

# BMO1 2016–17 REPORT FOR TEACHERS AND CANDIDATES

## Marking:

Papers are marked in December by a team of around 40 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 some excellent scores this year, including six people who scored a perfect 60. Over 60% of the candidates managed to get full marks on the first question, and most candidates made serious attempts at several questions.

There were **1691** scripts received and the mean score was **22.9**. The breakdown of final marks was:

Mark	0 – 9	10 – 19	20 – 29	30 – 39	40 – 49	50 – 59	60
No. of candidates.	130	462	654	315	93	31	6

The average mark per question was:

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
8.8	7.6	4.8	2.4	2.6	0.9

## Solutions:

Full solutions to both BMO1 questions and BMO2 questions will be sent to schools in a booklet in April/May. In the meantime, there are instructions on obtaining access to solutions at <http://www.bmoc.maths.org/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