

Grade Boundaries

GCSE

January 2013

Understanding GCSE grade boundaries

This document shows the grade boundaries for modular and linear GCSE qualifications. For each set of grade boundaries, the maximum number of available marks is also shown.

For modular GCSEs, maximum marks and grade boundaries for individual units are shown for both the raw and uniform (UMS) mark scales. Maximum marks and grade boundaries for the overall qualification (the 'cash-in') are only shown in UMS marks.

For linear GCSEs, only the overall maximum mark and grade boundaries are available. These are given in raw marks as UMS marks are not used in linear qualifications.

Definition of terms

A grade boundary is the minimum mark at which a letter grade can be achieved. For example, if the grade boundary for a B is 60 marks, then 60 is the minimum mark at which a B can be achieved. A mark of 59 would therefore be a C grade.

For modular qualifications, assessments can be taken in various exam sessions throughout the duration of the course.

For linear qualifications, all assessments must be taken in the same exam session.

A raw mark is the actual mark awarded by the teacher or examiner for an assessment. Raw mark scores can be downloaded by Exams Officers from Edexcel Online.

Raw marks are converted to UMS marks for all modular qualifications. This is because raw mark grade boundaries may change from exam session to exam session to take into account variations in the difficulty of assessments. A Certifying Statement of Provisional Results (results slip) will always show the UMS mark for modular qualifications.

You can find out more about raw and UMS marks at www.edexcel.com/results

Applied Business												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5AB02	Financial Records		60	54	48	42	36	32	29	26	23	0
		UMS	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	0
Cash-in grade boundaries (Single Award)			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2AB01	Applied Business	UMS	200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	0
2AB02	Applied Business		Max Mark	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD
		UMS	300	270	255	240	225	210	195	180	165	150
			DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG			U	
		UMS		135	120	105	90	75	60			0

Business												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5BS01	Introduction to Small Business	Raw	40	38	36	32	29	25	21	17	13	0
		UMS	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	0
5BS06	Introduction to Small Business	Raw	40	38	37	33	29	24	19	14	9	0
		UMS	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2BS01	Business Studies	UMS										
3BS01	Business Studies (Short Course)	UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0

Citizenship												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5CS01	Citizenship today	Raw	50	40	36	32	28	25	23	21	19	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2CS01	Citizenship Studies	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0
3CS01	Citizenship Studies (Short Course)	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0

Digital Communication												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5ED01	Critical Reading of Moving Image Texts	Raw	40	36	33	28	23	18	14	10	6	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
5ED02	Developing Skills in Critical Reading	Raw	80	66	57	48	39	31	23	15	7	0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48	36	24	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2ED01	Digital Communication	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0

English												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5EH01	English Today	Raw	40	37	34	29	25	20	15	10	5	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
5EH03	Creative English	Raw	96	79	75	71	67	50	34	18	1	0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48	36	24	0
5EH2F	The Writer’s Craft (Foundation)	Raw	96				78	61	45	29	13	0
		UMS	83				72	60	48	36	24	0
5EH2H	The Writer’s Craft (Higher)	Raw	96	60	47	34	22	11	5			
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48			
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2EH01	English	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0

English Language												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5EH01	English Today	Raw	40	37	34	29	25	20	15	10	5	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
5EN03	Spoken Language	Raw	96	87	80	73	66	52	39	26	13	0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48	36	24	0
5EN2F	The Writer’s Voice (Foundation)	Raw	64				44	33	22	11	1	0
		UMS	83				72	60	48	36	24	0
5EN2H	The Writer’s Voice (Higher)	Raw	64	43	36	29	22	15	11			
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48			
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2EN01	English Language	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0

