



United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust

January 2018

BMO1 2017–18 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 sixteen people who scored a perfect 60. Over 65% of the candidates managed to get full marks on at least one question, and many candidates made serious attempts at several questions.

There were **1792** scripts received and the mean score was **21.2**. The breakdown of final marks was:

Mark	0 – 9	10 – 19	20 – 29	30 – 39	40 – 49	50 – 59	60
No. of candidates.	257	586	564	245	85	39	16

The average mark per question was:

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
6.8	4.2	7.2	3.3	2.2	1.7

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 <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