

# Syllabus

Cambridge O Level English Language

Syllabus code 1123

For examination in June and November 2013



UNIVERSITY *of* CAMBRIDGE  
International Examinations



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Why choose Cambridge?

University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) is the world's largest provider of international qualifications. Around 1.5 million students from 150 countries enter Cambridge examinations every year. What makes educators around the world choose Cambridge?

### Developed for an international audience

International O Levels have been designed specially for an international audience and are sensitive to the needs of different countries. These qualifications are designed for students whose first language may not be English and this is acknowledged throughout the examination process. The curriculum also allows teaching to be placed in a localised context, making it relevant in varying regions.

### Recognition

Cambridge O Levels are internationally recognised by schools, universities and employers as equivalent to UK GCSE. They are excellent preparation for A/AS Level, the Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), US Advanced Placement Programme and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma. CIE is accredited by the UK Government regulator, the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator (Ofqual). Learn more at [www.cie.org.uk/recognition](http://www.cie.org.uk/recognition).

### Support

CIE provides a world-class support service for teachers and exams officers. We offer a wide range of teacher materials to Centres, plus teacher training (online and face-to-face) and student support materials. Exams officers can trust in reliable, efficient administration of exams entry and excellent, personal support from CIE Customer Services. Learn more at [www.cie.org.uk/teachers](http://www.cie.org.uk/teachers).

### Excellence in education

Cambridge qualifications develop successful students. They build not only understanding and knowledge required for progression, but also learning and thinking skills that help students become independent learners and equip them for life.

### Not-for-profit, part of the University of Cambridge

CIE is part of Cambridge Assessment, a not-for-profit organisation and part of the University of Cambridge. The needs of teachers and learners are at the core of what we do. CIE invests constantly in improving its qualifications and services. We draw upon education research in developing our qualifications.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.2 Why choose Cambridge O Level English Language?

International O Levels are established qualifications that keep pace with educational developments and trends. The International O Level curriculum places emphasis on broad and balanced study across a wide range of subject areas. The curriculum is structured so that students attain both practical skills and theoretical knowledge.

Cambridge O Level English Language is accepted by universities and employers as proof of linguistic ability and understanding. The Cambridge O Level English Language syllabus encourages students to develop lifelong skills, including:

- the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively
- the use of a wide range of vocabulary and correct grammar, spelling and punctuation
- a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Students are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which English can be used. Cambridge O Level English Language study also develops more general analysis and communication skills such as synthesis, inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

Students may also study for a Cambridge O Level in Literature in English. In addition to Cambridge O Levels, CIE also offers Cambridge IGCSE and International A & AS Levels for further study in English as well as other languages. See [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk) for a full list of the qualifications you can take.

## 1.3 How can I find out more?

### If you are already a Cambridge Centre

You can make entries for this qualification through your usual channels, e.g. your regional representative, the British Council or CIE Direct. If you have any queries, please contact us at [international@cie.org.uk](mailto:international@cie.org.uk).

### If you are not a Cambridge Centre

You can find out how your organisation can become a Cambridge Centre. Email either your local British Council representative or CIE at [international@cie.org.uk](mailto:international@cie.org.uk). Learn more about the benefits of becoming a Cambridge Centre at [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk).

## 2. Assessment at a glance

### Cambridge O Level English Language Syllabus code 1123

The Cambridge O Level English Language syllabus has been developed in response to customer feedback. 2011 was the first year of examination of the revised syllabus.

All candidates take **two** papers.

	<b>Paper 1: Writing 1 hour 30 minutes</b>		<b>Paper 2: Reading 1 hour 45 minutes</b>	
<b>Marks</b>	60 weighted to 50		50	
<b>Weighting</b>	50%		50%	
<b>Candidate response</b>	On separate answer sheet		On the question paper	
<b>Focus</b>	Task	Language	Task	Language
<b>Section title</b>	Directed Writing	Creative Writing	Reading for Ideas	Reading for Meaning
<b>Mark allocation</b>	30 marks (15 marks for task fulfilment, of which 6 marks weighted to 5 are for reading; and 15 marks for language)	30 marks (combined language and content)	25 marks (15 marks for content points of notes, 5 marks for language of summary; 5 marks for main ideas questions)	25 marks (content only)
<b>Weighting for writing skills: 50%</b>	20%	25%	5%	-
<b>Weighting for reading skills: 50%</b>	5%	-	20%	25%
<b>Assessment objectives</b>	W1, W2, W3, W4	W1, W2, W3, W4	R3, R4	R1, R2

# 2. Assessment at a glance

## Availability

This syllabus is examined in the May/June examination session and the October/November examination session.

