

Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1) Mathematics

Accessible assessments for all

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At this busy time of year when you and your students are preparing for the summer exam series, you can count on us for help and support.

We've made sure that our GCSE (9-1) Mathematics exam papers assess maths skills, and that the questions are designed to ensure there are no barriers that may prevent students from being able to show their mathematical ability.

All our exam papers are written in clear and simple language, making them **accessible to all students**, to give them every chance to reach their potential.

We've made sure that the assessments:

- ▶ use everyday language, making it easy for all students to understand what response is expected
- ▶ are designed to test maths skills not language skills, so if students know how to do the maths they will be able to answer the questions
- ▶ only set questions in contexts if it helps students access the maths, or if it is required as part of the assessment objective, for example: solve problems in non-mathematical contexts
- ▶ that include questions set in real-life contexts use language that is purposeful, clear and relevant to all
- ▶ sometimes include diagrams, where helpful, and explain in words what is happening in the diagram to cater for all types of learners and make the questions more accessible
- ▶ are well laid out and have enough white space for the answers to be written clearly, but not too much that it might give the impression that a longer answer is expected.

With exam preparation in full swing, our maths experts have put together some top exam tips to help support you and your students further.



Top GCSE maths exam tips for students from the Mathematics Emporium

Photocopy this and pass it on to your students.

Tip 1: Show ALL your working

In the shorter questions, don't forget to show all the stages of your working. This is really important on the calculator papers, where sometimes the temptation is to just work through to the solution of the problem on the calculator, and just putting your answer on the answer line.

Tip 2: Present your work clearly

Organise your work clearly, especially on questions that require a number of stages to get to the solution. The amount of space provided for your answer should be enough, but you can always request another piece of paper if needed.

Tip 3: Focus on brushing up your understanding and application of ratio and proportion at Foundation

At Foundation tier, there is a big increase in ratio and proportion content in the GCSE (9–1) Mathematics specification. Make sure you spend enough revision time on this area as you can gain valuable marks here.

Tip 4: Revise all the course content

If you are sitting Higher tier papers you should be prepared for all the content. Our performance data shows that even for those students who attain the lowest available grades on the Higher tier, there are still opportunities to pick up marks later in the paper, even in questions that are assessing more challenging content.

Tip 5: Check your answers

Once you have completed each question go back and check that the answer you have given makes sense in the context of the question.

Tip 6: Memorise the formulae

Fewer formulae will be provided for you in the exams so you will need to recall formulae, and marks can be given for this.

Tip 7: Make sure you have the correct equipment for all the exams

This includes a ruler, protractor, and a calculator (for Papers 2 and 3), and don't forget to ask for tracing paper to do your transformations.

Support that counts

Our support doesn't stop once you have chosen to teach GCSE (9–1) Mathematics with us. We offer continued support throughout the lifetime of the qualification and we continually review, update and provide new tools and resources to help you plan, teach, track and assess your students.

The Maths Emporium

The Maths Emporium contains a rich source of resources. Keep up to date with emails and gain easy access to all the materials you need to teach GCSE Mathematics 2015.

 [Visit the Maths Emporium](#)

Get in touch

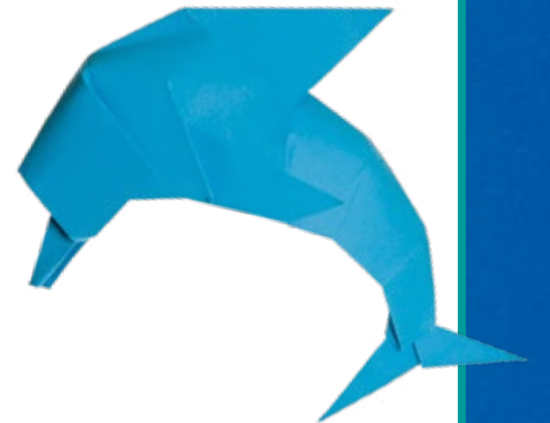
Our experts are on hand to answer any questions you may have and to provide guidance and support every step of the way with our GCSE Maths qualification.

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"The Maths Emporium is superb and there is always someone on hand to answer my questions."

Chris Seager, Head of Mathematics, Alcester Academy, Warwickshire

Post-results support

Free Access to Scripts service

Pearson is the only awarding organisation to offer free access to your students' marked exam papers with our free **Access to Scripts** service.

The **Access to Scripts** service allows you to request all your students' marked GCSE (9–1) Mathematics exam papers* after results day, free of charge. Available through Edexcel Online, you'll be able to access, view and download candidates' scripts in PDF format – enabling you to identify skills gaps and tailor future teaching plans.

 **Find out more and read the FAQs on our website.**

ResultsPlus

ResultsPlus is our free online results analysis tool for teachers, that gives you a detailed breakdown of your students' performance in Pearson Edexcel exams. Using the free Access to Scripts service and ResultsPlus together will help you identify topics and skills where your students could benefit from further learning, helping them gain a deeper understanding of maths.

 **Take a closer look on our website.**

*This service is available for any exam paper that has been marked electronically. Please note that the exam papers will not have any examiners annotation on them, purely the mark received for each question. Written permission must be gained from candidates before accessing scripts.

