



F13.6 Long answer questions

Exam preparation · GCSE · OCR J277 1.6.1, AQA 8525 3.8, Edexcel 1CP2

5.1.1 · about 15 min

Name _____

Class _____

Date _____

What this lesson is about

Point, because, so: a structure for discuss and evaluate questions, and a conclusion that decides.

- What the examiner is looking for
- The structure: point, because, so
- Plan before you write
- Words that earn marks

Questions

5 marks in all

- How are long answers marked? [1 mark]
 - ☐ A In bands, for the quality of the argument
 - ☐ B One mark per fact
 - ☐ C By how much you write
 - ☐ D By handwriting
- What does a top-band answer always finish with? [1 mark]
 - ☐ A A conclusion that decides, with a reason
 - ☐ B A summary of the question
 - ☐ C A list of key words
 - ☐ D An apology for running out of time
- The question names a village school with slow broadband. What should your points do? [1 mark]
 - ☐ A Refer to that school and its broadband
 - ☐ B Talk about schools in general
 - ☐ C List every fact you know
 - ☐ D Only give advantages
- Put the parts of one developed point in order. [1 mark]

Number the lines 1 to 3 to put them in the right order.

___ Because: the reason it matters

___ The point itself

___ So: what follows from it
- Which is worth more marks? [1 mark]
 - ☐ A "The cache holds data the processor uses most, so fewer slow fetches from RAM are needed"
 - ☐ B "It is faster"
 - ☐ C "Cache is good"
 - ☐ D "It improves performance"

The task: mark a long answer

Write `mark(answer)` that scores a draft: one point for each phrase from `FOR_WORDS` it contains, one for each from `AGAINST_WORDS`, and two if it contains a phrase from `CONCLUSION_WORDS`, all ignoring capitals. For each answer in `answers`, print `<name>: <score>` and then, on the same line, `needs both sides` if it has nothing from one of the two sides, or `needs a conclusion` if it has no conclusion phrase, or `top band` if it has all three. At the end print `best: <name>`. Watch out: `disadvantage` contains `advantage`, so it counts on both sides.

```
# the two lines every program starts with: the commands, then the robot
from bugbot import *
connect()

FOR_WORDS = ["benefit", "advantage", "because it helps"]
AGAINST_WORDS = ["drawback", "disadvantage", "risk"]
CONCLUSION_WORDS = ["on balance", "overall", "in conclusion"]
answers = [
    ("Ada", "A benefit is that students learn to program, and another advantage is
    engagement. A drawback is the cost. On balance the school should buy them."),
    ("Bolt", "There is a clear advantage for practical work and another benefit for
    engagement."),
    ("Cog", "The risk is e-waste and the disadvantage is the cost, but the benefit is
    real."),
]
```

Plan your program here, then type it in and press Run.



Do it on the robot

www.bugbotlab.com/learn/f13-6-long-answer-questions/

The simulator checks it and tells you when it passes. Nothing to install, no account.

Challenges

1. Write a real 8-mark answer to the robots question, using point, because, so, and mark it with your program.
2. Which of the three drafts would gain most from one more sentence, and what would it say?
3. Why does naming the school in every point earn more than writing about schools in general?