This syllabus is available to private candidates.

International O levels are available to Centres in Administrative Zones 3, 4 and 5. Centres in Administrative Zones 1, 2 or 6 wishing to enter candidates for International O Level examinations should contact CIE Customer Services.

## Combining this with other syllabuses

Candidates can combine this syllabus in an examination session with any other CIE syllabus, except:

- syllabuses with the same title at the same level
- 0500 IGCSE First Language English
- 0510 IGCSE English as a Second Language
- 0511 IGCSE English as a Second Language (count-in oral)
- 0522 Cambridge International Level 1/Level 2 Certificate First Language English
- 1119 O Level English Language (Malaysia)
- 1120 O Level English Language (Brunei)
- 1125 O Level English Language (Mauritius)
- 1126 O Level English Language Syllabus B (Mauritius)
- 1127 O Level English Language (Singapore)

Please note that O Level, Cambridge International Level 1/Level 2 Certificates and IGCSE syllabuses are at the same level.

Candidates for Cambridge O Level English Language **MUST** enter as follows:

- Candidates in **Brunei** *must* enter for **Subject 1120**
- Candidates in **Mauritius** *must* enter for **Subject 1125 or 1126**
- Candidates in **Singapore** *must* enter for **Subject 1127**
- Candidates elsewhere (including previous subject 1115) *must* enter for **Subject 1123**.

No candidate may enter for more than one English Language subject.

# 3. Syllabus aims and objectives

## 3.1 Aims

A qualification in this syllabus demonstrates to universities and employers that candidates can communicate effectively in Standard English through:

- **communicative competence:** the ability to communicate with clarity, relevance, accuracy and variety
- **creativity:** the ability to use language, experience and imagination to respond to new situations, create original ideas and make a positive impact
- **critical skills:** the ability to scan, filter and analyse different forms of information
- **cross-cultural awareness:** the ability to engage with issues inside and outside own community, dealing with the familiar as well as the unfamiliar. (This is not an assessment objective but forms the context of writing tasks and reading passages.)

	Writing to:	Reading to:
Communicative competence	Communicate precisely and appropriately	Understand exact and implied meaning
Creativity	Develop ideas effectively	
Critical skills		Identify and respond to main ideas
Cross-cultural awareness	Reflect on the familiar	Have strategies to deal with the unfamiliar

**Speaking and listening are not tested but the development of these vital communication skills is encouraged across the curriculum.**

Reflecting the communication demands facing candidates in the real world, the syllabus distinguishes between **task** and **language** as the focus of Section 1 and Section 2 respectively in each paper:

Section	Focus	Writing	Reading
1	Task	Directed Writing	Reading for Ideas
2	Language	Creative Writing	Reading for Meaning



# 3. Syllabus aims and objectives

The **Task** aspect of Paper 1 is **Directed Writing**, where communication of key information is required to achieve a specific purpose for a certain audience in a particular situation. **Language** (as well as content) is tested in the **Creative Writing** section, where candidates have an opportunity to display their English language skills in order to express their opinion, experience or imagination.

The **Task** aspect of Paper 2 is **Reading for Ideas**, where, for example, scanning for and summarising specific information is required to achieve and convey a global understanding of a text. **Language** is tested in the **Reading for Meaning** section, where there is a greater demand for English language skills in order to demonstrate more in-depth understanding of a text.

In this way, it is hoped that candidates will develop strategies to be able to transfer these communication skills to other subjects and to their future careers/studies as they encounter a variety of texts and are required to make a positive impact through the written word.

## 3.2 Assessment Objectives

### READING

- R1 Understand **explicit** meanings, through literal and vocabulary questions.
- R2 Understand **implicit** meanings and nuances of language, through inferential questions and questions on writer's craft.
- R3 **Scan and analyse text**, by identifying and summarising required information, such as similarities and differences, or advantages and disadvantages, or problems and solutions, or causes and effects, or actions and consequences.
- R4 Identify and respond to **main ideas** of a text, such as follow a sequence or argument, identify conclusion, distinguish fact from opinion, and give a personal response to a theme in a text.

