

EDEXCEL INTERNATIONAL GCSE (9-1) **Sinhala**

GETTING READY TO TEACH

Event code: 17IBAL10

First teaching in 2017, first assessment in 2019.



Aims and Objectives of the session

During the training you will:

- Consider the structure, content and assessment of this qualification through examining each of the papers in detail, and the support available to guide you through these changes.
- Consider the key changes from 4SI0.
- Explore possible teaching and delivery strategies for the new qualification.
- Learn about the introduction of the new 9-1 grading scale.



Session Agenda

Some changes from the current specification:

- 9-1 grading scale is introduced.
- Some changes to the topics and sub-topics.
- Rubrics in the paper will be given only in Sinhala.
- Paper has three sections to test candidates' ability in reading, writing and translation.
- Multiple-choice questions in the Section A Reading will have three options from which to choose the correct answer.
- Retained the translation in the qualification but reduced the number of marks attributed to it.



Timeline

	Summer 2017	Summer 2018	Summer 2019
Current specification	Summer series as normal	Final assessment	
New 2017 specification	First teaching of two-year International GCSE Sinhala		First assessment of the International GCSE Sinhala



9-1 grading scale (1)

Awarding

- The grading system is changing but our commitment to awarding grades that accurately reflect learner exam performance remains the same.
- We set new grade boundaries (minimum number of marks needed to achieve each grade) for each assessment of each qualification.

Benefits

- Greater differentiation across levels of attainment e.g. 2 grades where the current C grade is
- Rewards truly outstanding achievement with the grade 9
- Provides more information about student attainment to help progression to A Level
- Same scale for Pearson Edexcel GCSE and International GCSE allows clear comparison with English standards, unlike old A* to G grading



9-1 grading scale (2)

	NEW 9-1 GRADES	CURRENT A*-G GRADES
The new Grade 9 represents a new level of attainment and we've introduced this to really differentiate your top performing students.	9	A*
	8	A
The bottom of the grade 7 aligns with the bottom of the grade A.	7	
	6	B
There's also greater differentiation in the middle range of grades, with grades 4 to 5 being equivalent to the old grade B and grade C.	5	
So grade 5 will be awarded to the top grade C performers and grade 6 to the grade B performers.	4	C
	3	D
The bottom of the grade 4 aligns with the bottom of the grade C.	2	E
	1	F
	U	G
The bottom of the grade 1 aligns with the bottom of the grade G.		U



World Class Qualifications

- Pearson's World Class Qualification design principles mean all Edexcel qualifications are developed to be **Rigorous**, **Demanding**, **Inclusive** and **Empowering**
- Externally approved by the Expert Panel for World Class Qualifications



Transferable Skills

- Skills frameworks adapted to support design of new Edexcel International GCSEs
- Ensure learners acquire skills needed to access Higher Education and fulfilling careers



Cognitive skills

Core skills brain uses to think, learn and reason – used to carry out any task.



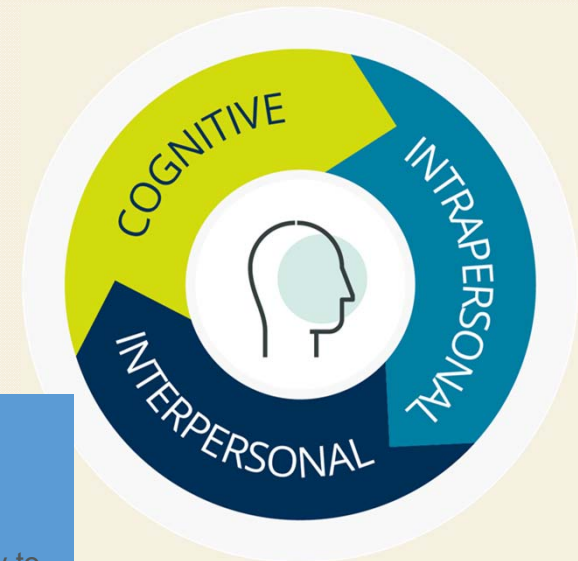
Intrapersonal Skills

Emotional intelligence, ability to know, understand and manage own emotions and learning.



Interpersonal Skills

Life skills used every day to communicate and interact with others, individually and in groups.



Using This Specification

This gives teachers guidance and encourages effective delivery of the qualification.

- Content lists the compulsory skills and themes/topics that will be assessed. It has been designed to allow flexibility for centres.
- Assessment uses a range of materials. Teachers need to deliver the qualification using a good range of examples.
- Teachers should be familiar with the depth and breadth of the content. Grammar and vocabulary items should also be taught.



Qualification aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to develop:

- their ability to read, understand and respond to material from a variety of sources
- their ability to communicate accurately in writing, matching style to audience and purpose
- their understanding of the structure and variety of language
- an understanding of themselves and the world around them
- an appreciation of the richness, beauty and diversity of the Sinhala language.



Key Changes

Some changes from the current specification:

- 9-1 grading scale is introduced.
- Some changes to the topics and sub-topics.
- Rubrics in the paper will be given only in Sinhala.
- Paper has three sections to test candidates' ability in reading, writing and translation.
- Multiple-choice questions in the Section A Reading will have three options from which to choose the correct answer.
- Retained the translation in the qualification but reduced the number of marks attributed to it.



