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Grade 8 English HL · Language Practice · Paper 1 — Marking Memorandum

MARKING GUIDELINES · NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION TO LEARNERS

Total Marks: 36

Grade: 8 Subject: english · Language Practice

These marking guidelines are prepared for teacher/examiner use only.

Credit valid alternative responses where meaning is correct.

Q	Answer / Marking Points	Marks
1	✓ (C) achieve	
2	✓ Ancient galaxies were discovered using the James Webb Space Telescope by scientists at NASA.	
3	✓ (B) made known	
4	✓ observation	
5	✓ This is opinion/bias because it expresses a judgment about priorities, not a verifiable fact.	
6	✓ Thabo would study astrophysics if he had enough funding.	
7	✓ (C) determined and powerful	
8	✓ Error 1: "have" should be "has" (collective noun "discovery" is singular). Error 2: "scientist's" should be "scientists" (no apostrophe for plural).	
9	✓ Error: "are" should be "is" (the universe is singular). / Correction: The universe is infinite and mysterious.	
10	✓ Fact: the telescope costs $10 billion and was launched. Opinion: "is therefore a waste" is an opinion/judgment.	

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11	✓ The word "pierced" creates a connotation of determination, power, and breaking through barriers, making the discovery seem heroic and significant.
12	✓ The James Webb telescope, which was launched in 2021, has already made remarkable discoveries. Its images show galaxies that are billions of years old.
13	✓ This is opinion. The logical flaw is a false dilemma--it assumes we must choose between space exploration OR solving Earth's problems, when both can be pursued simultaneously.
14	✓ The nominalization "revelation" emphasizes the act or event of discovering as a significant moment, whereas "revealed" focuses on the action itself. "Revelation" gives weight and importance to the discovery as a concept, creating a more formal, impactful tone.
15	✓ Bias identified: (1) "triumph of human innovation"--connotation is celebratory and positive, suggesting space exploration is inherently glorious. (2) "proven that space exploration is essential"--assumes the conclusion without evidence; connotation is absolute certainty. Both words reveal the author favors space exploration.
16	✓ Accept well-reasoned arguments. Sample: The James Webb Space Telescope represents a worthwhile investment for humanity's future because it advances scientific knowledge and technological capability. First, the telescope has already identified galaxies dating back to the universe's earliest epochs, fundamentally reshaping our understanding of cosmic origins. Second, space exploration drives innovation in materials, engineering, and computing that benefit everyday life--satellite technology, medical imaging, and weather prediction all stem from space research. Some argue the $10 billion cost should address poverty instead; however, space investment is not zero-sum with social spending. If governments allocated even 1% of military budgets to science, we could fund both space exploration and social programs. Therefore, the James Webb investment is justified by its scientific returns and technological advancement.

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