### WRITING

- W1 Communicate **appropriately**, with a clear awareness of purpose, audience and register.
- W2 Communicate **clearly** and develop ideas coherently, at word level, at sentence level and at whole text level.
- W3 Use **accurate** spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- W4 Communicate **creatively**, using a varied range of vocabulary, sentence structures and linguistic devices.

# 4. Description of components

## 4.1 Paper 1: Writing

**1 hour 30 minutes, 60 marks**

This paper has two sections and candidates **answer on a separate answer sheet**.

### Section 1: Directed Writing (30 marks)

- Candidates are presented with a **task**, e.g. write a letter, speech, report, article, fit for purpose and relevant to the world of study, work or the community.
- Candidates should write 200–300 words to inform or persuade a particular audience.
- 15 marks are allocated for task fulfilment and 15 marks for language.

### Section 2: Creative Writing (30 marks)

- This is an **essay**, testing language and content combined.
- Candidates answer **one** question from a choice of 5 narrative/descriptive/argumentative essay titles and should write 350–500 words.

Both sections test Assessment Objectives W1, W2, W3, W4.

## 4.2 Paper 2: Reading

**1 hour 45 minutes, 50 marks**

This paper has two sections and candidates **answer on the question paper**.

### Section 1: Reading for Ideas (25 marks)

- Candidates scan a **factual** communication (or communications) of approximately 700 words – e.g. report(s), article(s), advertisement(s), email(s), letter(s).
- They **identify and note down required information** – e.g. similarities and differences, or causes and effects, or advantages and disadvantages, or problems and solutions, or actions and consequences. Only **one** example content point will be given as guidance to candidates.
- 15 marks are allocated for content points.
- Candidates use these notes to **write a summary** of 160 words. 5 marks are allocated for language.

This task tests Assessment Objective R3 (also implicitly R1, R2).

# 4. Description of components

- Candidates then answer questions on the **main ideas** in the communication(s) – e.g. follow an argument/sequence or identify a conclusion, distinguish fact from opinion, give personal response to a theme in the passage.
- These will be **short answer** questions worth 5 marks.

This task tests Assessment Objective R4 (also implicitly R1, R2).

## Section 2: Reading for Meaning (25 marks)

- Candidates read a **narrative** passage (e.g. report, article, story) of approximately 700 words.
- They then answer **short answer** questions testing their ability to understand the language (both explicit and implicit meanings).

This section tests Assessment Objectives R1, R2.

# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

## SECTION 1 TASK FULFILMENT MARK

### Band 1 (15–13 marks)

- Good understanding of purpose.
- Clear awareness of situation and audience.
- Format entirely appropriate.
- All required points developed in detail, fully amplified and well organised.
- Given information well used to justify personal opinion and interpretation.
- Tone and register entirely appropriate.

### Band 2 (12–10 marks)

- An understanding of purpose.
- An awareness of situation and audience.
- Format appropriate.
- All required points addressed but not always developed in detail.
- Given information organised to support personal opinion.
- Tone and register appropriate.

### Band 3 (9–7 marks)

- Some understanding of purpose.
- Some awareness of situation and audience.
- Format generally appropriate.
- At least two required points addressed (and partially/fully developed).
- Given information may not be logically used to support opinion.
- Tone usually appropriate, although there may be slips of register.

### Band 4 (6–4 marks)

- Only partial understanding of purpose.
- Some confusion as to situation and audience.
- Format may be inappropriate.
- At least one of the required points addressed (and partially/fully developed).
- Given information may be used irrelevantly.
- Tone may be uneven.

# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

## Band 5 (3–1 marks)

- Misunderstanding of purpose.
- Confusion as to situation and audience.
- Little evidence of a specific format.
- None of the required points addressed.
- Given information misunderstood or irrelevant.
- Tone may be inappropriate.

## A mark of 0

- should be given only when:
- the response is totally incomprehensible **or**
- the candidate has merely copied out the question or parts of it at random **or**
- the question is not attempted at all.

# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

## SECTION 1 LANGUAGE MARK

### Band 1 (15–14 marks)

- Highly accurate, apart from very occasional slips.
- Sentence structures varied for particular effects.
- Verb forms largely correct and appropriate tenses consistently used.
- Vocabulary wide and precise.
- Punctuation accurate and helpful.
- Spelling accurate, apart from very occasional slips.
- Paragraphs have unity, are linked, and show evidence of planning.

### Band 2 (13–12 marks)

- Accurate; occasional errors are either slips or caused by ambition.
- Sentence structures show some variation to create some natural fluency.
- Occasional slips in verb forms or tense formation, but sequence consistent and clear throughout.
- Vocabulary precise enough to convey intended shades of meaning.
- Punctuation accurate and generally helpful.
- Spelling nearly always accurate.
- Paragraphs have unity, are usually linked and show some evidence of planning.

### Band 3 (11–10 marks)

- Mostly accurate; errors from ambition do not mar clarity of communication.
- Some variety of sentence structures, but tendency to repeat sentence types may produce monotonous effect.
- Errors may occur in irregular verb forms, but control of tense sequence sufficient to sustain clear progression of events or ideas.
- Simple vocabulary mainly correct; errors may occur with more ambitious words.
- Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate; some errors in more ambitious words.
- Punctuation generally accurate and sentence separation correctly marked, but errors may occur e.g. with direct speech.
- Paragraphs may show some unity, although links may be absent or inappropriate.

### Band 4 (9–8 marks)

- Sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning, with patches of clear, accurate language.
- Some variety of sentence length and structure, not always for particular purpose.
- Errors in verb forms and tense consistency may cause uncertainty in sequence of events or disturb ease of communication.
- Vocabulary usually adequate to convey intended meaning; idiom may be uncertain.
- Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate, errors in more difficult words.
- Punctuation used but not always helpful; occasional sentence separation errors.
- Paragraphs used but may lack unity or coherence.

# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

## Band 5 (7–6 marks)

- Overall meaning never in doubt, but errors sufficiently frequent and serious to hamper precision and distract reader from content.
- Some simple structures accurate but script unlikely to sustain accuracy for long.
- Errors in verb forms and tenses will sometimes confuse sequence of events.
- Vocabulary limited, either too simple or imperfectly understood; some idiomatic errors likely.
- Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate, frequent errors in more difficult words.
- Simple punctuation usually accurate, but there may be frequent sentence separation errors.
- Paragraphs used haphazardly.

## Band 6 (5–4 marks)

- Many serious errors of various kinds of 'single-word' type (i.e. they could be corrected without re-writing the sentence); communication established, although weight of error may cause some 'blurring'.
- Sentences probably simple and repetitive in structure.
- Frequent errors in verb forms and haphazard changes of tense confuse meaning.
- Vocabulary conveys meaning but likely to be simple and imprecise; significant idiomatic errors
- Spelling may be inconsistent.
- Punctuation and paragraphing may be haphazard or non-existent.

## Band 7 (3–2 marks)

- Sense usually decipherable but some error will be 'multiple' (i.e. requiring the reader to re-read and re-organise); meaning may be partly hidden by density of linguistic error.
- Unlikely to be more than a few accurate sentences, however simple, in the whole composition.

## Band 8 (1–0 mark)

- Scripts almost entirely or entirely impossible to recognise as pieces of English writing; whole sections make no sense at all.
- Where occasional patches of relative clarity are evident, 1 mark should be given.
- The mark of 0 is reserved for scripts that make no sense at all from beginning to end.

# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

## SECTION 2 MARK

### Band 1 (30–27 marks)

- **Highly accurate**, apart from very occasional slips.
  - **Sentence structure varied** for particular effects.
  - **Verb forms largely correct** and **appropriate tenses consistently used**.
  - **Vocabulary wide and precise**.
  - **Punctuation accurate** and helpful.
  - **Spelling accurate** apart from very occasional slips.
  - **Paragraphs have unity**, are linked, and show evidence of planning.
- Consistently **relevant. Interest aroused and sustained**.
- **Tone and register entirely appropriate**.
- **Discursive** essays are well developed, logical, even complex, in argument.
- **Descriptive** essays have well-developed images helping to create complex atmospheres.
- **Narratives** are complex, sophisticated, possibly tense, and may contain devices such as flashbacks.

