

Accessible assessments for all

Accessible Assessments - a guide to our question paper improvements in 2024.

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement of assessment, we have taken steps to refine our papers to improve the examination experience for all students.

Here are some of the steps we have taken to make our papers more accessible and inclusive.

Emphasis on plain English

We take great care to use plain, everyday English as much as possible, even within a scientific context. This helps students to understand complex concepts and ideas.

Scaffolding questions

Where necessary, we 'scaffold' questions, especially those with multiple marks, to help guide students towards what is required. This is particularly important in 6-mark questions.

Improving layout and readability

We start new sentences on a new line to make our papers easier to read. We also embolden key words to guide students towards what needs to be done.

Modified papers

Modified papers help ensure that candidates with varying needs can access the examination materials needed to accurately assess their skills and knowledge. There is a variety of formats available, each of which aims to accommodate a range of difficulties.

Reviewed by language experts

We work closely with a language expert who reviews all our materials to ensure that our papers are clear and easy to understand.

Reducing complexity

This helps keep our language simple, and easy to understand, making them more accessible to students of all reading levels.

We have reduced the word count and sentence length within our papers. This makes our papers as concise and straightforward as possible, without compromising the quality of the content.

Reviewing our work

Every year, after the examination period, we evaluate our papers. Every question is reviewed to assess its effectiveness.

We are committed to making our materials accessible to all students.

[Find out more about accessible assessments >](#)

