

Next steps!

If you want to find out more about this GCSE Statistics course then:

- visit the Edexcel website at www.edexcel.com/gcse2009
- talk to the Head of Statistics at your school who will be able to describe the course in detail and advise you of what you need to do next when it comes to your options.

Statistics Question:

There are how many possible ways to play the first 4 turns of chess?

Statistics Answer:

(b) 318, 979, 564, 000

Edexcel GCSE Statistics



STUDENT GUIDE

Is this the right subject for me?

The age of statistics is upon us.

Statistics are being used at an increasing rate in business, politics and science. In the real world we are constantly bombarded through the media with graphs, economical data such as retail price index (RPI) and various other statistical statements.

If you want to learn about the role statistics plays in all aspects of everyday life and how to interpret and use statistical statements then our GCSE in Statistics is the right subject for you.

Edexcel

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About Edexcel

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What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You will need very little previous statistical knowledge to be able to take this course. In Key Stage 3 you will have done some data-handling work which will be repeated at the beginning of this course.

Foundation students need to have a basic understanding of accuracy, fractions, decimals and percentages.

Higher-level students need, in addition, to be familiar with the equation of a straight line and have a basic understanding of the shapes of exponential curves.

What will I learn?

In this course, you will learn:

- how to collect, summarise and represent unbiased data
- the skills necessary to read, analyse and interpret data and various diagrams and statistical statements accurately
- to develop your ability to reason and discuss results
- how to predict what will happen in the future by making forecasts based on statistical results and considering the probability of something happening.



How will I be assessed?

Task (teacher assessed) Approximately 8 to 10 hours	Written paper: Foundation Tier 1 hour 30 mins Higher Tier 2 hours
This will involve you choosing, with the help of your teacher, a task to investigate. You will make a plan, collect data, analyse it and then write up a report on your work. Some of this will be done during lesson time.	Each paper will have some short and some long questions. Many of them will involve the use of real-world data. You could be asked for example to design questionnaires, draw box plots and scatter diagrams, interpret diagrams, carry out calculations and interpret statements.

What can I do after I've completed the course?

You can use the skills you have acquired when studying further subjects at all levels. Biology, psychology, economics, geography, engineering and archaeology are among the many subjects that rely at times on an understanding of statistical data.

You might also use these skills to make decisions about things in your own life such as investing savings, choosing electrical equipment and buying cars.

Studying statistics at AS Level and university can lead on to a variety of jobs including areas such as manufacturing, insurance and civil service. Statisticians are needed in most walks of life.

Statistics Question:

There are how many possible ways to play the first 4 turns of chess?

- (a) 318, 979, 564
- (b) 318, 979, 564, 000
- (c) 318, 979, 564, 000, 000
- (d) 318, 979, 564, 000, 000, 000