

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Centre Guide



Designed for the global learner



Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) qualifications are popular with teachers and learners alike for many reasons including:

Flexible and modular structure with synopticity:

IAL provides the flexibility to teach a modular A level qualification. This allows learners to take examinations at the right time for them. The modular structure includes a synoptic approach to assessment, which means learners are examined on their learning from each unit and are also able to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding across the whole subject.

Multiple examination opportunities:

Examinations are available in January, June and October in most subjects.

As exams are spread throughout the course, revision is broken down into unit-sized chunks, and there are less 'all-or-nothing' exam periods, enabling learners to focus their revision on fewer exams at a time.

Involve and engage learners in examinations from the start:

With exam results providing formal feedback throughout, learners are able to more quickly understand the standard required to reach the level of achievement they are aiming for. This understanding motivates them to improve, and builds a sense of ownership through bite-size, short-term goals.

AS results contribute to A level:

International AS qualifications can be taken separately or used as a stage on the way to completing an Advanced Level qualification. This provides international schools and learners with greater choice and flexibility to meet their needs and aspirations.

Globally recognised qualifications:

IAL qualifications are recognised by top local and international universities across the world.

International focus:

IAL qualifications contain international content, using local contexts where possible, to fully equip the global learner.



100% externally assessed

Learners can resit individual unit examinations.

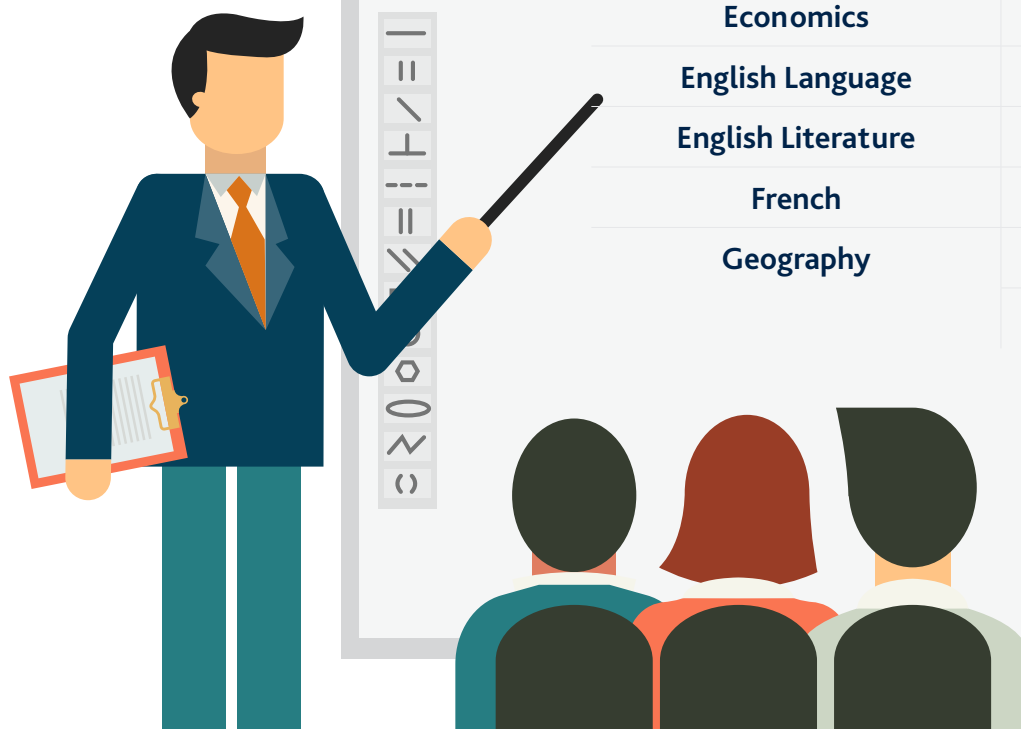
A qualification with an international outlook

Our International Advanced Level qualifications have been developed in consultation with the international school community, including a large number of teachers and university lecturers, to be engaging for international learners and to give them the necessary skills to support progression to higher and further study.

