



Syllabus

Cambridge International AS & A Level Arabic 8680, 9680

For examination in June and November 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Hindi 8675, 8687, 9687

Tamil 8689, 9689

Urdu 8686, 9676

For examination in November 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Changes to the syllabus for 2020, 2021 and 2022

The syllabus has been updated. The latest syllabus is version 3, published July 2018.

Clarification has been made on page 13, of the short stories to be studied for 2020.

Qindīl Ummu Hāshim, Yahya Haqqi

Published by Dar Al-maaref (16th edition, 2015)

The following stories to be studied:

Qindīl Ummu Hāshim

Al-Sōlhafā' Tateer

Kūnnaa Thalathatu Aytām

Previous changes published April 2018

Page 14, section 4.5.1 Set texts for Arabic, year 2021, section 2, number 6: The first edition date has been changed to 1997.

Page 16, section 4.5.1 Set texts for Arabic, year 2022, section 2, number 6: The first edition date has been changed to 1997.

Significant changes to the syllabus are indicated by black vertical lines either side of the text.

You are strongly advised to read the whole syllabus before planning your teaching programme.

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Why choose Cambridge Assessment International Education?

Cambridge Assessment International Education prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. We are part of the University of Cambridge.

Our international qualifications are recognised by the world's best universities and employers, giving students a wide range of options in their education and career. As a not-for-profit organisation, we devote our resources to delivering high-quality educational programmes that can unlock learners' potential.

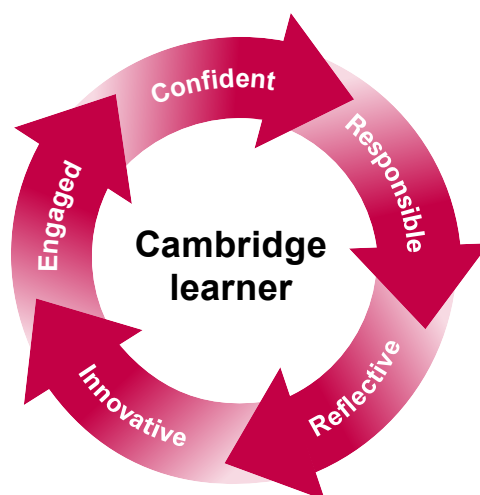
Our programmes and qualifications set the global standard for international education. They are created by subject experts, rooted in academic rigour and reflect the latest educational research. They provide a strong platform for students to progress from one stage to the next, and are well supported by teaching and learning resources.

Every year, nearly a million Cambridge learners from 10 000 schools in 160 countries prepare for their future with an international education from Cambridge.

Cambridge learners

Our mission is to provide educational benefit through provision of international programmes and qualifications for school education and to be the world leader in this field. Together with schools, we develop Cambridge learners who are:

- **confident** in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others
- **responsible** for themselves, responsive to and respectful of others
- **reflective** as learners, developing their ability to learn
- **innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **engaged** intellectually and socially ready to make a difference.



Learn more about the Cambridge learner attributes in Chapter 2 of our *Implementing the curriculum with Cambridge* guide at www.cambridgeinternational.org/curriculumguide

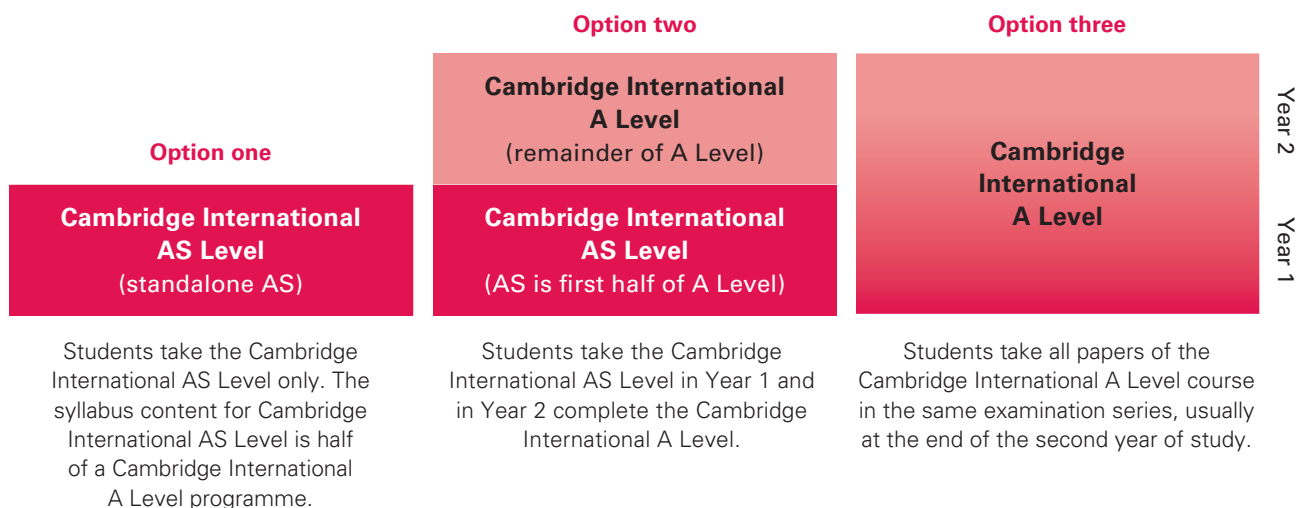
Why Cambridge International AS & A Levels?