English Literature												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5ET03	Shakespeare and Contemporary Drama	Raw	50	45	41	34	28	21	14	8	2	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
5ET1F	Understanding Prose (Foundation)	Raw	89				60	45	30	15	1	0
		UMS	83				72	60	48	36	24	0
5ET1H	Understanding Prose (Higher)	Raw	89	66	54	42	31	20	14			0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48			0
5ET2F	Understanding Poetry (Foundation)	Raw	50				31	24	17	10	3	0
		UMS	41				36	30	24	18	12	0
5ET2H	Understanding Poetry (Higher)	Raw	50	35	28	21	15	9	6			0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24			0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2ET01	English Literature	UMS	240	216	192	168	144	120	96	72	48	0

French												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5FR02	Speaking in French	Raw	60	50	44	38	32	28	24	20	16	0
		UMS	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	0
5FR04	Writing in French	Raw	60	48	43	38	33	27	21	15	9	0
		UMS	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2FR01	French	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0
3FR0S	French (Short Course): Spoken Language	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0
3FR0W	French (Short Course): Written Language	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0

Geography A												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5GA1F	Geographical Skills and Challenges (Foundation)	Raw	54				36	32	28	24	20	0
		UMS	100				60	50	40	30	20	0
5GA1H	Geographical Skills and Challenges (Higher)	Raw	54	42	38	34	31	28	26			0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	45			0
5GA2F	The Natural Environment (Foundation)	Raw	53				36	32	28	25	22	0
		UMS	100				60	50	40	30	20	0
5GA2H	The Natural Environment (Higher)	Raw	53	45	41	37	34	31	29			0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	45			0
5GA3F	The Human Environment (Foundation)	Raw	53				40	36	32	29	26	0
		UMS	100				60	50	40	30	20	0
5GA3H	The Human Environment (Higher)	Raw	53	46	43	40	37	34	32			0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	45			0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2GA01	Geography A	UMS	400	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80	0

Geography B												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5GB1F	Dynamic Planet (Foundation)	Raw	53				34	28	23	18	13	0
		UMS	100				60	50	40	30	20	0
5GB1H	Dynamic Planet (Higher)	Raw	53	42	38	34	30	26	24			0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	45			0
5GB2F	People and the Planet (Foundation)	Raw	53				30	25	20	16	12	0
		UMS	100				60	50	40	30	20	0
5GB2H	People and the Planet (Higher)	Raw	53	43	39	35	31	27	25			0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	45			0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2GB01	Geography B	UMS	400	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80	0

German												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5GN02	Speaking in German	Raw	60	50	44	38	32	28	24	20	16	0
		UMS	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	0
5GN04	Writing in German	Raw	60	48	43	38	33	27	21	16	11	0
		UMS	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2GN01	German	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0
3GN0S	German (Short Course): Spoken	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0
3GN0W	German (Short Course): Written	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0

Health & Social Care												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5HS01	Understanding Personal	Raw	70	52	48	44	40	36	32	28	24	0
	Development and Relationships	UMS	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	0
5HS04	Health, Social Care and Early Years in Practice	Raw	70	61	55	49	43	37	31	25	19	0
		UMS	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2HS01	Health & Social Care	UMS	200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	0
Cash-in grade boundaries (Double Award)			Max Mark	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD
2HS02	Health & Social Care	UMS	400	360	340	320	300	280	260	240	220	200
				DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG			U
		UMS		180	160	140	120	100	80			0

History A												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5HA01	Peace and War	Raw	60	52	45	37	30	25	20	15	10	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HA02	Modern World Depth Study: Germany 1918–39	Raw	57	43	38	33	28	24	20	17	14	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HA02	Modern World Depth Study: Russia 1917–39	Raw	57	45	39	33	27	22	18	14	10	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HA02	Modern World Depth Study: The USA 1919–41	Raw	57	47	42	37	32	28	24	20	16	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HA03	Modern World Source Enquiry: War and the transformation of British society c1903–28	Raw	54	49	45	41	38	34	30	27	24	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HA03	Modern World Source Enquiry: War and the transformation of British society c1931–51	Raw	54	46	41	36	32	26	20	15	10	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HA03	Modern World Source Enquiry: A divided union? The USA 1945–70	Raw	54	48	44	40	36	31	27	23	19	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2HA01	History A	UMS	400	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80	0