### Band 2 (26–23 marks)

- **Accurate: occasional errors** are either slips or caused by ambition.
  - **Sentence structures show some variation to create some natural fluency**.
  - **Occasional slips** in **verb forms or tense formation** but **sequence consistent** and **clear** throughout.
  - **Vocabulary wide and precise enough** to convey intended shades of meaning.
  - **Punctuation accurate** and generally helpful.
  - **Spelling nearly always accurate**.
  - **Paragraphs have unity**, are usually **linked** and show some evidence of **planning**.
- **Relevant. Interest aroused and mostly sustained**.
- **Tone and register appropriate**.
- **Discursive** essays have clearly-defined, cohesive, logical stages in their argument.
- **Descriptive** essays have interesting images and range of detail, helping to create effective atmospheres.
- **Narratives** have effective detail creating character or setting, and may contain some sense of climax.

### Band 3 (22–19 marks)

- **Mostly accurate**; errors from ambition do not mar clarity of communication.
- **Some variety of sentence structures**, but tendency to repeat sentence types may produce monotonous effect.
- Errors may occur in irregular verb forms, but **control of tense sequence sufficient to sustain clear progression** of events or ideas.
- **Simple vocabulary mainly correct**; errors may occur with more ambitious words.
- **Punctuation generally accurate** and **sentence separation correctly marked**, but errors may occur e.g. with direct speech.
- **Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate**; some errors in more ambitious words.
- **Paragraphs may show some unity**, although links may be absent or inappropriate.



# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

- **Relevant. Some interest aroused**, although there may be some lack of originality and/or planning.
- **Tone usually appropriate**, although there may be slips of register.
- **Discursive** essays make a series of relevant points, with some being developed; linking of ideas may be insecure.
- **Descriptive** essays have satisfactory images, ideas and details which help to create atmosphere
- **Narratives** are straightforward with proper sequencing of sentences

## Band 4 (18–15 marks)

- **Sufficiently accurate to communicate meaning**, with **patches** of clear, accurate language.
- **Some variety of sentence length and structure**, not always for particular purpose.
- **Errors in verb forms and tense consistency** may cause uncertainty in sequence of events or disturb ease of communication.
- **Vocabulary usually adequate to convey intended meaning**; idiom may be uncertain.
- **Punctuation used but not always helpful**; occasional sentence separation errors.
- **Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate**; errors in more difficult words.
- **Paragraphs used but may lack unity or coherence.**
- **Attempt to address topic** but there may be digressions or failures of logic. May lack liveliness and interest.
- **Tone may be uneven.**
- **Discursive** essays have mainly relevant points but may be only partially developed, with some repetition.
- **Descriptive** essays have some detail but may rely too much on narrative.
- **Narratives** are largely a series of events with only occasional details of character and setting.

## Band 5 (14–11)

- **Overall meaning never in doubt**, but errors sufficiently frequent and serious to **hamper precision** and distract reader from content.
- **Some simple sentence structures accurate but script unlikely to sustain accuracy for long.**
- **Errors in verb forms and tenses** will sometimes confuse sequence of events.
- **Vocabulary limited**, either too simple or imperfectly understood; some idiomatic errors likely.
- **Simple punctuation usually accurate**, but there may be frequent sentence separation errors.
- **Spelling of simple vocabulary accurate**, frequent errors in more difficult words.
- **Paragraphs used haphazardly.**
- **Some relevance. Some interest.**
- **Tone may be inconsistent.**
- **Discursive** essays make a few points but development is simple and not always logical; some obvious repetition of ideas.
- **Descriptive** essays are relevant but lack scope or variety.
- **Narratives** are simple, everyday or immature.

# 5. Marking band descriptors for Paper 1

## Band 6 (10–7)

- **Many serious errors of various kinds of 'single-word' type** (i.e. they could be corrected without re-writing the sentence); **communication established**, although weight of error may cause **some 'blurring'**.
- **Sentences probably simple and repetitive** in structure.
- **Frequent errors in verb forms** and haphazard changes of tense confuse meaning.
- **Vocabulary conveys meaning but likely to be simple and imprecise**; significant idiomatic errors.
- **Punctuation and paragraphing may be haphazard or non-existent.**
- **Spelling may be inconsistent.**
- **A little relevance. A little interest.**
- **Some recognition of appropriate tone.**
- In **Discursive** essays only a few points are discernable and the argument progresses only here and there.
- In **Descriptive** essays the overall picture is unclear.
- **Narratives** are very simple and may narrate events indiscriminately.

