

# Types of material published to support Edexcel qualifications

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## Material to support GCEs and GCSEs, including IGCSEs

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Note that not every type of material will be available for all qualifications.

### Specification

This outlines the course students will be taught for any level and subject, e.g. GCSE French. It breaks down the requirements into various units of coursework and question papers for each subject. It tells how and when students will be assessed and how marks will be awarded.

### Teachers' Guide also known as Tutor Support Material (TSM) or Specification Guide

Guidance for teachers on every part of the specification. There is advice on teaching and assessment, including: expanding on the information contained within the specification about course requirements; explaining assessment procedures; suggesting teaching approaches and providing examples of course planning.

### Sample Assessment Material (SAMs) also known as Specimen Materials or Specimen Papers

Sample versions of all the question papers that are available for that qualification. Usually includes Mark Schemes, which show how the marks are allocated to the papers and how these marks might be applied. On the whole these documents are written for teachers or tutors rather than students.

### Question Papers also known as Past Papers

Where these are available for sale or download they are actual question papers that were used in the past for that qualification. There may be more than one component required. Additional components include audio files, maps, resource booklets.

### Mark Scheme with Examiners' Report

Where these are available for sale or download they are actual mark schemes that were used in the marking of the actual question papers from previous exam sessions. The Mark Scheme shows how many marks are available for each question and how these marks should be applied. The Examiners' Report is produced after all the papers have been marked and gives specific examples of answers and overviews of how the questions could have been and were answered.

Printed copies usually combine the Mark Scheme with the Examiners' Report, except where only one of these is available.

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## Material to support BTECs and NVQs

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Note that not every type of material will be available for all qualifications.

### **Specification** also known as **Guidance to Centres** or **Guidance and Units**

This outlines what the course requirements are, containing the units and associated guidance for the qualification. Each unit sets out the required outcomes and content, and the guidance contains further details of the teaching, learning, assessment and quality assurance of the qualification.

These publications are geared at the centres (i.e. teachers and tutors) rather than students and learners.

### **Candidate Guidance and Log Book** also known as **Candidate Assessment Log** or **Candidate Evidence Record**

Information for students or learners about what is required to achieve the qualification, including providing information about evidence-gathering and supplying forms and other materials for logging progress. This is sometimes provided as a CD Rom.

### **Tutor Support Materials**

Additional material for tutors and teachers providing further details of the teaching, learning, assessment and quality assurance of the qualification. The type of information provided is often included in the Specification so separate publications are not available for most qualifications.