History B												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5HB01	Schools History Project	Raw	53	41	36	31	26	21	16	12	8	0
	Development Study: Medicine and treatment	UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB01	Schools History Project	Raw	53	44	39	34	30	26	23	20	17	0
	Development Study: Crime and punishment	UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB01	Schools History Project	Raw	53	42	36	30	25	21	17	14	11	0
	Development Study: The changing nature of warfare	UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB02	Schools History Project Depth Study: The transformation of British society c1815–c1851	Raw	54	44	37	30	24	21	18	15	12	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB02	Schools History Project Depth Study: The American West c1840–c1895	Raw	54	49	44	38	33	28	23	19	15	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB02	Schools History Project Depth Study: Life in Germany c1919–c1945	Raw	54	49	44	38	33	29	25	21	17	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB03	Schools History Project Source Enquiry: The transformation of surgery c1845–c1918	Raw	53	43	39	35	31	27	23	20	17	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB03	Schools History Project Source Enquiry: Protest, law and order in the twentieth century	Raw	53	45	41	37	33	29	25	21	17	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB03	Schools History Project Source Enquiry: The impact of war on Britain c1914–c1950	Raw	53	45	40	35	30	25	21	17	13	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
5HB03	Schools History Project Source Enquiry: The work of the historian	Raw	53	39	35	31	27	24	21	19	17	0
		UMS	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2HB01	History B	UMS	400	360	320	280	240	200	160	120	80	0

ICT												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5IT01	Living in a Digital World	Raw	80	57	50	43	36	31	26	22	18	0
		UMS	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	0
5IT02	Using Digital Tools (Upcycle Now!)	Raw	80	69	59	49	39	33	27	22	17	0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48	36	24	0
5IT02	Using Digital Tools (Get Up, Get Moving!)	Raw	80	69	59	49	39	33	27	22	17	0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48	36	24	0
5IT03	Exploring Digital Design	Raw	80	59	52	45	38	33	28	24	20	0
		UMS	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	0
5IT04	Creating Digital Products	Raw	80	71	62	52	43	36	30	24	18	0
		UMS	120	108	96	84	72	60	48	36	24	0
Cash-in grade boundaries (Single Award)			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2IT01	ICT	UMS	200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	0
Cash-in grade boundaries (Double Award)			Max Mark	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD
2IT02	ICT	UMS	400	360	340	320	300	280	260	240	220	200
				DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG			U
		UMS		180	160	140	120	100	80			0

Leisure & Tourism												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5LT01	The Leisure and Tourism Industry	Raw	50	44	40	36	32	29	26	24	22	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
5LT03	The Leisure and Tourism Environment	Raw	50	45	40	34	29	26	23	20	17	0
		UMS	60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0
Cash-in grade boundaries (Single Award)			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2LT01	Leisure & Tourism	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0
Cash-in grade boundaries (Double Award)			Max Mark	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD
2LT02	Leisure & Tourism	UMS	300	270	255	240	225	210	195	180	165	150
				DE	EE	EF	FF	FG	GG			U
		UMS		135	120	105	90	75	60			0

Psychology												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5PS01	Perception and Dreaming	Raw	60	48	42	36	31	26	21	16	11	0
		UMS	80	72	64	56	48	40	32	24	16	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2PS01	Psychology	UMS	200	180	160	140	120	100	80	60	40	0

Spanish												
Unit grade boundaries			Max Mark	a*	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	u
5SP02	Speaking in Spanish	Raw	60	52	46	40	34	30	27	24	21	0
		UMS	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	0
5SP04	Writing in Spanish	Raw	60	52	46	40	34	28	22	17	12	0
		UMS	90	81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18	0
Cash-in grade boundaries			Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2SP01	Spanish	UMS	300	270	240	210	180	150	120	90	60	0
3SP0S	Spanish (Short Course): Spoken Language	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0
3SP0W	Spanish (Short Course): Written Language	UMS	150	135	120	105	90	75	60	45	30	0