The suite is now available in 21 subjects:

Available in
21 subjects

Accounting	German
Arabic	Greek
Biology	History
Business Studies	Information Technology (IT)
Chemistry	Law
Economics	Mathematics
English Language	Further Mathematics
English Literature	Pure Mathematics
French	Physics
Geography	Psychology
	Spanish



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to be kept informed of the latest developments.



New updated qualifications

for first teaching in September 2018

Biology

Key qualification features – using feedback from teachers and higher education institutions, we've retained several key features which we know you like including:

- › modular assessment, offered at different times of year, January, June and October, to suit your delivery model
- › practical skills assessed through a dedicated examination Unit both at AS (Unit 3) and at A Level (Unit 6).
- › comparable content with the UK GCE A Level – giving confidence to students, teacher and universities about the comparability between specifications.
- › range of types of questions in exams – testing a breadth of knowledge, as well as allowing depth of understanding to be tested .

Broad and deep development of learners' skills – we designed the International Advanced Level qualifications to extend learners' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example learners will:

- › develop their ability to apply mathematical skills to Biology throughout the course .
- › gain experience in a variety of practical techniques and procedures, which will be assessed separately within Unit 3 and Unit 6. The IAL specification includes 18 core practical activities which form a thread linking theoretical knowledge and understanding to practical scenarios.
- › widen their learning through a number of key transferable skills, which may be cognitive, intrapersonal or interpersonal.

Content is divided into six externally marked units:

- › **Unit 1:** Molecules, diet, transport and health
- › **Unit 2:** Cells, development, biodiversity and conservation
- › **Unit 3:** Practical Skills in Biology I
- › **Unit 4:** Energy, the environment, microbiology and immunity
- › **Unit 5:** Respiration, the internal environment, coordination and gene technology
- › **Unit 6:** Practical Skills in Biology II

Chemistry

Key qualification features – using feedback from teachers and higher education institutions, we've retained several key features which we know you like including:

- › modular assessment, offered at different times of year, January, June and October, to suit your delivery model. AS result contribute to overall A level result.
- › practical skills assessed through a dedicated examination Unit both at AS (Unit 3) and at A Level (Unit 6). There are 16 core practical activities in the specification which form a thread linking theoretical knowledge and understanding to practical scenarios.
- › comparable content with the UK GCE A Level – giving confidence to students, teacher and universities about the comparability between specifications.
- › range of types of questions in exams – testing a breadth of knowledge, as well as allowing depth of understanding to be tested.

Clear and straightforward question papers – our question papers are clear and accessible for students of all ability ranges, and use a series of well-defined command words. Our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.

Broad and deep development of learners' skills – we designed the International Advanced Level qualifications to extend learners' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example learners will:

- › develop their ability to apply mathematical skills to Chemistry throughout the course.
- › gain experience in a variety of practical techniques and procedures, which will be assessed separately within Unit 3 and Unit 6.
- › widen their learning through a number of key transferable skills, which may be cognitive, intrapersonal or interpersonal.

The content is divided into 6 externally marked units:

- › **Unit 1:** The core principles of chemistry
- › **Unit 2:** Application of core principles of chemistry.
- › **Unit 3:** Experimental Skills in Chemistry I
- › **Unit 4:** General principles of chemistry I – rates, equilibria and further organic chemistry
- › **Unit 5:** General principles of chemistry II – transition metals and organic nitrogen chemistry.
- › **Unit 6:** Experimental Skills in Chemistry II

Physics

Key qualification features – using feedback from teachers and higher education institutions, we've retained several key features which we know you like including:

- › modular assessment, offered at different times of year, January, June and October, to suit your delivery model. AS result contribute to overall A level result.
- › practical skills assessed through a dedicated examination Unit both at AS (Unit 3) and at A Level Unit 6). There are 16 core practical activities that form a thread linking theoretical knowledge and understanding to practical scenarios in the specification.
- › comparable content with the UK GCE A Level – giving confidence to students, teacher and universities about the comparability between specifications.
- › range of types of questions in exams – testing a breadth of knowledge, as well as allowing depth of understanding to be tested.

Clear and straightforward question papers – our question papers are clear and accessible for students of all ability ranges, and use a series of well-defined command words.

