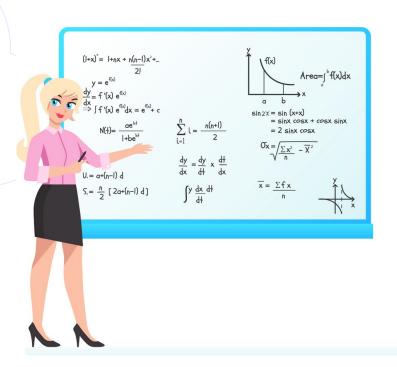


A Level Scoring System



www.mymathscloud.com francesca@mymathscloud.com

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Raw Marks vs UMS marks

The raw mark (exam paper mark) is the actual number of marks a student achieved on an exam or assessment, whereas the 'final mark' or the UMS mark (Uniform Mark Scale mark) is a conversion of the raw mark. To make sure that any differences in the difficulty of exams or assessments are taken into account when adding up marks to give an overall grade, the 'raw' or exam paper mark is either converted into a UMS mark or scaled. UMS grade boundaries are fixed so they are the same for each exam session. Raw mark grade boundaries change for each exam session depending on how all other students did.

The UMS does not apply to LINEAR qualifications though (Edexcel GCE, AQA, OCR, OCR MEI), which now uses scaled subject marks and are awarded at qualification rather than at paper level. Raw marks do not change every year obviously, but the boundaries for them do - the boundaries change every year depending on how everyone performed. There is a component scaling calculator to help you transfer your raw marks into scaled ones. The link is:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/understanding-marks-and-grades/converting-marks-points-and-grades.html

For MODULAR qualifications (Edexcel IAL), the UMS mark is different from the score on the exam paper (the so-called raw mark). You may be wondering how the raw mark translates to the UMS. How is the UMS calculated? The raw marks get converted in UMS. The board doesn't reveal the exact formula they use for calculating the UMS - they have their own algorithm to calculate the UMS. The only way to find your UMS is through the converter online (for Edexcel IAL) where you enter your raw marks OR from an issued document called grade boundaries every year that mentions the raw marks for the boundaries along with the respective UMS marks. For the converter, one needs to just enter the raw marks, the year and pick the paper, and then it converts it to the UMS. The link is:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/understanding-marks-and-grades/converting-marks-points-and-grades.html

Boundaries are subject to change each year dependent on how everyone else did but percentage-wise they are on average ROUGHLY

A* 90%-100%

A 80%-89%

B 70% 79%

C 60%-69%

D 50%-59%

E 40%-49%

U 0%-39%

For example, boundaries fluctuate. Last 2 years for A Level Edexcel had very low boundaries (72% for A* and 55% for A)

AS	A Level	Further AS	Further A Level
Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:160	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:300	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:160	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:300
(2 papers - 80 marks each)	(3 papers - 100 marks each)	(2 papers - 80 marks each) Note: one paper contains 2 modules	(4 papers - 75 marks each)
Highest grade achievable is an A		Highest grade achievable is an A	

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Edexcel IAL: UMS

Note: Each paper is out of 100 UMS and 75 total marks

AS	A Level	Further AS	Further A Level
	7.1.2010.		
Boundaries:	Boundaries:	Boundaries:	Boundaries:
A=240-300	A* = 480-600	A=240-300	A* = 480-600
B=210-239	+ at least (180/200) 90%	B=210-239	+ at least (270/300) 90%
C=180-209	across A2 units P3 and	C=180-209	across best 3 A2 units
D=150-179	P4	D=150-179	out of FP2, FP3, M2, M3,
E=121-149	Note: P1, P2, S1, M1 and	E=121-149	S2, S3
U=0-119	D1 are NOT A* modules	U=0-119	Note: FP1, S1, M1 and
	A = 480-600		D1 are NOT A* modules
(3 papers - 75 marks,	B=420-479	(3 papers - 75 marks and	A = 480-600
and 100 UMS each)	C=360-419	100 UMS each)	B=420-479
	D=300-359		C=360-419
Highest grade achievable is an	E=240-299	Highest grade achievable is an	D=300-359
A	U=0-239	A	E=240-299
			U=0-239
	(6 papers - 75 marks		
	AND 100 UMS marks		(6 papers - 75 marks
	each)		AND 100 UMS marks
			each)

AQA Raw Marks

AS	A Level	Further AS	Further A Level
Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:160	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:300	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:160	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:300
(2 papers - 80 marks each) Highest grade achievable is an A	(3 papers - 100 marks each)	(2 papers – 80 marks each) Note: one paper contains 2 modules	(3 papers - 100 marks each) Note: one paper contains 2 modules
		Highest grade achievable is an A	

OCR (A) Raw Marks

AS		A Level	Further AS	Further A Level
Raw mark boo subject to hoo did for that yo Maximum Ra	undaries are w the students ear	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:300	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:180	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:3000
(2 papers - each) Highest grade A	75 marks achievable is an	(3 papers – 100 marks each)	(3 papers –60 marks each) Highest grade achievable is an A	(4 papers – 75 marks each)

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OCR MEI (B) Raw Marks

Γ				
l	AS	A Level	Further AS	Further A Level
l	Paymdovice.	Boundaries	Boundaries:	Pour dovice.
ı	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are			
ı	subject to how the students			
ı	did for that year			
ı	Maximum Raw Marks:140	Maximum Raw Marks:275	Maximum Raw Marks:180	Maximum Raw Marks:360
ı				
	(2 papers - 70 marks	(3 papers - 100 marks,	(3 papers - 60 marks	(3 papers - 180, 120, 60
ı	each)	100 marks and 75	each)	marks which are scaled)
ı		marks)		
ı	Highest grade achievable is an		Highest grade achievable is an	
	Α		Α	
ı				

Cambridge Raw Marks

AS	A Level	Further AS	Further A Level
Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:125	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:250	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:125	Boundaries: Raw mark boundaries are subject to how the students did for that year Maximum Raw Marks:250
` '	(4 papers - 75,75,50 and 50 marks)	(2 papers - 75 and 50 marks) Highest grade achievable is an A	(4 papers - 75,75,50 and 50 marks)