



**IGCSE from 2009**

**Changing the learning landscape**

# IGCSE 2009 – a change for the better

- ✓ The most up-to-date qualification from the UK.
- ✓ Incorporates the best features of GCE O levels and our current IGCSE qualifications.
- ✓ Makes progression onto Edexcel GCE A levels more straightforward for students.
- ✓ Ensures students get a head start in life with a qualification awarded by the UK's largest awarding body and recognised internationally by universities, governments, employers and other awarding bodies.

## What does the release of new IGCSE 2009 specifications mean?

From September 2009, we will be replacing our international O levels with the more modern IGCSE 2009 qualifications suite.\*

Of course, there will be some change to the specifications, but it is not a great amount and we believe it is change for the better. For example, changes to IGCSE 2009 specification and exam design means that ResultsPlus will be available for most subjects.

This means that you'll be able to more easily analyse student performance on each examination which will give your students a greater opportunity to achieve better results. This change, along with the other minor changes, are being made to provide your students with a better opportunity for international progression.

"More and more, students are looking for an educational pathway, that is truly international. They are seeking qualifications that are treated at par in their home country as well as globally allowing them to pursue their higher education anywhere they choose. As well as meeting this need, Edexcel's IGCSEs provide some unique features and support like 'ResultsPlus', and a range of study resources and text books, which helps the school and the students."

Sanjay Malaviya, CEO, Planet Edu, India

\*Final examination of current specifications will take place in 2010 for most subjects. Please visit the IGCSE 2009 website for further information.

# IGCSE 2009 – benefits

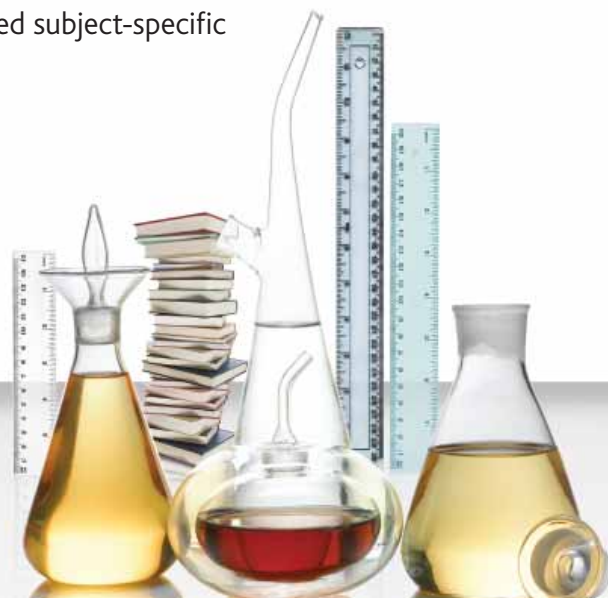
If you're already teaching Edexcel IGCSEs at your school, the new IGCSE 2009 qualification means you'll benefit from...

- **Improved specifications** – You'll notice that much of the syllabus content will be the same but that it will feature an improved, easy-to-follow structure and clear instructions. This will make it easier for you to prepare lesson plans and ensure delivery of learning objectives
- **Greater choice** – There will be 14 new IGCSE subject qualifications available – 36 in total!
- **Improved Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs)** – clearer instructions will help you to prepare students for exam success
- **More resources** – an increased number of published teaching and learner resources will give you greater choice and flexibility, and greater support for your students
- **Local support** – our dedicated regional staff are on hand to make the transition to the new specifications as simple and straight forward as possible
- **Teacher training** – 'Getting ready to teach' training events will make getting started with IGCSE 2009 easy.

If you're new to Edexcel's IGCSEs you will benefit from everything above in addition to...

- **Familiar content** – If you've taught Edexcel O levels in the past, you'll notice that a lot of the IGCSE 2009 specification content is the same but with modern references
- **Increased flexibility with course content** – Edexcel IGCSEs allows you to incorporate local content into the specification, thereby making the course more relevant and engaging to your students
- **Analytical and diagnostic tools** – Edexcel's exclusive ResultsPlus helps you to increase your school's and students' performance
- **Ask the Expert** – Easy access to subject experts when you need subject-specific information.

For information about IGCSE 2009 or how to become an Edexcel centre contact your regional Edexcel office or visit [www.edexcel.com/igcse2009](http://www.edexcel.com/igcse2009)



# How do IGCSEs work?

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## Examination

Our IGCSE 2009 exam papers have been improved to ensure they provide clear and simple instructions to students, making them more accessible to students whose first language may not be English.