## Band 7 (6–3)

- **Sense usually decipherable** but **some error will be 'multiple'** (i.e. requiring the reader to re-read and re-organise); meaning may be partly hidden by density of linguistic error.
- **Unlikely to be more than a few accurate sentences**, however simple, in the whole composition.
- **Little relevance or interest.**
- **Tone may be inappropriate.**
- In **Discursive** essays only a very few points are discernable and the argument barely progresses.
- In **Descriptive** essays the overall picture is very unclear.
- **Narratives** are extremely simple and may narrate events indiscriminately.

## Band 8 (2–0)

- **Scripts almost entirely or entirely impossible to recognise as pieces of English writing**; whole sections make no sense at all.
- Where occasional patches of relative clarity are evident, 2 or 1 mark(s) should be given.
- The mark of 0 is reserved for scripts that make no sense at all from beginning to end.
- **Discursive** essays are rarely relevant and may well be disordered, as are **Descriptive** essays and **Narratives**.

# 6. Additional information

## 6.1 Guided learning hours

O Level syllabuses are designed on the assumption that candidates have about 130 guided learning hours per subject over the duration of the course. ('Guided learning hours' include direct teaching and any other supervised or directed study time. They do not include private study by the candidate.)

However, this figure is for guidance only, and the number of hours required may vary according to local curricular practice and the candidates' prior experience of the subject.

## 6.2 Recommended prior learning

We recommend that candidates who are beginning this course should have sufficient competence in English to be able to achieve a level of English equivalent to First Language competence during the course.

## 6.3 Progression

O Level Certificates are general qualifications that enable candidates to progress either directly to employment, or to proceed to further qualifications.

Candidates who are awarded grades C to A\* in O Level English Language are well prepared to follow courses leading to AS and A Level English Language, or the equivalent.

## 6.4 Component codes

Because of local variations, in some cases component codes will be different in instructions about making entries for examinations and timetables from those printed in this syllabus, but the component names will be unchanged to make identification straightforward.

## 6.5 Grading and reporting

Ordinary Level (O Level) results are shown by one of the grades A\*, A, B, C, D or E indicating the standard achieved, Grade A\* being the highest and Grade E the lowest. 'Ungraded' indicates that the candidate's performance fell short of the standard required for Grade E. 'Ungraded' will be reported on the statement of results but not on the certificate.

# 6. Additional information

Percentage uniform marks are also provided on each candidate's statement of results to supplement their grade for a syllabus. They are determined in this way:

- A candidate who obtains...
  - ... the minimum mark necessary for a Grade A\* obtains a percentage uniform mark of 90%.
  - ... the minimum mark necessary for a Grade A obtains a percentage uniform mark of 80%.
  - ... the minimum mark necessary for a Grade B obtains a percentage uniform mark of 70%.
  - ... the minimum mark necessary for a Grade C obtains a percentage uniform mark of 60%.
  - ... the minimum mark necessary for a Grade D obtains a percentage uniform mark of 50%.
  - ... the minimum mark necessary for a Grade E obtains a percentage uniform mark of 40%.
  - ... no marks receives a percentage uniform mark of 0%.

Candidates whose mark is none of the above receive a percentage mark in between those stated according to the position of their mark in relation to the grade 'thresholds' (i.e. the minimum mark for obtaining a grade). For example, a candidate whose mark is halfway between the minimum for a Grade C and the minimum for a Grade D (and whose grade is therefore D) receives a percentage uniform mark of 55%.

The uniform percentage mark is stated at syllabus level only. It is not the same as the 'raw' mark obtained by the candidate, since it depends on the position of the grade thresholds (which may vary from one session to another and from one subject to another) and it has been turned into a percentage.

## 6.6 Resources

Copies of syllabuses, the most recent question papers and Principal Examiners' reports for teachers are available on the Syllabus and Support Materials CD-ROM, which is sent to all CIE Centres.

Resources are also listed on CIE's public website at [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk). Please visit this site on a regular basis as the Resource lists are updated through the year.

Access to teachers' email discussion groups, suggested schemes of work and regularly updated resource lists may be found on the CIE Teacher Support website at <http://teachers.cie.org.uk>. This website is available to teachers at registered CIE Centres.

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