

## Edexcel International Update

JULY 2015

International Advanced Levels | GCSE and GCE A level reform | International GCSE

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Welcome to the **July** edition of the **Edexcel International Update newsletter**.

## Keeping you informed every step of the way

This edition brings you updates about Edexcel qualifications for international schools, including: International Advanced Levels, GCSE and GCE A level reform and International GCSE. It also provides an overview of, and a link to, a education insight blog from Pearson that goes into detail about common distractions and potential solutions to ensure each student makes one year's progress for one year's schooling. Read the latest news below.

**We encourage you to share this newsletter with all teachers at your school.**

## International Advanced Levels

## Update on new subjects for first teaching in September 2015

We are delighted to announce that brand **new specifications and sample assessment materials (SAMs)** are now available to download from our website for International Advanced Levels (IALs) in:

- **English Language** (2015)
- **English Literature** (2015)
- **History** (2015)
- **Psychology** (2015)

Designed for the global learner, these qualifications include specific **international content**, making them highly relevant to students across the world. We have highlighted new international content for each 2015 IAL subject below, along with web links to more comprehensive **subject mapping guides**. These guides show at a glance how 2015 IAL specifications compare with GCE 2008 and GCE 2015 equivalents in terms of content and assessment.



## New English Language IAL

- Learners will study English Language in a global context, including the influence of other languages on the development of English.
- New topics with an international focus include 'Contemporary Global English' and 'Language and Technology'.
- To find out more, [read our IAL English Language mapping guide](#)



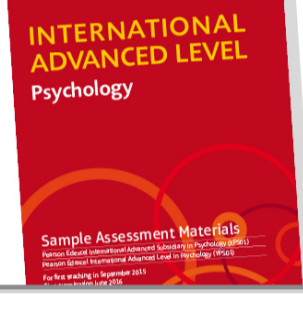
## New English Literature IAL

- Texts and topics have been selected for their relevance in a global context. In addition, there is a broader mix of modern and classic texts and genres, which will give learners a rounder preparation for progression to higher education.
- Works will include those by Dickens, Brontë and Shakespeare, and pre-1900 poetry as well as post-2000 poetry and prose. However, there is a greater range of texts with a wide international appeal, including The Kite Runner and White Tiger.
- To find out more, [read our IAL English Literature mapping guide](#)



## New History IAL

- The most popular historical periods and themes have been retained from the **GCE 2015 History specification**. However, there will be a greater emphasis on more internationally significant periods and themes, such as the inclusion of 'India 1857-1947' and 'The world in crisis 1879-1945'.
- Unit 4 takes an international relations approach, interpreting divisive periods of international history.
- To find out more, read our [IAL History mapping guide](#).



## New Psychology IAL

- The specification contains a combination of classic and contemporary studies.
- Studies have been selected specifically to suite an international audience. The specification also includes opportunities for learners to develop mathematical skills through content that they will apply to relevant psychological contexts.
- To find out more, read our [IAL Psychology mapping guide](#).

These qualifications also provide teachers with the **flexibility to teach a modular A level** qualification that is **100% externally assessed**, with **exams in both January and June**.

'**Getting Started**' guides for each new 2015 IAL subject will be published on our website shortly. These guides include **Schemes of Work** to support you with curriculum planning and delivery. As soon as they are available, we will be in touch to let you know.

## IAL Accounting and Law update

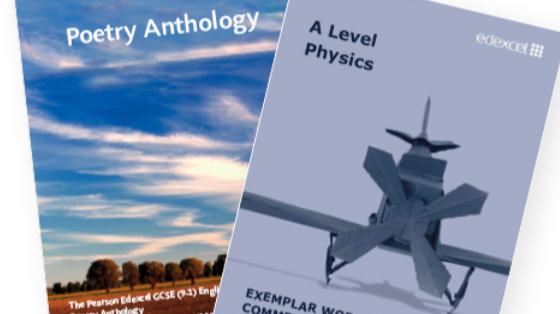
A reminder that new '**Getting Started**' guides for **2015 IAL Accounting and Law** qualifications are **now available** to download from our website:

- [IAL Accounting \(2015\) 'Getting Started' guide](#)
- [IAL Law \(2015\) 'Getting Started' guide](#)

## GCSE and GCE A level reform

## Teaching support for the new Edexcel 2015 GCSEs and GCE A levels

A reminder that we have developed a comprehensive range of **free teaching support materials for the new Edexcel 2015 GCSE and GCE A level qualifications**, detailed below. These materials have been designed to support you to deliver the new 2015 specifications with confidence from this September onwards.



## Edexcel 2015 GCSE teaching support – now available:

- English Language and English Literature support materials, including '[Grammar for writing](#)' and '[Let's think in English](#)' pedagogies and free lesson materials.
- **A free GCSE Maths teaching support pack**, which includes a Getting Started guide; an A2 formulae poster; gold, silver and bronze practice papers; and GCSE Maths baseline tests. [Order your free GCSE Maths support pack today.](#)
- Plus free schemes of work, teaching and learning videos and exemplar materials for all Edexcel 2015 GCSE subjects. To find out more, [visit our website](#).

## Edexcel 2015 GCE A level teaching support – now available:

- Free course planners, Schemes of Work, 'Getting Started' guides, mapping documents, training videos, student guides and exemplar materials for all Edexcel 2015 GCE A level subjects. To find out more, [visit our website](#).

In addition, are planning a new series of free **online 'Getting Ready to Teach' events** for later in 2015, to support you to gain an in-depth insight into the new qualifications. We will be in touch to let you know the dates of these events once confirmed.

## Teaching support for the new Edexcel 2016 GCSEs and GCE A levels

As mentioned in May's edition of the [Edexcel International Update newsletter](#), we are developing new GCSEs and GCE A levels for first teaching in September 2016 in the following subjects:

## Reform timeline

## Edexcel GCSE subjects

Art and Design, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science, Citizenship Studies, Computer Science, Drama, Geography, History, Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Music, Physical Education and Religious Studies.

2016

## Edexcel GCE A level subjects

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL), Drama and Theatre, Geography, Music, Physical Education and Religious Studies.

**Draft specifications and SAMs** for these new qualifications will be available on our website from **April 2016**. From September 2015 we plan to run **free online introductory launch events**, **delivered by subject experts**, to provide a comprehensive overview of each new specification. Once the dates of these online events have been confirmed, we will be in touch to let you know.

## International GCSE

## International GCSE qualification updates

We would be grateful if you can continue to participate in our International GCSE online subject expert panels. By taking part, you will be able to contribute actively to all aspects of the new qualifications, including the assessment model, content topics, grading structure and subject aims.

To get involved, please send your name, centre name, centre number, email address and your subject area to [internationalqualifications@pearson.com](mailto:internationalqualifications@pearson.com)



## Pearson blog

## What works best in education?

Governments and schools have spent billions of dollars trying to fix education. But evidence shows that many popular solutions have little impact on student learning.

In two new reports, renowned education researcher John Hattie (Professor and Director of the Melbourne Education Research Institute at the University of Melbourne, and Deputy Director of the Science of the Learning Research Centre) explores in detail common policy "fixes" that distract from other, potentially better, solutions.

To find out more, [read John Hattie's blog, #hattiepapers.](#)



For further articles on hot topics in global education and expert analysis, [visit and bookmark the Pearson blog.](#)

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## Advice

Key information for international centres:



Information Manual



Exam Timetables



Key Dates