Cambridge International AS & A Levels are international in outlook, but retain a local relevance. The syllabuses provide opportunities for contextualised learning and the content has been created to suit a wide variety of schools, avoid cultural bias and develop essential lifelong skills, including creative thinking and problem-solving.

Our aim is to balance knowledge, understanding and skills in our qualifications to enable students to become effective learners and to provide a solid foundation for their continuing educational journey. Cambridge International AS & A Levels give students building blocks for an individualised curriculum that develops their knowledge, understanding and skills.

Cambridge International AS & A Level curricula are flexible. It is possible to offer almost any combination from a wide range of subjects. Cambridge International A Level is typically a two-year course, and Cambridge International AS Level is typically one year. Some subjects can be started as a Cambridge International AS Level and extended to a Cambridge International A Level.

There are three possible assessment approaches for Cambridge International AS & A Level:



Every year thousands of students with Cambridge International AS & A Levels gain places at leading universities worldwide. Cambridge International AS & A Levels are accepted across 195 countries. They are valued by top universities around the world including those in the UK, US (including Ivy League universities), European nations, Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Learners should check the university website for specific entry requirements before applying.

Did you know?

In some countries universities accept Cambridge International AS Levels in their own right as qualifications counting towards entry to courses in the same or other related subjects. Many students who take Cambridge International AS Levels also choose to progress to Cambridge International A Level.

Learn more

For more details go to www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognition

Why Cambridge International AS & A Level Arabic, Hindi, Tamil, Urdu?

About the syllabus

Cambridge International AS and A Levels in languages other than English are accepted by universities and employers as proof of linguistic ability and understanding. Successful language students gain lifelong skills, including:

- the ability to communicate confidently and clearly in the target language;
- a sound understanding of the nature of language and language study, and of the skills and abilities required for further study and leisure;
- insight into the culture and contemporary society of countries where the language is spoken;
- better integration into communities where the language is spoken;
- positive attitudes towards language learning, towards the speakers of other languages, and towards other cultures and societies;
- skills which can be used in other areas of learning, such as analysis and memory skills.

Guided learning hours

Guided learning hours give an indication of the amount of contact time teachers need to have with learners to deliver a particular course. Our syllabuses are designed around 180 guided learning hours for Cambridge International AS Level, and around 360 guided learning hours for Cambridge International A Level.

These figures are for guidance only. The number of hours needed to gain the qualification may vary depending on local practice and the learners' previous experience of the subject.

Prior learning

We recommend that candidates who are beginning this course should have previously completed a Cambridge O Level or Cambridge IGCSE® assessment/course or equivalent in Arabic/Hindi/Tamil/Urdu.

Progression

A Cambridge International A Level in a language provides a suitable foundation for the study of languages or related courses in higher education. Equally it is suitable for candidates intending to pursue careers or further study in languages, or as part of a course of general education.

A Cambridge International AS Level in a language provides a suitable foundation for the study of the language at Cambridge International A Level and thence for related courses in higher education. Depending on local university entrance requirements, it may permit or assist progression directly to university courses in languages or some other subjects. It is also suitable for candidates intending to pursue careers or further study in languages, or as part of a course of general education.

We recommend learners check the Cambridge recognitions database and the university websites to find the most up-to-date entry requirements for courses they wish to study.

How can I find out more?

If you are already a Cambridge school

You can make entries for this qualification through your usual channels. If you have any questions, please contact us at info@cambridgeinternational.org

If you are not yet a Cambridge school

Learn more about the benefits of becoming a Cambridge school from our website at www.cambridgeinternational.org/startcambridge

Email us at info@cambridgeinternational.org to find out how your organisation can register to become a Cambridge school.

Cambridge AICE

Cambridge AICE Diploma is the group award of the Cambridge International AS & A Level. It gives schools the opportunity to benefit from offering a broad and balanced curriculum by recognising the achievements of candidates who pass examinations from different curriculum groups.

Learn more

For more details go to www.cambridgeinternational.org/aice

“ Our research has shown that students who came to the university with a Cambridge AICE background performed better than anyone else that came to the university. That really wasn't surprising considering the emphasis they have on critical research and analysis, and that's what we require at university. ”

John Barnhill, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management, Florida State University, USA

Teacher support

We offer a wide range of practical and innovative support to help teachers plan and deliver our programmes and qualifications confidently.

The support package for our Cambridge International AS & A Levels gives teachers access to a worldwide teaching community enabling them to connect with other teachers, swap ideas and share best practice.

Teaching and learning

- Support materials provide teachers with ideas and planning resources for their lessons.
- Endorsed textbooks, ebooks and digital resources are produced by leading publishers. We have quality checked these materials to make sure they provide a high level of support for teachers and learners.
- Resource lists to help support teaching, including textbooks and websites.

Exam preparation

- Past question papers and mark schemes so teachers can give learners the opportunity to practise answering different questions.
- Example candidate responses help teachers understand exactly what examiners are looking for.
- Principal examiner reports describing learners' overall performance on each part of the papers. The reports give insight into common misconceptions shown by learners, which teachers can address in lessons.

Cambridge
International
AS & A Level
support for
teachers

Professional development

Face-to-face training

We hold workshops around the world to support teachers in delivering Cambridge syllabuses and developing their skills.

