January 2019

BMO1 2018–19 REPORT FOR TEACHERS AND CANDIDATES

Marking:

Papers are marked in December by a team of around 50 volunteers – many of whom have sat the British Mathematical Olympiad papers in previous years.

All BMO questions are marked using a "10–/0+" strategy, which requires a candidate to get the crucial part of each solution to qualify for 10– (with minor deductions for omissions/errors), otherwise they are in 0+ territory, when usually only a maximum of 3 marks are available.

Results:

There were **1583** scripts received and the mean score was 15.8. The breakdown of final marks was:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mark | 0 – 9 | 10 – 19 | 20 – 29 | 30 – 39 | 40 – 49 | 50 – 59 | 60 |
| No. of candidates. | 511 | 566 | 313 | 134 | 49 | 10 | 0 |

The average mark per question was:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 |
| 6.1 | 4.7 | 3.8 | 2.1 | 1.4 | 0.8 |

Solutions:

Full solutions to BMO1 (and BMO2) questions will be sent to schools in a booklet in April/May. In the meantime, solutions can be accessed at https://bmos.ukmt.org.uk/solutions/.

Note:

Even the top-scoring students are not always good at reading the instructions on the paper! In order to help the markers, pupils should ensure they:

* write on only one side of the paper
* start each question on a new sheet
* number the questions carefully in a place which is not going to be covered by the staple