Overview of the revised specification

The International GCSE in Sinhala qualification comprises of one written assessment.

It is:

- A 2 hour 30 minute written examination
- Out of 100 marks
- available in June
- marked by Pearson Edexcel examiners

The Paper consists of three sections.

Section A: Reading (40 marks)	Section A: Writing (40 marks)	Section A: Translation (20 marks)
Multiple-choice questions (MCQ), short-response question and open-response questions set on any of the five themes.	Two extended writing tasks, set on any of the five themes.	Translation of one passage in English into Sinhala, linked to any of the five themes.

Key Features of This Specification

Themes and topics:

- 1) Home and abroad
- 2) Education and employment
- 3) Personal life and relationships
- 4) The world around us
- 5) Social activities, fitness and health.



Planning and implementing this qualification

Our *Getting Started Guide* gives you an overview of the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE in Sinhala to help you understand the changes to content and assessment, and what these changes mean for you and your students.

We will provide you with an editable course planner and scheme of work.

Our mapping documents highlight key differences between the new and legacy qualifications.



Themes and topics

Theme 1: Home and abroad

- Life in the town and rural life
- Holidays, tourist information and directions
- Services (e.g. bank, post office)
- Customs
- Everyday life, traditions and communities



Themes and topics

Theme 2: Education and employment

- School life and routine
- School rules and pressures
- School trips, events and exchanges
- Work, careers and volunteering
- Future plans



Themes and topics

Theme 3: Personal life and relationships

- House and home
- Daily routines and helping at home
- Role models
- Relationships with family and friends
- Childhood



Themes and topics

Theme 4: The world around us

- Environmental issues
- Weather and climate
- Travel and transport
- The media
- Information and communication technology



Themes and topics

Theme 5: Social activities, fitness and health

- Special occasions
- Hobbies, interests, sports and exercise
- Shopping and money matters
- Accidents, injuries, common ailments and health issues
- Food and drink



Grammar and vocabulary list

Key Grammar for Students:

- Appendix 5; Grammar List
- Appendix 5; Vocabulary List



Content description, 1– Reading

Students will develop the skills of reading comprehension across a range of different types of texts.

Students must be able to:

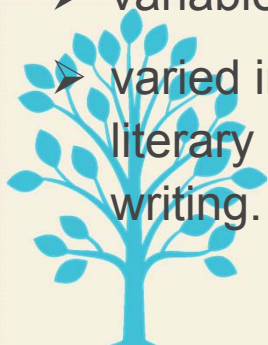
- read and respond to material from a variety of sources
- demonstrate their ability to summarise a short text by writing the main points clearly
- interpret and infer implicit meaning, including writers' thoughts, feelings and ideas.
- Students are required to convey their understanding of written Sinhala through a series of reading tasks.



Content Description, 2 - Reading

Texts used in the tasks are:

- adapted or abridged from authentic sources to be appropriate for the level
- presented using a range of styles, registers and contexts
- appropriate to the age and level of understanding of the students
- set in the culture of the country where Sinhala is spoken, allowing students to develop appropriate cultural awareness and understanding
- designed using language which ranges from high frequency to more complex
- variable in length
- varied in content to include emails, letters, reviews, articles as well as literary texts, such as selections from novels, autobiographies and travel writing. This list is not exhaustive



Content Description - Writing

Students are required to convey their understanding of written Sinhala through two writing tasks.

Students must be able to:

- write for a variety of audiences, such as friends and acquaintances, teachers, family members, groups and professional bodies
- write using a wide range of grammatical forms and structures
- write using a wide range of relevant and appropriate vocabulary
- use accurate spelling
- structure their work effectively



Content Description - Translation

Students are required to convey their understanding of written English and translate it into Sinhala to demonstrate an ability to transfer meaning accurately into Sinhala.

Students must be able to apply the conventions of grammar in order to produce meaningful and accurate content.



Content Description - Vocabulary

To prepare students adequately for this assessment, teachers should present and exploit a range of vocabulary relevant to each theme listed in *Appendix 6*. This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all five themes (page 8).



Reading (Section A)

This section is worth 40 marks.

Students will answer questions on five different texts/extracts.

There may be multiple-choice, short-response, open-response questions.

Questions will test the following assessment objective:

AO1 - Understand and respond, in writing, to written language.



Writing (Section B)

This section is worth 40 marks.

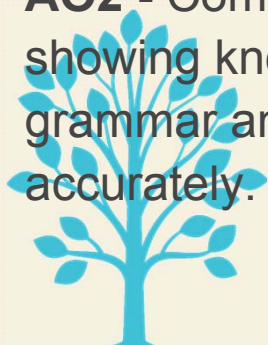
In this section, students are required to convey their understanding of Sinhala through two extended writing tasks:

Task 1 - students are required to write a short essay, based on four short prompts in the past, present and future

Task 2 - students are required to write a longer essay. Students choose one task from a choice of three.