Online training

We offer self-study and tutor-led online training courses via our virtual learning environment. A wide range of syllabus-specific courses and skills courses is available. We also offer training via video conference and webinars.

Qualifications

We offer a wide range of practice-based qualifications at Certificate and Diploma level, providing a framework for continuing professional development.

Learn more

Find out more about support for this syllabus at www.cambridgeinternational.org/alevel

Visit our online resource bank and discussion forum at www.cambridgeinternational.org/support

You can find useful information, as well as share your ideas and experiences with other teachers, on our social media channels and community forums.

Find out more at www.cambridgeinternational.org/social-media

1 Assessment at a glance

Centres and candidates can choose to take an assessment at either

- Advanced (A) Level or
- Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level.

Candidates wishing to take a Cambridge International A Level must take **all components** of the assessment in the **same** examination series. It is not possible for candidates to follow a staged assessment of these qualifications. Centres can offer an AS qualification either as a stand-alone assessment, or as a means of testing candidates' skills and competence before they enter for the Cambridge International A Level exam. See Section 4 for an outline of the components.

Note: The use of dictionaries is not permitted in any assessment.

Availability

	A Level	AS Language	AS Literature	Examined in
Arabic	9680	8680	n/a	June and November
Hindi	9687	8687	8675	November
Tamil	9689	8689	n/a	November
Urdu	9676*	8686	n/a	November

*Candidates in Pakistan take syllabus 9686 (Pakistan only). Please refer to the 9686 syllabus booklet for details.

These syllabuses are available to private candidates.

Detailed timetables are available from www.cambridgeinternational.org/timetables

Centres in the UK that receive government funding are advised to consult the Cambridge website www.cambridgeinternational.org for the latest information before beginning to teach these syllabuses.

Scheme of assessment summary

Where a component is common to two or more qualifications, grading of each qualification is carried out separately.

	Component 2 Reading and Writing		Component 3 Essay		Component 4 Texts		Component 5 Prose	
	duration	weighting	duration	weighting	duration	weighting	duration	weighting
A Level	1 hour 45 mins	35%	1 hour 30 mins	20%	2 hours 30 mins	35%	45 mins	10%
AS Language	1 hour 45 mins	70%	1 hour 30 mins	30%	–	–	–	–
AS Literature*	–	–	–	–	2 hours 30 mins	100%	–	–

* AS Literature is only available in Hindi

Combining this with other syllabuses

Candidates can combine this syllabus in an examination series with any other Cambridge International syllabus, except:

- syllabuses with the same title at the same level.

In addition, where a component contributes to different awards, candidates may not take more than one of those awards in the same examination series:

- Cambridge International A Level candidates may **not** take a Cambridge International AS Level qualification in the same language in the same series
- Cambridge International AS Level candidates may **not** take the Cambridge International A Level qualification in the same language in the same series

Note: Candidates offering Hindi **may** take AS Language and AS Literature in the same series.

In addition:

- Syllabus 9676 Urdu may **not** be taken in the same series as 9686 Urdu (Pakistan only).

2 Syllabus aims and assessment objectives

2.1 Syllabus aims

Cambridge International AS and A Level syllabuses in languages other than English aim to:

- develop the ability to understand a language from a variety of registers
- enable students to communicate confidently and clearly in the target language
- form a sound base of skills, language and attitudes required for further study, work and leisure
- develop insights into the culture and civilisation of the countries where the language is spoken, including the study of literary texts where appropriate (this does not apply to AS Language qualifications)
- encourage positive attitudes to language learning and a sympathetic approach to other cultures and civilisations
- support intellectual and personal development by promoting learning and social skills.

2.2 Assessment objectives

The examinations are designed to assess candidates' linguistic competence and their knowledge of contemporary society. In the exams, candidates will be expected to:

- understand and respond to texts written in the target language, drawn from a variety of sources such as magazines, newspapers, reports, books and other forms of extended writing
- manipulate the target language accurately in spoken and written forms, choosing appropriate examples of lexis and structures
- select information and present it in the target language
- organise arguments and ideas logically.

3 Topic areas

All textual material used in the examinations will be drawn from the topic areas below, with reference to the country or countries where the language is spoken. More guidance on the topic areas is given in Section 5.

- Human relationships
- Family
- Generation gap
- Young people
- Patterns of daily life
- Urban and rural life
- The media
- Food and drink
- Law and order
- Philosophy and belief
- Health and fitness
- Work and leisure
- Equality of opportunity
- Employment and unemployment
- Sport
- Free time activities
- Travel and tourism
- Education
- Cultural life/heritage
- War and peace
- Social and economic development
- Scientific and medical advances
- Technological innovation
- Environment
- Conservation
- Pollution
- Contemporary aspects of the country or countries where the language is spoken

4 Description of components

4.1 Component 2: Reading and Writing

1 hour 45 minutes, 70 marks

Two passages in the target language are set which deal with related themes.

Candidates answer specific and general comprehension questions on the two passages, and respond to a task requiring a summary or comparison of issues raised. The target language will be used for all questions and answers.

The passages will have been written during the last twenty years, and will reflect the international scene. In addition:

- the two passages, taken together, will not exceed 750 words
- on the first passage, two tests (5 marks each) will cover vocabulary recognition and grammatical manipulation. These will be followed by a series of comprehension questions (15 marks for Content and 5 marks for Quality of Language)
- on the second passage, there will be a series of comprehension questions (15 marks for Content and 5 marks for Quality of Language)
- the last question will require candidates to write about 140 words, drawing information from both passages and adding their own opinions, (10 marks for information drawn from the passages, 5 marks for personal response to the material, and 5 marks for Quality of Language).