Our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.

Broad and deep development of learners'

skills – we designed the International Advanced Level qualifications to extend learners' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example learners will:

- › develop their ability to apply mathematical skills to Physics throughout the course.
- › gain experience in a variety of practical techniques and procedures, which will be assessed separately within Unit 3 and Unit 6 .
- › widen their learning through a number of key transferable skills, which may be cognitive, intrapersonal or interpersonal.

The content is divided into 6 externally marked units:

- › **Unit 1:** Mechanics and Materials
- › **Unit 2:** Waves and Electricity
- › **Unit 3:** Practical Skills in Physics I
- › **Unit 4:** Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles
- › **Unit 5:** Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology
- › **Unit 6:** Practical Skills in Physics II

Mathematics

Key qualification features – using feedback from teachers and higher education institutions, we've retained several key features which we know you like including:

- › unitised structure with all units equally weighted, equal available marks of 75 in each unit and each unit examination suitably timed at 1h 30m.
- › 14 units available across Pure Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Mechanics, Statistics and Decision Maths allowing many different combinations of units and greater flexibility.
- › fully modular assessment, offered at different times of year, January, June and October, to suit your delivery model.
- › AS results contribute to overall A level results.

Clear and straightforward question papers – our question papers are clear and accessible for students of all ability ranges. Our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.

Broad and deep development of learners'

skills – we designed the International Advanced Level mathematics to:

- › develop their understanding of mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence and fosters enjoyment.
- › develop an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general.
- › take increasing responsibility for their own learning and the evaluation of their own mathematical development.

New updated qualifications

for first teaching in September 2018

Business

Key qualification features – using feedback from teachers and higher education institutions, we've retained several key features which we know you like including:

- › the new Business qualification builds on the contents covered in the legacy qualification, providing continuity for teachers. Contents have been updated to align with changes made in the UK GCE A level qualification.
- › fully modular assessment, offered at different times of year, January, June and October, to suit your delivery model.
- › all examinations are written and externally marked by Pearson.
- › AS results contribute to overall A level result.

Provides a real business focus – students are encouraged to contextualise theory and respond to real-life international business case studies and stimulus material.

- › students develop an understanding of current global issues that impact on business, preparing them for their next steps in today's global world.

Clear and straightforward question papers – our question papers are clear and accessible for students of all ability ranges.

- › our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.

Development of quantitative skills – students develop these skills throughout the content of the course and are required to apply these skills to relevant business contexts within the assessment.

- › widen their learning through a number of key transferable skills, which may be cognitive, intrapersonal or interpersonal.

The content is divided into 4 externally marked units:

- › **Unit 1:** Marketing and people
- › **Unit 2:** Managing business activities
- › **Unit 3:** Business decisions and strategy
- › **Unit 4:** Global business

Economics

Key qualification features – using feedback from teachers and higher education institutions, we've retained several key features which we know you like including:

- › the new Economics qualification builds on the contents covered in the legacy qualification, providing continuity for teachers (contents have been updated to align with changes made in the UK GCE A level qualification).
- › fully modular assessment, offered at different times of year, January, June and October, to suit your delivery model.
- › all examinations are written and externally marked by Pearson.
- › AS results continue to contribute to overall A level result.

Engaging content – content allows students to develop an awareness of trends in the global economy, researching developed and developing economics, including a focus on contemporary issues.

Development of quantitative skills – students develop these skills throughout the content of the course and are required to apply these skills to relevant economic contexts within the assessment.

Consistent command word taxonomy – we have reduced the number of command words used in the assessment and applied a consistent mark tariff.

Accessible assessment – to ensure all students are able to access the whole exam paper we have introduced ramping within each question.

Questions start with a low mark tariff and become more challenging as students work their way through the paper, helping to build confidence.

Clear and straightforward question papers – Our question papers are clear and accessible for students of all ability ranges.

Our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.

Students widen their learning through a number of key transferable skills, which may be cognitive, intrapersonal or interpersonal.

Content is divided into 4 externally marked units:

- › **Unit 1:** Markets in action
- › **Unit 2:** Macroeconomic performance and policy
- › **Unit 3:** Business behaviour
- › **Unit 4:** Developments in the global economy

IT (replaces Applied ICT)

Key qualification features

- › up-to-date, engaging content with clear structure and straightforward assessments.
- › we designed the International Advanced Level IT to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills, for example learners will:
- › engage with web and database design in a practical, externally-assessed examination.
- › students will be able to apply in a practical way the knowledge and understanding they gain in the classroom.
- › students will discover how to plan and implement an IT project and learn about key areas such as emerging technologies, the online environment and systems analysis and design.
- › fully modular structure allowing students to sit examinations when they are ready.

Clear and straightforward question papers – our question papers are clear and accessible for students of all ability ranges.

- › our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.
- › students widen their learning through a number of key transferable skills, which may be cognitive, intrapersonal or interpersonal.
- › content is divided into 4 externally marked units with examinations available in the May/June series.



Pearson Edexcel qualifications are among the most established and popular in the world. As a result of studying International Advanced Level, I am now going to read Civil Engineering at Imperial College London.

Heng Hoe Cheong, now studying Civil Engineering at Imperial College London, UK.



Other Pearson Edexcel IAL subjects

Modern Foreign Languages (French, German and Spanish)*

Overview:

Pearson Edexcel IAL French, German and Spanish specifications are designed to inspire learners, enabling them to use their chosen language independently and encouraging a deeper understanding of language and culture. It caters for a range of learner interests, with support for those who see languages as a way to enhance career or travel prospects.

Content:

Each specification is modular and comprises of four units. Unit 1 and Unit 2 (IAS) (may be awarded as a discrete qualification or contribute up to 50 per cent of the total IAL marks) and Unit 3 and unit 4 (IA2). Speaking communication skills are assessed in Units 1 and 3 and skills of listening, reading and writing are assessed in Units 2 and 4.

Unit 1: Spoken Expression and Response

Unit 2: Understanding and Written Response

Unit 3: Understanding and Spoken Response

Unit 4: Research, Understanding and
Written Response

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

Arabic*

Overview:

Pearson Edexcel IAL in Arabic is designed for learners who are studying Arabic in order to enhance their future educational or employment prospects. Learners will be tested on their Arabic Language competence through realistic and contextualised tasks based on authentic texts.

Content:

This qualification is modular and comprises of two units; Unit 1 (IAS) (may be awarded as a discrete qualification or contribute up to 50 per cent of the total IAL Arabic marks) and Unit 2 (IA2). Examination is 100% external. Reading and writing skills are tested through two examination papers.

Unit 1: Understanding and Written Response

Unit 2: Writing and Research

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

Greek*

Overview:

IAL Greek is designed to inspire learners, with up-to-date and relevant content, containing a range of engaging stimulus materials. It tests Greek language competence through realistic and contextualised tasks based on authentic texts.

Content:

This qualification is modular and comprises of two units. Unit 1 (IAS) (may be awarded as a discrete qualification or contribute up to 50 per cent of the total IAL marks) and Unit 2 (IA2). Examination in this qualification is 100% external. Reading and writing skills are tested through two examination papers.

Unit 1: Understanding and Written Response

Unit 2: Writing and Research

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

* Achievement in Edexcel IAL Arabic, French, German, Greek and Spanish is benchmarked against the Advanced Level General Certificate of Education (GCE) and the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) at level B2.

English Language

Overview:

Pearson Edexcel IAL in English Language presents the subject in a global context so that it is more suitable for an international audience. Students study key features of the English Language – including Context and Identity – and also how other languages have influenced the development of English.

They explore how language reflects and constructs the identity or identities of the user, the ways languages change and vary over time, with a focus on English in a global context. They also have opportunity for the development of research skills to a chosen topic area.

The qualification has a fully modular structure with examinations in January and June and AS results contributing to overall A level result.

Unit 1: Language: Context and Identity

Unit 2: Language in Transition

Unit 3: Crafting Language (Writing)

Unit 4: Investigating Language

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

English Literature

Overview:

The Pearson Edexcel IAL in English Literature has up to date content which is relevant and engaging to an international audience. Students will have the opportunity to study international, multi-cultural texts as well as canonised English literature. They will also study movements of poetry across key authors. The range of genres, time periods and texts will give them a well-rounded study of English Literature.