All of Edexcel's IGCSEs have a 100% external assessment option and most are graded in the same way as our GCSEs (A\* – G). For tiered qualifications, such as Maths A, foundation tier papers are targeted at grades C to G, and higher tier papers are targeted at grades A\* to D. IGCSE Maths Specification B and Further Pure Maths differ, and are graded A\* – E. Edexcel's IGCSE grading structure gives students of all abilities the opportunity to gain good results.

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## Assessment methodology

Our IGCSEs follow the same pattern of assessment as the UK GCSE with examinations designed to enable students to demonstrate both their analytical skills and their subject knowledge.

A key point, however, is that IGCSEs embrace the principle of 'positive marking'. This method of assessment ensures that students are given credit for what they know, understand and can do rather than penalising them for what they do not know. This encourages both the teacher and learner towards future study. A key feature which the IGCSE shares with the GCSE is the top grade of A\*. This is above grade A and is reserved only for the highest achievers.

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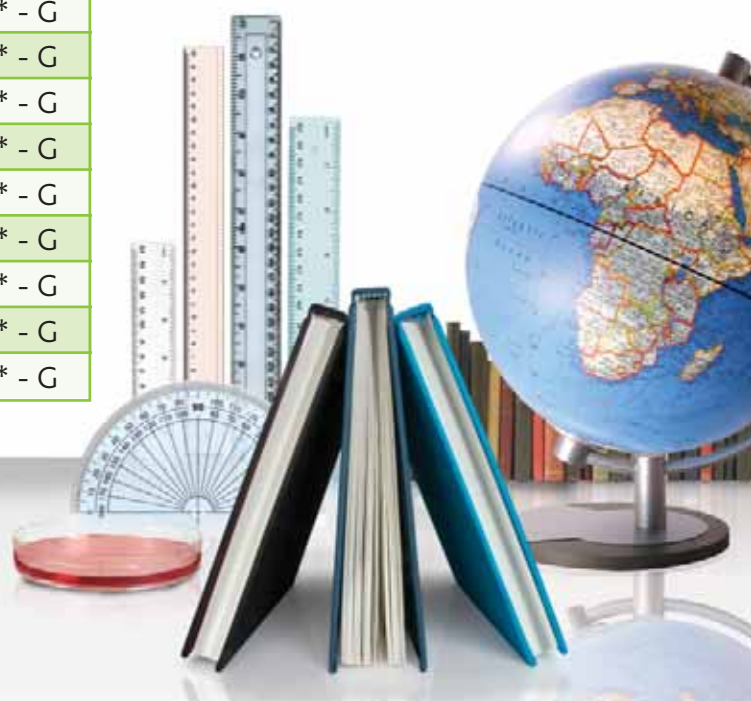
## Coursework option

Some IGCSE 2009 specifications have a coursework element. Although this is not a requirement for the qualification, it does provide teachers with the option to set tasks embedded in the course so that students may practise different skills.

However, because all Edexcel IGCSEs can be 100% externally assessed, schools can still offer these IGCSE qualifications even if their teachers are not coursework specialists.

# IGCSE 2009 – which subjects are available?

Subject	Assessment Structure	Grading
Accounting	Single Tier	A* - G
Arabic (1st language)	Single Tier	A* - G
Art & Design	Single Tier	A* - G
Bangladesh Studies	Single Tier	A* - G
Bengali	Single Tier	A* - G
Biology	Single Tier	A* - G
Business Studies	Single Tier	A* - G
Chemistry	Single Tier	A* - G
Classical Arabic	Single Tier	A* - G
Commerce	Single Tier	A* - G
Economics	Single Tier	A* - G
English (2nd language)	Single Tier	A* - G
English Language (A)	Single Tier	A* - G
English Language (B)	Single Tier	A* - G
English Literature	Single Tier	A* - G
French	Single Tier	A* - G
Geography	Single Tier	A* - G
Gujarati	Single Tier	A* - G
History	Single Tier	A* - G
Human Biology	Single Tier	A* - G
ICT	Single Tier	A* - G
Islamiyat	Single Tier	A* - G
Maths A	Two Tiers	A* - G
Maths B	Single Tier	A* - E
Maths - Further Pure	Single Tier	A* - E
Modern Greek	Single Tier	A* - G
Pakistan Studies	Single Tier	A* - G
Physics	Single Tier	A* - G
Religious Studies	Single Tier	A* - G
Science Double Award	Single Tier	A* - G
Sinhala	Single Tier	A* - G
Spanish	Single Tier	A* - G
Swahili	Single Tier	A* - G
Tamil	Single Tier	A* - G
Turkish	Single Tier	A* - G
Urdu	Single Tier	A* - G