4.2 Component 3: Essay

1 hour 30 minutes, 40 marks

A list of five topics, selected from the topic areas in Section 3, is published below for each year of examination. The list changes every year. A question will be set on each of the five topics corresponding to the year of examination; candidates choose **one** question and write an essay in the target language of 250–400 words. Of the 40 marks available, 24 are for the quality of the language and 16 for the content (see Section 6, Mark Schemes).

Set topics for examination in 2020:	Set topics for examination in 2021:	Set topics for examination in 2022:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Generation gap 2. Health and fitness 3. Education 4. Technological innovation 5. Conservation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patterns of daily life 2. Food and drink 3. Employment and unemployment 4. Social and economic development 5. Environment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young people 2. The media 3. Equality of opportunity 4. Free time activities 5. Scientific and medical advances

4.3 Component 4: Texts

2 hours 30 minutes, 75 marks

Candidates answer **three** questions in the target language. Each question must be on a different text, taken from the list corresponding to the year of examination in Section 4.5. The list for each year is divided into two sections: candidates must choose at least one text from each section.

Each question is marked out of 25. Candidates are advised to write between 500 and 600 words. Candidates who write more than 600 words cannot be placed higher than the 16–17 category for that answer (see Section 6, Mark Schemes).

Set texts may **not** be taken into the examination room.

Section 1

Candidates are given a choice of two questions for each text.

For each text in this section there will be an extended passage taken from the text followed by either a single question or a number of short questions. This will not be a context passage (the location of the passage is given) but a stimulus to allow candidates to bring a focus to their answer. Candidates are asked to comment on particular aspects of the passage and/or to indicate how the passage reflects the book as a whole.

The alternative question will be an essay question, similar to those in Section 2.

Section 2

For each text there is a choice of two questions focusing on issues central to the text. Candidates are expected to show detailed knowledge of the text and awareness of how the author conveys the message of the work.

4.4 Component 5: Prose

45 minutes, 40 marks

Candidates translate a short passage from English into the target language.

4.5 Set texts for Component 4

4.5.1 Set texts for Arabic

Note that the list of set texts is different for each year. Please ensure that you refer to the table corresponding to the year in which candidates will sit the examination.

2020

Set texts for examination in 2020

Section 1

1. *Tārīkh al-Adab al-'Arabī 1: al-'Asr al-Jāhilī*, Dr Shawqī Dhayf, pp. 300–322
Published by Dār El Maaref, Cairo, Egypt (11th edition, 1995)
2. *Tārīkh al-Adab al-'Arabī: al-'Asr al-'Abbāsī al-Thānī*, Dr Shawqī Dhayf, pp. 270–296
Published by Dār El Maaref, Egypt (12th edition, 2001)
3. *Min al-Adab al-Nisa'ee al-Mu'āser: Al-Arabi wa al-Maghribi*, Laila Al-Sabbagh, pp. 13–45
Publications of Wizārat al-Thaqāfah fi Al-Jumhūriyah Al-Sūriyah, Damascus, Syria (1966)

Section 2

4. *Ahl-ul-Kahf*, Tawfīq Al-Hakīm
Published by Maktabat Misr, Cairo, Egypt (1933)
5. *Al-Awāsif*, Gibran Khalil Gibran
Published by Dār Al-Arab, Cairo, Egypt (1920)

The following stories to be studied:

Al-Umum wa dhwātuha
Al-Āsifa
Al-Shaytān
Al-Salbān
Al-Sam fi al-dasm
Al-Banafsaja al-tamūha

6. *Qindīl Ummu Hāshim*, Yahya Haqqi
Published by Dar Al-maaref (16th edition, 2015)

The following stories to be studied:

Qindīl Ummu Hāshim
Al-Sōlhafā' Tateer
Kūnnaa Thalathatu Aytām

2021

Set texts for examination in 2021

Section 1

1. *Tārīkh al-Adab al-'Arabī 1: al-'Asr al-Jāhilī*, Dr Shawqī Dhayf, pp. 300–322
Published by Dār El Maaref, Cairo, Egypt (11th edition, 1995)
2. *Tārīkh al-Adab al-'Arabī: al-'Asr al-'Abbāsī al-Thānī*, Dr Shawqī Dhayf, pp. 270–296
Published by Dār El Maaref, Egypt (12th edition, 2001)
3. *Min al-Adab al-Nisa'ee al-Mu'āser: Al-Arabi wa al-Maghribi*, Laila Al-Sabbagh, pp. 13–45
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5. *Al-Awāsif*, Gibran Khalil Gibran
Published by Dār Al-Arab, Cairo, Egypt (1920)

The following stories to be studied:

Al-Umum wa dhwātuha
Al-Āsifa
Al-Shaytān
Al-Salbān
Al-Sam fi al-dasm
Al-Banafsaja al-tamūha

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection

6. *Al-Riwāyah Al-Mustahilah Foosayfisa' Dimashqīyah*, Ghāda Al-Sammān pp.1–388
Published by Ghāda Al-Sammān, Beirut, Lebanon (First Edition 1997)