Questions will test the following assessment objective:

AO2 - Communicate in writing, using a register appropriate to the situation, showing knowledge of a range of vocabulary in common usage and of the grammar and structures prescribed in the specification, and using them accurately.



Translation (Section C)

This section is worth 20 marks.

Students are required to translate one passage in English into Sinhala.

Questions will test the following assessment objective:

AO3 - Understand written texts in English and translate them into Sinhala



Activities

Teachers should give a wide range of activities for the students to involve with prior to the examination covering all five themes.

Different skills should be taught to their students such as reading techniques, writing strategies and translation skills.



Section A - Reading

GCSE Sinhala 4SI1/01



Question No1

Awurudu Festival

This is a multiple choice question and tests the reading skills of the candidates. Candidate has to select the right answer from the list of **choices** given below.

The question is set from the theme Home and Abroad – Everyday life, traditions and communities.

Total for Question 1 = 6 marks



Question No 2

School life

This is a reading comprehension question and tests the reading skills of the candidates too. Candidates have to mark a cross against column to make a correct answer.

The question is set from the theme Education and Employment – School life and routine.

Total for Question 2 = 8 marks



Question No 3

Marine litter

This is a short response question and tests the reading skills of the candidates too. Candidates have to fill in the gaps in the sentences to make a correct answer.

The question is set from the theme The world around us – Environmental issues.

Total for Question 3 = 12 marks



Question No 4 (a)

Barbara Sansoni and Barefoot

This is an open response question and tests the reading skills of the candidates. Candidates have to write short answers correctly in the spaces give below the text.

The question is a literary text from a work (Pathways to the Peak) by Dinusha Panditaratna and Shalini Panditaratna from theme Education and employment – Work, careers and volunteering.



Question No 4 (b)

A dialogue between two craftsmen

This is an extended writing question and tests the reading skills of the candidates. Candidates have to write two brief accounts based on each speaker's opinion in the spaces give below the question.

The question is set based on the literary text of the question 4 (a).

Total for Question 4 = 14 marks



Section B - Writing

GCSE Sinhala 4SI1/01



Question No 5

My Family

This is a guided writing task and tests the writing skills of the candidates too. Candidates have to write a short essay.

The question is set from the theme Personal life and relationships.

Total for Question 5 = 14 marks



Question No 6

This is a writing task. In this task candidates are required to write a longer essay selecting one stimuli from the given three options.

The three options in the sample paper are

1. Write an article to a Sri Lankan newspaper on mobile phones.
2. Respond to Saman's text message about volunteering.
3. Write a blog about your role model

Total for Question 6 = 26 marks



Section C - Translation

GCSE Sinhala 4SI1/01



Question No 7

This is question to test the candidates' ability to understand a written text in English and translate it into Sinhala.

In this sample test we have given you a text about Sri Lanka cricket during the time of captain Anura Tennekoon. Total for

Question 7 = 20 marks





Resources

We offer a range of free and paid for resources for International GCSEs. These have been designed to support teachers to improve learner outcomes



Support overview

Support for
all subjects

Getting Started
Guide &
Scheme of
Work

Getting Ready
to Teach Events

Subject
interpretation of
transferable
skills

Subject Advisor

Results Plus

Regional
Support
Manager

Additional support
for selected
subjects

Curriculum
Matched
Publishing

Exemplar
Marked
Responses

Additional SAMs

Exam Wizard

Lesson Plans

Topic booklets



Free support

Getting Started Guide *includes mapping of changes, content and assessment guidance, course planner and resource list*

Editable Scheme of Work *includes activities to support transferable skills development*

Exam Wizard *a free exam preparation tool containing a bank of past Edexcel exam questions*

Results Plus *free online service giving instant and detailed analysis of your students' exam and mock performance*

Regional support manager *access to a regionally based support manager for any query*

Subject Advisor *For any subject related query you have. Sign up to mailing list*

Exemplar *Marked student responses to SAMs questions*

Additional SAMs *An additional set of Sample Assessment Material available as a secure download*



Pearson Publishing (1)

- *Each book provides free access to an ActiveBook, a digital version of the Student Book, which can be accessed online, anytime, anywhere supporting learning beyond the classroom*
- *chapters are mapped closely to the specification to provide comprehensive coverage*
- *learning is embedded with exercises, source materials and exam practice throughout*
- *transferable skills, needed for progression into higher education and employment, are signposted allowing students to understand, and engage with, the skills they're gaining*
- *a fully integrated Progression Map tool allows quick and easy formative assessment of student progress, linked to guidance on how to personalise learning solutions.*
- *reviewed by a language specialist to ensure the book is written in a clear and accessible style for students whose first language may not be English*
- *glossary of key History terminology*
- *teacher support materials available online.*



Pearson Publishing (2)

Student Books will be available for the following units:

Depth Studies

Development of Dictatorship: Germany 1918–45

A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–72

A Divided Union: Civil Rights in the USA, 1945–70

Dictatorship and Conflict in the USSR, 1924–53



For your subject specific enquiries

**Subject advisor:
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ALWAYS LEARNING