Fully modular structure with examinations in January and June.

The choice of texts include those by Dickens, Brontë and Shakespeare, as well as pre- 1900 poetry post-2000 poetry and prose. There is also a greater range of international texts, including *The Kite Runner* and *The White Tiger*.

Unit 1: Poetry and Prose

Unit 2: Drama

Unit 3: Poetry and Prose

Unit 4: Shakespeare and pre-1900 Poetry

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

Geography

Overview:

Pearson Edexcel IAL Geography provides interesting and engaging contemporary geographical content that allows teachers the flexibility to design programmes to suit particular interests and needs, using a range of approaches.

Content:

This specification comprises of four units: Units 1 and 2 (may be awarded as a discrete AS qualification or contribute 50 per cent of the total IAL marks) and Units 3 and 4.

Unit 1: Global Challenges

Unit 2: Geographical Investigations

Unit 3: Contested Planet

Unit 4: Researching Geography

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

History

Overview:

Learners of our Pearson Edexcel IAL in History will study the most popular historical periods and themes, with a greater emphasis on international history.

Content:

There are some similarities in content to the Edexcel 2015 GCE A Level History specification, but we have adapted the approach for an international audience. The number of options in each section has been reduced, with a total of four historical periods per unit.

Unit 1: Depth study with interpretations

Unit 2: Breadth study with source evaluation

Unit 3: Thematic study

Unit 4: Extract evaluation

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

Psychology

Overview:

Pearson Edexcel IAL in Psychology enables learners to develop an understanding of social and cognitive psychology, biological psychology, learning theories and development, applications of psychology and clinical psychology, and psychological skills.

Content:

The specification has been developed to suit an international context. There will be three studies for each topic area: one classic and one contemporary, with another from a choice of two contemporary studies.

Unit 1: Social and Cognitive Psychology

Unit 2: Biological Psychology, Learning Theories and Development

Unit 3: Applications of Psychology

Unit 4: Clinical Psychology and Psychological Skills

Assessment:

- › 100% examination.
- › Externally assessed.

Accounting

Edexcel International Advanced Level in Accounting develops learners' knowledge and understanding of the principles, concepts and techniques of accounting. The specification lays a secure foundation for the future study of accounting or related subjects.