2022

Set texts for examination in 2022

Section 1

1. *Tārīkh al-Adab al-'Arabī 1: al-'Asr al-Jāhilī*, Dr Shawqī Dhayf, pp. 300–322
Published by Dār El Maaref, Cairo, Egypt (11th edition, 1995)
2. *Tārīkh al-Adab al-'Arabī: al-'Asr al-'Abbāsī al-Thānī*, Dr Shawqī Dhayf, pp. 296–324
Published by Dār El Maaref, Egypt (12th edition, 2001)
3. *Min al-Adab al-Nisa'ee al-Mu'āser: Al-Arabi wa al-Maghribi*, Laila Al-Sabbagh, pp. 13–45
Publications of Wizārat al-Thaqāfah fi Al-Jumhūriyah Al-Sūriyah, Damascus, Syria (1966)

Section 2

4. *Ahl-ul-Kahf*, Tawfīq Al-Hakīm
Published by Maktabat Misr, Cairo, Egypt (1933)
5. *Al-Awāsif*, Gibran Khalil Gibran
Published by Dār Al-Arab, Cairo, Egypt (1920)

The following stories to be studied:

Al-Umum wa dhwātuha
Al-Āsifa
Al-Shaytān
Al-Salbān
Al-Sam fi al-dasm
Al-Banafsaja al-tamūha

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection

6. *Al-Riwāyah Al-Mustahilah Foosayfisa' Dimashqīyah*, Ghāda Al-Sammān pp.1–388
Published by Ghāda Al-Sammān, Beirut, Lebanon (First Edition 1997)

4.5.2 Set texts for Hindi

Note that the list of set texts is different for each year. Please ensure that you refer to the table corresponding to the year in which candidates will sit the examination.

Set texts for examination in 2020, 2021 and 2022

Section 1

1. *Sursagar Sar*, edited by Dharendra Verma
Published by Sahitya Bhawan Ltd, Allahabad 211003, India

The following to be studied:

Vinay tatha Bhakti, Mangalacharan, 1–10
Gokul Leela, 60–67
Uddhav-Gopi Samvad, pahla samvad, 50–57

Sri Ramcharitmanas, Tulsidas

Published by Gita Press, Gorakhpur 273005, India

The following to be studied:

Uttara Kanda – Dohas 20–26

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2. *Prasad, Nirala, Pant and Mahadevi ki Shresth Racnaen*, edited by Vacaspati Pathak
Published by Lok Bharati Prakashan, 15-A Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Allahabad-1, India

The following poems to be studied:

Ah! Vedanaa Milee Vidaaee, Jaishankar Prasad
Jagri, Jaishankar Prasad
Dhwani, Sooryakant Tripathi 'Nirala'
Gahan Hai Yah Andh Kara, Sooryakant Tripathi 'Nirala'
Bharat Mata, Sumitranandan Pant
Taaj, Sumitranandan Pant

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

3. *Saket*, Maithili Sharan Gupt
Published by Saket Prakashan, Rashtrakavi Niwas, Chirgava, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh India (2015)

The following parts to be studied:

Dviteeya Sarg: pages 18–24: *Lekhani aba kisliye vilamb?.....Kintu sut hoojo too na virakta*
Chaturtha Sarg: pages 60–68: *Kaushalya kya karati thi.....Kah kar 'hay!' Dharam giri!*
Ashtam Sarg: pages 165–166: *Gurujan samip the ek samay jab raghav.....Aa pahuche pitripad bhi mere*
Navam Sarg: pages 167–183: *Do vansho me prakata karake pavani lok lila.....apane is nrip-niketana mei*

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

Set texts for examination in 2020, 2021 and 2022 continued

Section 2

4. *Adhe-Adhure*, Mohan Rakesh
Published by Radhakrishna Prakashan Private Limited, 7/31 Ansari Road, Dariyaganj, New Delhi 110002, India (2011) ISBN 978-8171199051

5. *Adhunik Kahani Sangrah*, edited by Sarojini Sharma
Published by Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra-5, India

The following stories to be studied:

Namak ka daroga, Premchand

Puraskar, Jayshankar Prasad

Kalakar, Rajendra Yadav

Rani maa ka Chabootra, Mannu Bhandari

Subaha ki Sair, Nirmal Varmai

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

6. *Marishashiya Hindi Kahaniyan* (1987), edited by Abhimanyu Unnuth
Published by Mahatma Gandhi Sansthan, Moka, Mauritius

The following stories to be studied:

Vishwa Manthan, Ramdev Dhoorundhur

M.B.E., Bhanumati Nagdan

Mawt ka Sawdagar, Moonishwarlall Chintamunnee

Chahe anchahe, Jay Jeewooth

Toota pahiya, Abhimanyu Unnuth

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

4.5.3 Set texts for Tamil

Note that the list of set texts is different for each year. Please ensure that you refer to the table corresponding to the year in which candidates will sit the examination.

