



Pearson Edexcel examination exam start times for May / June exams

These timings apply to **May/June exams only**. For other exam series, please refer to the relevant document.

This document applies to examinations for:

- **International GCSEs (including R-paper examinations)**

Essential information

This document details the start times for exams, in the local time of each time zone (columns highlighted **yellow**)

To allow some flexibility, centres can start examinations by **up to 30 minutes** earlier or later than the published time below without the need to request approval from Pearson. For examinations started 30 minutes early, students must still stay under centre supervision until at least one hour after the start time listed below.

Permission must be requested in advance if a centre wishes to vary the start time of exams **in excess** of 30 minutes. In this event, a request must be emailed to uk.special.requirements@pearson.com with the message title, '*Request for variation to exam start time*'.

If exams are delivered to students via authorities such as the British Council, or other local government agencies, please consult with them directly regarding the exact exam timings that will be used.

The date of each exam can be found on our website here: [Exam timetables | Pearson qualifications](#)



International GCSE exams will be available in May/June and November each year. For the November exams, only one version of the International GCSE exams is available (no R-paper version will be available in November).

For the May/June exams, the majority of International GCSE subjects have two versions of the exam paper for use around the world. This allows more candidates across the world to sit the exams earlier in the day rather than late into the evening. Where two papers exist for an exam, one of them is referred to as the **R (regional) paper**, and the exam start timings for these papers are detailed in Table 2 below.

Customers whose centres are based in specified countries will use the R-paper entry codes when entering their candidates, where applicable (for example, R-paper entry code 4BI1 R). The R-paper versions are used in the following countries: *Australia, Azerbaijan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam.*

For the May / June exams, there are some subjects for which only one option (M: main paper) is available: *Arabic; Art & Design; Bangla; Bangladesh Studies; Computer Science; Global Citizenship; Greek; Islamic Studies; Pakistan Studies; Religious Studies; Science (Single Award); Sinhala; Swahili; Tamil.*

For some countries in the Asia-Pacific region, the tables below state the time at which students can be released by the centre following completion of the exam in the final session of each day. Exams must be scheduled to finish close to this release time (for example, if the release time for your time-zone is 20.30, an exam with two-hour duration should be started at 18.30). This will ensure minimal student supervision by the centre is required after an exam is finished. If an exam is completed before the release time, students must remain under the supervision of invigilators or other centre staff until the release time, and parental supervision cannot be used instead. Supervision of students will not be required after the release time listed for session 3 exams.

Table 1 - timings for International GCSE Main (M) paper

Table 2 – timings for International GCSE R papers

May / June exam start times for Pearson International GCSE exams

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Table 1 – timings for International GCSE Main (M) papers

Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)	Exam release time (where relevant)
Algeria	Africa	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Botswana	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Burkina Faso	Africa	-01:00	9.00	8.00	13.30	12.30	
Burundi	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Cameroon	Africa	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Côte d'Ivoire	Africa	-01:00	9.00	8.00	13.30	12.30	
Djibouti	Africa	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Egypt	Africa	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Ethiopia	Africa	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Gabon	Africa	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Ghana	Africa	-01:00	9.00	8.00	13.30	12.30	
Guinea	Africa	-01:00	9.00	8.00	13.30	12.30	
Kenya	Africa	2.00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Lesotho	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Libya	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Madagascar	Africa	2.00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Malawi	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Mauritius	Africa	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Morocco	Africa	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Mozambique	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	

Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)	Exam release time (where relevant)
Namibia	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Nigeria	Africa	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Rwanda	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	Africa	-01:00	9.00	8.00	13.30	12.30	
Seychelles	Africa	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Sierra Leone	Africa	-01:00	9.00	8.00	13.30	12.30	
Somalia	Africa	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
South Africa	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Tunisia	Africa	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Uganda	Africa	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Zambia	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Zimbabwe	Africa	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Albania	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Andorra	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Armenia	Europe	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Austria	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Azerbaijan	Europe	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Belgium	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Bulgaria	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	



Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)	Exam release time (where relevant)
Canary Islands	Europe	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Cyprus	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Czechia	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Denmark	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Estonia	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
France	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Georgia	Europe	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Germany	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Gibraltar	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Greece	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Hungary	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Ireland	Europe	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Italy	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Latvia	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Lithuania	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Luxembourg	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Malta	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Monaco	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Montenegro	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Netherlands	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Poland	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Portugal	Europe	0:00	9.00	9.00	13.30	13.30	
Romania	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	

Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)	Exam release time (where relevant)
Slovakia	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Slovenia	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Spain	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Sweden	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Switzerland	Europe	1:00	9.00	10.00	13.30	14.30	
Turkey	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Ukraine	Europe	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Bahrain	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Iraq	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Israel	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Jordan	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Kuwait	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Lebanon	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Oman	Middle East	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Palestine	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Qatar	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
Saudi Arabia	Middle East	2:00	9.00	11.00	13.30	15.30	
United Arab Emirates	Middle East	3:00	9.00	12.00	13.30	16.30	
Bangladesh	Asia	5:00	9.00	14.00	13.30	18.30	

Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)	Exam release time (where relevant)
Brunei	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Cambodia	Asia	6:00	9.00	15.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 19.30
China	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Hong Kong	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
India	Asia	4:30	9.00	13.30	13.30	18.00	
Indonesia	Asia	6:00	9.00	15.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 19.30
Japan	Asia	8:00	9.00	17.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 21.30
Kazakhstan	Asia	4:00	9.00	13.00	13.30	17.30	
Korea	Asia	8:00	9.00	17.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 21.30
Macao	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Malaysia	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Maldives	Asia	4:00	9.00	13.00	13.30	17.30	
Mongolia	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Myanmar	Asia	5.30	9.00	14.30	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 19.00
Nepal	Asia	5.00	9.00	14.00	13.30	18.30	

Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)	Exam release time (where relevant)
Pakistan	Asia	4:00	9.00	13.00	13.30	17.30	
Philippines	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Singapore	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Sri Lanka	Asia	4:30	9.00	13.30	13.30	18.00	
Taiwan	Asia	7:00	9.00	16.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 20.30
Thailand	Asia	6:00	9.00	15.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 19.30
Uzbekistan	Asia	4:00	9.00	13.00	13.30	17.30	
Viet Nam	Asia	6:00	9.00	15.00	13.30	Based on release time	Release time from centre supervision 19.30

Table 2 - timings for International GCSE R-papers

Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)
Bangladesh	Asia	5:00	6.00	11.00	9.00	14.00
Brunei	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
Cambodia	Asia	6:00	6.00	12.00	9.00	15.00
China	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
Hong Kong	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
India	Asia	4:30	6.00	10.30	9.00	13.30
Indonesia	Asia	6:00	6.00	12.00	9.00	15.00
Japan	Asia	8:00	6.00	14.00	9.00	17.00
Kazakhstan	Asia	4:00	6.00	10.00	9.00	13.00
Macao	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
Malaysia	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
Maldives	Asia	4:00	6.00	10.00	9.00	13.00
Mongolia	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
Myanmar	Asia	5.30	6.00	11.30	9.00	14.30
Nepal	Asia	5.00	6.00	11.00	9.00	14.00
Oman	Middle East	3:00	6.00	9.00	9.00	12.00
Pakistan	Asia	4:00	6.00	10.00	9.00	13.00
Philippines	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
Singapore	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00
South Korea	Asia	8:00	6.00	14.00	9.00	17.00
Sri Lanka	Asia	4:30	6.00	10.30	9.00	13.30
Taiwan	Asia	7:00	6.00	13.00	9.00	16.00



Country or territory	Region	Time difference	AM exams – time in UK	AM Exam Start (Local time)	PM exams – time in UK	PM Exam Start (Local time)
Thailand	Asia	6:00	6.00	12.00	9.00	15.00
United Arab Emirates	Middle East	3:00	6.00	9.00	9.00	12.00
Uzbekistan	Asia	4:00	6.00	10.00	9.00	13.00
Vietnam	Asia	6:00	6.00	12.00	9.00	15.00