



Scaling on English AS and A Levels

Please be aware that the raw mark total (that achieved by adding together the marks available for each component as listed in the specification) for most A level and 1 AS component is different to the subject mark total. The raw marks for each component need to be scaled and then added together in order to achieve the subject mark. The notional, paper level grade boundaries reflect the unscaled totals.

The actual grade boundaries for each of our English AS and A levels are given at qualification level (using scaled subject marks) as these are linear qualifications awarded at qualification not paper level. Please see the table below for details of the scaling.

A level English Literature 9ET0

Total subject marks: 300

Component	Raw marks	Scaling factor	Subject marks at component level
1	60	1.5	90
2	40	1.5	60
3	60	1.5	90
4	60	1.0	60
	220		300

A level English Language 9EN0

Total subject marks: 250

Component	Raw marks	Scaling factor	Subject marks at component level
1	60	1.458	87.48
2	45	1.111	49.995
3	45	1.389	62.505
4	50	1.0	50
	200		249.98

A level English Language and Literature 9EL0

Total subject marks: 300

Component	Raw marks	Scaling factor	Subject marks at component level
1	50	2.4	120
2	50	2.4	120
3	60	1.0	60
	160		300

AS English Literature 8ET0

Total subject marks: 120

Component	Raw marks	Scaling factor	Subject marks at component level
1	72	1.0	72
2	44	1.091	48.004
	116		120.004

Example for 8ET0

The total subject mark is 120. Raw marks for 8ET0/02 require multiplying by 1.091 to scale the paper to represent 40% of marks for each paper are being combined and compared to the qualification grade boundary.

Scaling is referred to on page 9 of the AS [specification](#):

'Centres are reminded that the marks given are raw marks and as such will be scaled to reflect the appropriate component weighting for results purposes.'

When using grade boundaries for internal marking purposes, you will need to scale your students' paper 2 results, multiplying raw marks out of 44 by 1.091.

Candidate Statements of Provisional Results only show the grade for a linear qualification. The centre receives a 'component mark' list that shows, for each candidate, the overall subject mark plus the raw (ie not scaled) mark achieved on each component, along with the scaling factor for the component. In the example of 8ET0, the scaling factor of 1.091 is shown on this component mark list.

Using grade boundaries to make decisions on whether to request a review of marking

Component level grade boundaries for linear qualifications are notional, and achieving a raw mark that equates to a 'grade A' at component level, has no immediate bearing on the grade that will be awarded at qualification level once raw marks have been scaled and totalled to arrive at the total subject marks. This should be considered when deciding whether to apply for a review of marking (an EAR). A change in a raw mark that results in a change in 'grade' at component level may not equate to a change in grade at qualification level.

Example for 9ET0

Grade boundaries (summer 2017):

AS English Literature: New Specification										
AS overall grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
8ET0	English Literature	Raw	120		78	67	56	45	34	0

A Level English Literature: New Specification										
A Level overall grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
9ET0	English Literature	Raw	300	231	207	178	149	120	91	0

A level English Literature: New Specification										
Notional component grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
9ET0	English Literature Paper 01	Raw	60	41	37	31	26	21	16	0
9ET0	English Literature Paper 02	Raw	40	32	29	24	19	14	10	0
9ET0	English Literature Paper 03	Raw	60	41	37	32	27	22	18	0
9ET0	English Literature Paper 04	Raw	60	58	52	45	38	31	25	0

Candidate X's results

Grade achieved	B
Total subject marks	197/300

	Raw marks	Scaling factor	Scaled raw marks
9ET0 01	35/60	1.5	52.5
9ET0 02	27/40	1.5	40.5
9ET0 03	36/60	1.5	54
9ET0 04	50/60	1.0	50
	148/220		197

Candidate X is 10 scaled marks away from a grade A. Assuming that the marks for 9ET0 04 (non-examined assessment) are not under discussion, the candidate would need to see a mark change of at least 7 raw marks on 9ET0 01, 9ET0 02 or 9ET0 03 in order to achieve a grade change to grade A (7 raw marks x1.5+ 10.5 scaled marks).

A 2 raw mark increase on 9ET0 01 following a review of marking would result in candidate X receiving a notional 'A' on this paper (as the raw component grade boundary for an A is 37 raw marks), but this would not result in a change to the overall qualification grade ($2 \times 1.5 = 3$ scaled marks, so the scaled total subject marks would become 200, 7 short of the marks required for an A at qualification level).

If you need any further guidance on this, please contact the English Subject Advisor at teachingenglish@pearson.com.

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