2020

Set texts for examination in 2020

Section 1

1. *Cankam Literature*

Natrinai

320 – Kabilar

Akanaanuuru

187 – Maamuulanaar

Puranaanuuru

117 – Kabilar on Vel Paari

192 – Kaniyan Puunkundran

Silappadikaaram, Vazakkurai Kaathai, lines 45–81

Lines beginning “Varuka, matru aval tharuka” to “inaiyadi thozuthu viiznthanale matamozi”

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2. *Tirukkural*

Chapters: 11 – Sey Nandri Arithal, 23 – Eekai, 37 – Avaa Arutthal, 79 – Natpu

3. *Tevaaram, Appar Tevaaram*, 4th Thirumurai, Namashivaaya Thirupadigam, “Sottrunai Vethiyan” – 10 stanzas, Published by Thirunelveli Saiva Siddhanta Publishing Society, 1/40 Prakasam Saalai, Chennai 600108, India

Section 2

4. *Ikkaala Kavithaikal*

Bhaaratiyaar

Kannan En Sevakan

Published by Bharathi Pathippagam, 108 Usman Road, T. Nagar, Chennai 7, India (2000)

Bharatidaasan

Kadu (beginning with “Mutputharkal”)

Kanal (beginning with “Vanum Kanal Soriyum”)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

5. *Paalmara Kaattinile*, P. V. Akilan

Published by Shree Konathi Acchagam, 58 T.P. Koil Street, Ice House, Chennai, India (November 1990)

6. *Naveena Tamil Sirukathaikal* – Anthology of modern short stories

The following stories to be studied:

Appaavitam enna solvathu?, *Asokamithran*

Jannal, Sujatha

Nathi, Jeyamohan

Marangalin kathai, Paavannan

Payanam, Vaasanthi

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2021

Set texts for examination in 2021

Section 1

1. *Cankam Literature*

Natrinai

330 – Aalankudl Vankanaar

Akanaanuuru

86 – Nallaavur Kizaar

Puranaanuuru

42 – Idaikkatanar

2 – Muranchiyur Mudinagarayar

Silappadikaaram, Vazakkurai Kaathai, lines 105–53 from “Porkollan ethirpattaan” till
“Konru acchilambai konarga eengu” (48 lines)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2. *Tirukkural*

Chapters: 11 – Sey Nandri Arithal, 23 – Eekai, 37 – Avaa Arutthal, 79 – Natpu

3. *Tevaaram, Appar Tevaaram*, 4th Thirumurai, Namashivaaya Thirupadigam, “Sottrunai Vethiyan” – 10 stanzas,
Published by Thirunelveli Saiva Siddhanta Publishing Society, 1/40 Prakasam Saalai, Chennai 600108, India

Section 2

4. *Ikkaala Kavithaikal*

Bhaaratiyaar

Kannan En Sevakan

Published by Bharathi Pathippagam, 108 Usman Road, T. Nagar, Chennai 7, India (2000)

Bharatidaasan

Kadu (beginning with “Mutputharkal”)

Kanal (beginning with “Vanum Kanal Soriyum”)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

5. *Anda Naal*, Dr Mu Vadarasan

Published by Paari Nilayam, 90 Broadway Chennai-600108 (1993)

6. *Naveena Tamil Sirukathaikal* – Anthology of modern short stories

Published by Tamizh Chirukathaigal (1960–1995), Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, India (2004)

The following stories to be studied:

Appaavitam enna solvathu?, *Asokamithran*

Jannal, Sujatha

Nathi, Jeyamohan

Marangalin kathai, Paavannan

Payanam, Vaasanthi

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2022

Set texts for examination in 2022

Section 1

1. *Cankam Literature*

Natrinai

330 – Aalankudl Vankanaar

Akanaanuuru

86 – Nallaavur Kizaar

Puranaanuuru

42 – Idaikkatanar

2 – Muranchiyur Mudinagarayar

Silappadikaaram, Vazakkurai Kaathai, lines 105–53 from “Porkollan ethirpattaan” till “Konru acchilambai konarga eengu” (48 lines)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2. *Tirukkural*

Chapters: 11 – Sey Nandri Arithal, 23 – Eekai, 37 – Avaa Arutthal, 79 – Natpu

3. *Tevaaram, Appar Tevaaram*, 4th Thirumurai, Namashivaaya Thirupadigam, “Sottrunai Vethiyan” – 10 stanzas, Published by Thirunelveli Saiva Siddhanta Publishing Society, 1/40 Prakasam Saalai, Chennai 600108, India

Section 2

4. *Ikkaala Kavithaikal*

Bhaaratiyaar

Kannan En Sevakan

Published by Bharathi Pathippagam, 108 Usman Road, T. Nagar, Chennai 7, India (2000)

Bharatidaasan

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Kanal (beginning with “Vanum Kanal Soriyum”)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

5. *Anda Naal*, Dr Mu Vadarasan

Published by Paari Nilayam, 90 Broadway Chennai-600108 (1993)

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The following stories to be studied:

Appaavitam enna solvathu?, *Asokamithran*

Jannal, *Sujatha*

Nathi, *Jeyamohan*

Marangalin kathai, *Paavannan*

Payanam, *Vaasanthi*

Published by Tamizh Chirukathaigal (1960–1995), Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, India (2004)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

4.5.4 Set texts for Urdu

Set texts for examination in 2020, 2021 and 2022

Section 1

Students may use any edition of the set texts provided that it is not an abridged or simplified version.

