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Pearson  
Edexcel

Leading the way  
with Pearson Edexcel  
International  
GCSE (9–1)

## Rewarding outstanding academic achievement by fully aligning with UK government intentions

Our new suite of Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) qualifications have been refreshed to meet the needs of you and your students, to keep the content up to date and relevant.

The way we develop and award our International GCSEs is fully aligned with UK government intentions to raise standards and improve differentiation between learners and to best recognise those highest achievers with a nine - (9–1),

rather than an eight - (A\*–G), point grading scale. This means that students are ideally placed to make progress to International A Levels (IAL) and to universities worldwide. Ofqual (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation in the UK) has been clear that the new grade 9 should not be treated the same as the A\*, and that is why we have developed a new 9–1 focused qualification.

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*Grade 9 is not the same as A\*; it's a new grade, designed to recognise the very highest performing students.*

**Ofqual**

(The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation in the UK)

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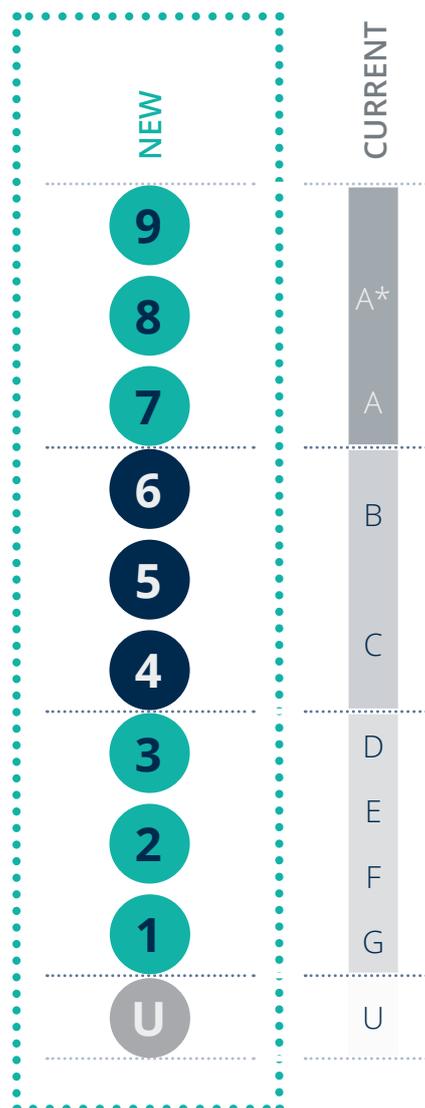
Making a decision from the outset to move to the 9–1 grading scale has ensured our International GCSE qualifications have been carefully re-developed to be appropriate for this grading scale. This has been set out in the design of the updated qualification content, assessment objectives, and question papers, and ensures that we can target the requirements of the new scale. By focusing on one grading scale, it also ensures we maintain our quality provision of support materials, assessment, unrivalled marking processes and reliable results.



# Understanding the 9–1 grading scale

To ensure that we fully align with UK government intentions to raise standards, and that international students have the same opportunity to be rewarded for outstanding academic achievement, our new qualifications use a new 9–1 grading scale, instead of the A\*–G grading scale that you are used to.

The new grade 9 represents a new level of attainment and has been introduced to differentiate your top performing students. The bottom of the grade 7 broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade A. There is also greater differentiation in the middle of the scale with three new grades (6, 5 and 4) rather than two grades (B and C). The bottom of the grade 4 broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade C and the bottom of the grade 1 broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade G.



## More than just a new grading scale!

Redeveloping our International GCSEs has ensured we meet the needs of today's learners to support their progression to universities and employment worldwide. We've embedded transferable skills in the qualifications and resources. This means teachers help students develop these skills while they teach, rather than having to add something additional to their lessons, and students are aware of the skills they're developing. These skills are highly valued by universities and employers.

Learn more about transferable skills at [qualifications.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcse](https://qualifications.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcse)

We've also introduced more international content topics and the use of local contexts where possible, making our International GCSE even more relevant and engaging for students around the world, allowing for learning in a local context to a global standard.

## Offering more advanced support services, tools and resources

Centres have come to expect a certain level of support from an awarding organisation, such as schemes of work, exemplar materials, training and endorsed published resources. But the following Pearson tools and services provide an enhanced offer to centres:

[ResultsPlus](#), [ResultsPlus Direct](#), [ExamWizard](#), and [Subject Advisors](#).

Furthermore, our **ePen** marking technology and the new free [Access to Scripts \(ATS\)](#) online portal provide customers with even more support and reassurance around results and post-results support.



Learn more, view our videos and download guides for schools, parents and students at

[qualifications.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcse](https://qualifications.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcse)