recipe and techniques.**
- 2. To ensures that pizzas labelled as authentic follow the traditional Neapolitan style**
- 3. To further preserve the cultural heritage of Naples**

1 mark is to be deducted from the total if the summary is shorter than 50 or longer than 60 words. No marks are to be awarded for organisation and structure unless at least 2 of the salient points are included.

model

The Association has strict rules to protect the traditional identity of Neapolitan pizza. Without regulations, modern variations around the world could change the original recipe and techniques. By enforcing guidelines on ingredients, preparation and cooking methods, the organisation ensures that pizzas labelled as authentic follow the traditional Neapolitan style and preserve the cultural heritage of Naples. (56 words)

11. Write FOUR activities carried out by the True Neapolitan Pizza Association. (2 marks)

- i. promoting authentic pizza**
- ii. training school**
- iii. competitions**
- iv. trade fairs**

12. Give SIX rules that certified Neapolitan pizzas must follow according to the Association's guidelines. (3 marks)

Any 6 of the below

- i. Pizza must be roundish with a high-border crust.**
- ii. The crust must be 1–2 cm tall.**
- iii. There must be no big bubbles or burned spots.**
- iv. The pizza must be soft, elastic and foldable.**
- v. Pizza makers cannot use a rolling pin or baking tray.**
- vi. Cooking time must not exceed 90 seconds.**
- vii. must be eaten within 10 minutes**

13. Write FOUR things students learn or practise during the training course. (2 marks)

Any 4 of the below

- i. Dough-leavening techniques and hydration**
- ii. How yeast works**
- iii. How to choose fresh toppings**
- iv. Salt-to-water ratios**
- v. how to place pizza in ovens**

14. Are the following statements True or False? Underline the correct answer and give a reason from the text. (8 marks)

a. False because they are aspiring pizza makers.

b. False because it was founded in 1984./pizza was invented in the 1800s.

c. False because the course is monthly.

d. False because it is seemingly simple / a deceptively easy.

e. True because students baked as many as 40 practice pies each day.

f. True because pizza-chef training is available to anyone.

g. False because pizzerias must engage a certified pizza maker.

h. True because pizzerias from Japan to Siberia and Ecuador to the UK have become members.

15. What are the FOUR steps that restaurants must take in order to apply for accreditation? (2 marks)

i. Employ an Association-trained pizza maker

ii. Fill out application forms promising to respect the tradition

iii. Send photos of kitchen, equipment and ingredients

iv. Send videos of the chef preparing dough and cooking pizza

16. In your own words, explain what the writer means by saying "with no guarantee of approval". (1 mark)

Approval is not automatically given.

17. i. Underline the correct answer in the sentence below:

The writer's attitude towards the work of the Association is (**positive / negative / neutral**). (1 mark)

ii. Quote a sentence from lines 44 to 57 in the text to support your answer. (1 mark)

"And they were proud to form part of their impactful work."

18. What do the following words in **bold** refer to in the passage? (4 marks)

a. **they** (line 5) **the travellers/aspiring pizza makers/visitors**

b. **its** (line 6) **belonging to/of pizza**

- c. **this** (line 20) **the Association/group of culinary custodians**
- d. **you** (line 22) **the reader**
- e. **its** (line 27) **of the/belonging to the Association**
- f. **their** (line 36) **of the international students**
- g. **they** (line 53) **pizzerias/restaurants**
- h. **I** (line 55) **Massimo Di Porzio/Di Porzio/Massimo**

19. Find ONE word from lines 27 to 57 which means: (4 marks)

- a. proper **veritable**
- b. eaten **consumed**
- c. thorough **rigorous**
- d. small differences **nuances**
- e. officially approved **accredited**
- f. large quantities **reams**
- g. world-wide **global**
- h. protect **preserve**

20. Match each subheading with the correct section of the text (A–D). (2 marks)

SUBHEADINGS	LETTER
The effort to keep traditional pizza	B
The specific instructions for making authentic pizza	C
Introducing the tradition of Neapolitan Pizza	A
The application process for pizzerias	D

21. Which of the pictures below best fits this text? Fill in the blank with the correct letter. (1 mark)

ANSWER: Picture **C** best fits the text.

Section C: Short Writing Task (10 marks)

You are Sam Vella, a local farmer and you wish to organize an open food and vegetable market to support local farming. In 50-60 words, write an email to the mayor of the local council, Ms Maria Borg, to propose and describe the activities in this event.

	Short writing task				
A	Opens / Closes	the email appropriately	1	1/2	0
B	Proposes	the event to the mayor	1	1/2	0
C	Describes	the activities in detail	1	1/2	0
D	Uses	appropriate semi-formal email text type features and register	1	1/2	0
E	Uses	accurate grammatical syntax	1	1/2	0
F	Uses	accurate grammatical structures	2	1	0
G	Uses	devices to make writing coherent and cohesive	1	1/2	0
H	Punctuation		1	1/2	0
I	Spelling		1	1/2	0
Word count			-2	-1	0
10 MARKS					

1 mark is to be deducted from the total if the writing task is 5 words shorter than 50 or longer than 60 words. 2 marks is to be deducted from the total if the writing task is 6 words (or more) shorter than 50 or longer than 60 words.