1. Ghazlein

Mir Taqi Mir

Dekh to dil ke jan se uthta hai (Yeh dhuaan sa kahan se uthta hai)

Mir Darya hey sune sher Zabani Uski (Allah Allah Re tabiat Ki rawani Uski)

Patta Patta Boota Boota Hal Hamara jaane Hey (Jaane Na Jaane Gul He Na Jaane Baagh Toh Saara Jaane Hey)

Mir Dard

Hum tujh se kiss hawas ki falak justuju karein (Dil hi nahin raha hai jo kuch aarzo karein)

Arz o-sama kahan teri wus'at ko pa sake (Mera hi dil hai woh ke jahan tu sama sake)

Tujhi ko jo yaan jalwa farma na dekha (Baraabar hai dunya ko dekha na dekha)

Aatish

Yeh aarzo thi tujhe gul Ke ru baru karte (Hum aur bulbul e betaab guftagu karte)

Jala Main Shama Ki Manind Umr Bhar Khamosh (Tamam Umr kati Qissa Mukhtasar Khamosh)

Dehan par hain un ke gumaan kaisse kaisse (Kalaam aate hain darmiyaan kaisse kaisse)

Ghalib

Aah KO chahye Ik Umr Asar Hone Tak (Kon Jeeta Hey Teri Zulf Ke Sar Hone Tak)

Bazicha e Atfal Hey Duniya Mere Aage (Hota Hey Shab- o- Roz Tamasha Mere Aage)

Dil hi to hai na sango-khisht dard se bhar na aae kyun (Roeinge hum hazaar baar koi humein sataae kyun)

Hasrat

Husn e beparwa ko khudbeen o khudaara kar diya (Kia kiya mein ne ke izhaar e tamanna kar diya)

Chupke chupke raat din aansoo bahana yaad hai (Hum ko ab tak aashiqi ka wo zamaana yaad hai)

Bhulaata laakh hoon lekin baraabar yaad aate hain (Ilaahi tark e ulfat par wo kyunkar yaad aate hain)

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

2. Nazmein

Nazir

Aadmi Namaa

Dunya Daarul Mukafaat Hay

Rotiyan

Iqbal

Roh-e-Arzi Adam Ka Istaqbal Ker Ti Hei

Khizreraah

Jibrill-aur-Ibliss

Faiz

Nissar Mein Teri Galyon Pe

Mujh Se Pehli Si Mohabbat

Dard Aaye Ga Dabe Paaon

Saahir

Taj Mahal

Kabhi Kabhi

Aawaaz-e-Adam

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

Set texts for examination in 2020, 2021 and 2022 continued

Section 1 continued

3. Nazmein

Josh Malih Abadi *Husn Aur Mazdoori*
Albeli Subh
Shikast-e-Zindaan ka Khaab

Nun Mim Rashid *Mere Bhi Hain Kuch Khaab*
Mein Usay Wakif-e-Ulfat na Karoon
Zindagi Se Darte Ho

Asrar-UI Haq Majaz *Aaj Ki Raat*
Awara
Nau Jawan Se

Akhtara-UI Imaan *Yadein*
Aik larka
Masjid

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

Section 2

4. *Umrao Jan Ada*, Mirza Mohammad Hadi Ruswa

5. Afsané

Pos Ki Raat, Premchand
Lajwantee, Rajinder Singh Bedi
Toba Tek Singh, Sa'dat Hasan Manto
Nazaara Darmiyan Hai, Qurat UI Ain Haider
Maha Lakshmi Ka Pul, Krishn Chander

This selection makes up one set text and should be studied as a whole. In the examination, candidates must answer no more than **one** question on this selection.

6. *Anar Kali*, Imtiaz Ali Taj

5 Topic areas – further guidance

Teachers can explore the topic areas **in any way they choose**. The following examples (which are not prescriptive) are a useful guide to planning courses. All these suggestions, and other themes chosen by the teacher from within the topic areas, should be studied with reference to countries/communities where the language is spoken.

Human relationships – family – generation gap – young people

- family activities; new patterns of family relationships; the status of the elderly and responsibility for their care
- generation gap; conflicts in the family circle; young people and the older generation; attitudes of young people to the family environment
- young people; young people and their peer group; young people as a target group for advertisers and politicians

Patterns of daily life – urban and rural life – the media – food and drink – law and order – philosophy and belief – health and fitness

- daily routine; school; the individual's way of life; living conditions
- advantages and disadvantages of urban and rural life; transport and communications; shopping; housing
- the role and influence of the media; the power of advertising
- healthy eating; fast-food; national traditions of eating and drinking
- violence and crime; drug-related crime; the role of the police; law-enforcement
- the role of philosophy and belief in a local, national and an international context; attitudes towards different beliefs and philosophical issues; philosophical and religious practices/groups; values and morality
- healthy living; exercise; dieting; drugs; health care provision; stress; AIDS

Work and leisure – equality of opportunity – employment and unemployment – sport – free time activities – travel and tourism – education – cultural life/heritage

- women in society and in the workforce; equality of opportunity for minority groups
- preparation for work and job opportunities; career plans; qualifications and job routines; plight of the unemployed, areas of high unemployment; demise of traditional industries; possible solutions, immigrant workers
- individual and team sports; amateur and professional sport
- value of leisure; balance between leisure and work; planning leisure time
- tourism as a modern phenomenon; friction between tourists and local inhabitants; holidays and foreign travel
- education systems and types of school; patterns of curriculum; relationship between education and training; further and higher education provision; examinations
- the world of the arts; significant figures and trends in the arts; the place of culture and the arts in the life of the nation

War and peace – social and economic development

- conflicts in the world: ethnic, religious, ideological
- positive and negative aspects of social and economic development; recent and predicted trends