Law

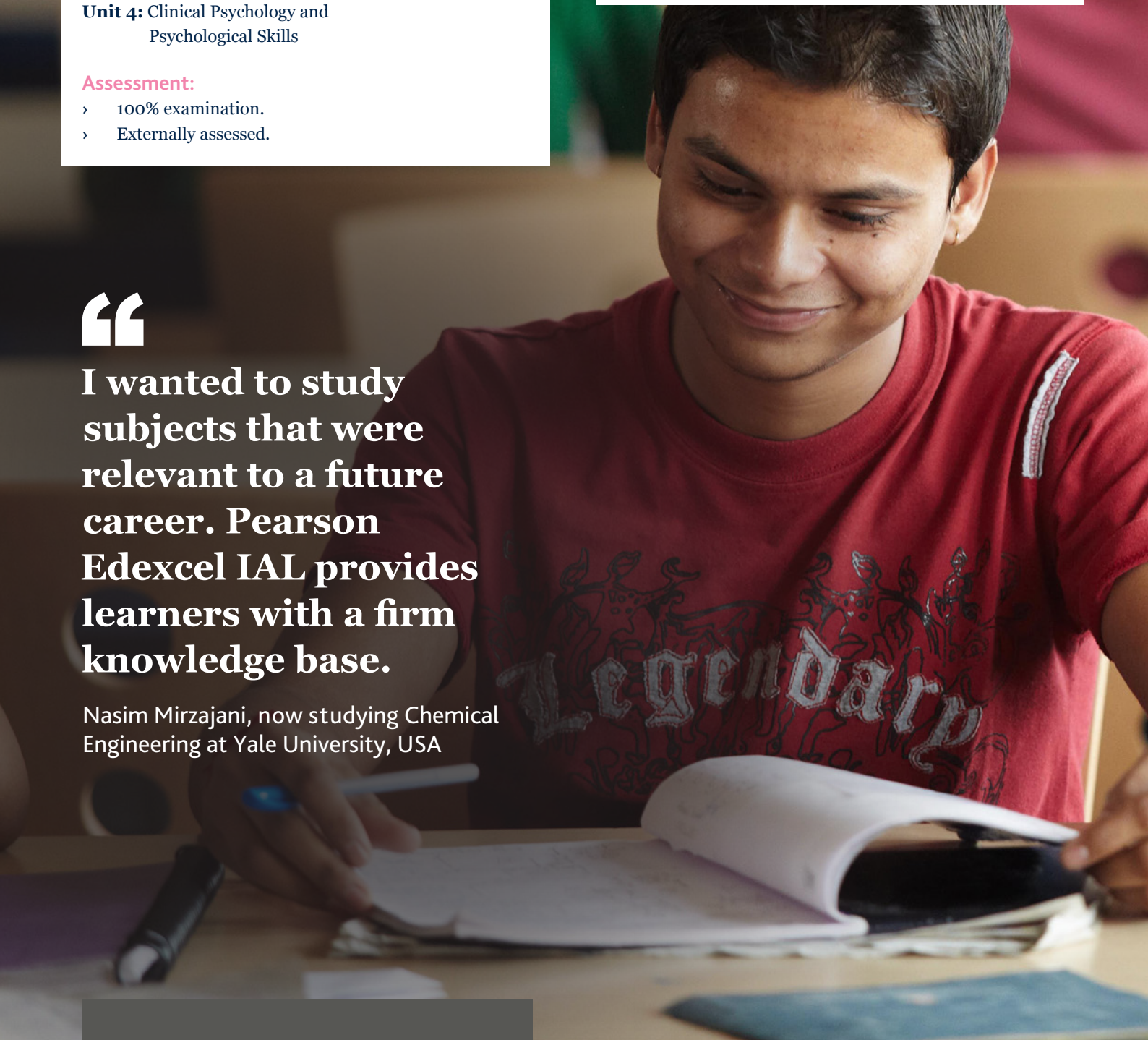
Edexcel International Advanced Level in Law aims to develop learners' knowledge and understanding of legal rules and institutions, as well as an appreciation of the function of law in society. Learners will learn to apply analytical and critical thinking as part of this course.

Examinations available in June and October

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I wanted to study subjects that were relevant to a future career. Pearson Edexcel IAL provides learners with a firm knowledge base.

Nasim Mirzajani, now studying Chemical Engineering at Yale University, USA



Supporting you every step of the way



Support with exam preparation and assessment

- › Past papers.
- › Mark schemes.
- › Examiner reports.
- › ResultsPlus Mock Exam Analysis.



Teaching and delivery support

- › Ask the Expert.
- › Subject Advisors.
- › Subject community forums.
- › Training solutions.



Resources

- › Range of free teaching resources including: past exam papers, schemes of work and more.
- › Range of paid-for digital and print resources.



Results/post results support

- › ResultsPlus.
- › Certification.
- › Exam feedback sessions.
- › Grade boundaries.



ResultsPlus

Provides you with instant and detailed analysis of your learners' Pearson Edexcel IAL exam and mock performance. Widely used by teachers across the world, it helps you identify the areas where learners could benefit from extra support and guidance, driving attainment.

Find out more at: qualifications.pearson.com/resultsplus



Pearson Edexcel IAL prepared me so much for university and I was successful in getting offers and a scholarship to the Australian university of my choice.

Hayin Lin, now studying Mathematics at the University of Tasmania

Progress to University

Developed by education specialists specifically for international learners, Pearson Edexcel IAL qualifications are recognised by leading universities across the world - including Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia University and Yale University. IAL qualifications provide learners with access to the world's top universities and prestigious employment opportunities.

About Pearson

At the core of everything we do at Pearson is the desire to make a measurable impact on improving people's lives through learning. From primary school to secondary school, through to professional certification; our qualifications help educate millions of people worldwide.

To find out more please visit
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