# Did you know that...

## Edexcel's IGCSEs

- are supported by our latest innovative teacher and student resources
- were developed specifically for international schools
- are designed to cater to students whose first language may not be English
- are designed to be culturally adaptable so you can tailor to your students needs
- unit exams were sat by over 70,000 students in 69 countries in the 2007/2008 academic year
- are so popular that leading independent schools in the UK are choosing to offer Edexcel IGCSEs in place of GCSEs.

## Edexcel

- is part of Pearson, the world's largest education group, meaning we have the resources to invest in new technology such as online marking of exams and ResultsPlus (a results analysis tool that can help improve student and school performance)
- was founded over 100 years ago by Royal Charter
- is approved by the UK Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, so you can be confident our qualifications meet rigorous quality standards
- is derived from **educational excellence**
- delivers academic qualifications (previously known as 'London Examinations') and BTEC vocational qualifications in over 85 countries
- qualifications (IGCSE, GCSE, GCE A levels, and BTEC Higher Nationals and Higher National Diplomas) are recognised by universities and employers world-wide
- marks examinations from all countries in line with the UK standards which means that you can be assured that high performance in your country is equivalent to high performance on an international scale
- has country representatives who understand local needs, and are there to support you every step of the way.

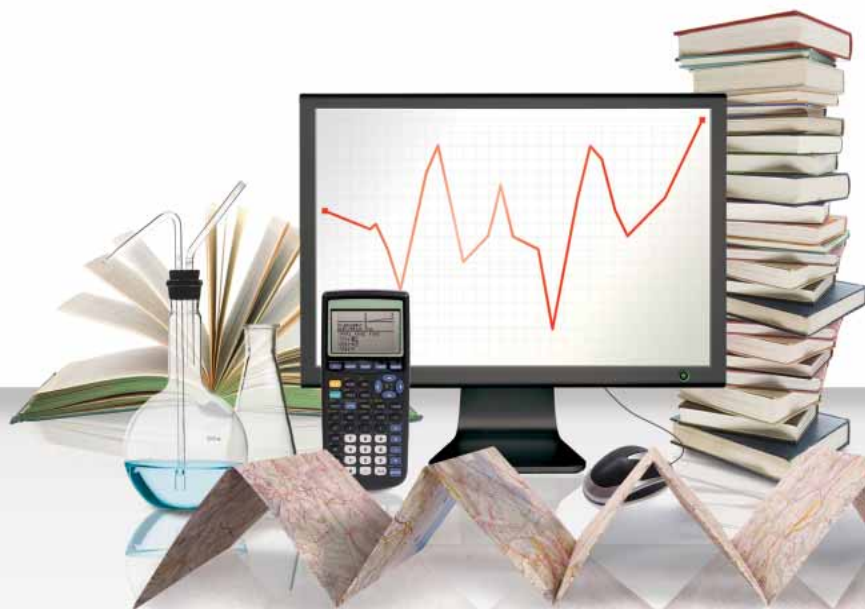


## What now?

If you'd like to receive regular, up-to-date information on our IGCSE 2009 qualifications visit [www.edexcel.com/igcse2009](http://www.edexcel.com/igcse2009) and sign up for our email alerts.

If you are interested in becoming an Edexcel approved centre or would like to find an approved centre in your country, contact one of our dedicated staff at your nearest Edexcel International office or email [IGCSE2009@edexcel.org.uk](mailto:IGCSE2009@edexcel.org.uk)

To find out more about other Edexcel International qualifications visit our website [www.edexcel.com/international](http://www.edexcel.com/international)



## About Edexcel

Edexcel, a Pearson company, is the UK's largest awarding body offering academic and vocational qualifications and testing to schools, colleges, employers and other places of learning in the UK and internationally.

In 2007 we delivered 9.6 million exam scripts in over 85 countries, with 4.5 million marked onscreen using the groundbreaking ePen technology. Our academic qualifications taken internationally include GCSEs, AS and A Levels, IGCSEs and O Levels. Our vocational qualifications include NVQ and BTEC from entry level to Higher National Diplomas. Our entire vocational portfolio had over one million registrations across 45 countries.

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