Medical advances – scientific and technological innovation

- advances in the treatment of disease; ethical issues of medical and other technologies
- cloning; genetic modifications; modern communications systems

Environment – pollution – conservation

- the individual in his/her surroundings; effect of environment on individuals; protest action to protect one's locality; ways of contributing to environmental awareness
- global warming; acid rain; air pollution; water pollution; noise pollution; destruction of rain forests; damage to animal world; solutions and cost implications
- saving endangered species and landscapes

Contemporary aspects of the country/ies where the language is spoken

- e.g. political, regional, social issues

6 Mark schemes

6.1 Component 2: Reading and Writing

Quality of Language – Accuracy (Questions 3, 4 and 5)

5 Very good
Consistently accurate. Only very few errors of minor significance. Accurate use of more complex structures (verb forms, tenses, prepositions, word order).
4 Good
Higher incidence of error than above, but clearly has a sound grasp of the grammatical elements in spite of lapses. Some capacity to use accurately more complex structures.
3 Sound
Fair level of accuracy. Common tenses and regular verbs mostly correctly formed. Some problems in forming correct agreement of adjectives. Difficulty with irregular verbs, use of prepositions.
2 Below average
Persistent errors in tense and verb forms. Prepositions frequently incorrect. Recurrent errors in agreement of adjectives.
0–1 Poor
Little or no evidence of grammatical awareness. Most constructions incomplete or incorrect. Consistent and repeated error.

Additional marking guidance for Quality of Language – Questions 3 and 4

The five marks available for Quality of Language are awarded **globally** for the whole performance on each set of answers.

A concise answer, containing all mark-bearing components for Content is scored on the full range of marks for language, i.e. length does not determine the Quality of Language mark.

Answers scoring 0 for Content cannot contribute to the overall Quality of Language mark.

Identify the answer(s) scoring 0 for Content in the whole set of answers. Then add together the number of Content marks available for each of these questions and reduce the Quality of Language mark according to the following table:

Total Content marks available on questions where a candidate scores 0	Reduce Quality of Language mark by:
2–3	1
4–5	2
6–7	3
8–14	4
15	5

Note: A minimum of one mark for Quality of Language should be awarded if there are any Content marks at all (i.e. 0 Quality of Language marks only if 0 Content marks).

Response to the passage (Question 5)

This should be marked as a mini-essay according to the variety and interest of the opinions and views expressed, the candidate's response to the original text stimulus, and their ability to express a personal point of view. Additional guidance on marking specific questions will be given to examiners.

5 Very good

Varied and interesting ideas, showing an element of flair and imagination, a capacity to express a personal point of view.

4 Good

Not the flair and imagination of the best candidates, but work still shows an ability to express a range of ideas, maintain interest and respond to the issues raised.

3 Sound

A fair level of interest and ideas. May concentrate on a single issue, but there is still a response to ideas in the text.

2 Below average

Limited range of ideas; rather humdrum. May disregard the element of response to the text, and write a largely unrelated free-composition.

0–1 Poor

Few ideas to offer on the theme. Banal and pedestrian. No element of personal response to the text. Repeated error.

6.2 Component 3: Essay

Language (24 marks)	Content (16 marks)
<p>21–24 Very good Confident use of complex sentence patterns, generally accurate, extensive vocabulary, good sense of idiom.</p>	<p>14–16 Very good Detailed, clearly relevant and well illustrated; coherently argued and structured.</p>
<p>16–20 Good Generally sound grasp of grammar in spite of quite a few lapses; reads reasonably; some attempt at varied vocabulary.</p>	<p>11–13 Good Sound knowledge and generally relevant; some ability to develop argument and draw conclusions.</p>
<p>10–15 Adequate A tendency to be simple, clumsy or laboured; some degree of accuracy; inappropriate use of idiom.</p>	<p>7–10 Adequate Some knowledge, but not always relevant; a more limited capacity to argue.</p>
<p>5–9 Poor Consistently simple or pedestrian sentence patterns with persistent errors; limited vocabulary.</p>	<p>3–6 Poor Some attempt at argument, tends to be sketchy or unspecific; little attempt to structure an argument; major misunderstanding of question.</p>
<p>0–4 Very poor Only the simplest sentence patterns, little evidence of grammatical awareness, very limited vocabulary.</p>	<p>0–2 Very poor Vague and general, ideas presented at random.</p>

6.3 Component 4: Texts

Candidates must write their answers in the target language. Examiners will look for a candidate's ability to communicate effectively and will ignore linguistic errors which do not impede communication.

Passage-based questions

Examiners should consider the extent to which candidates have been able to identify the significant issues raised in the passage and, where appropriate, have applied these to the text as a whole. The passage is a stimulus passage, to be used as a springboard to give candidates a starting point for their answer. Examiners should allow candidates to use the passage as they choose, and ask themselves how successfully the candidates have manipulated their material and to what extent they have shown depth of awareness and knowledge of the workings of the text under discussion. This is not an exercise in literary criticism: Examiners should reward candidates whose answers show good understanding of how a text works and how an author has conveyed the key issues.

Essay questions

A prime consideration is that candidates show detailed knowledge and understanding of the text.

Extracts from Examiners' Notes

This paper is intended to test candidates' knowledge of a text and their ability to use this knowledge to answer questions in a clear and focused manner. A sophisticated literary approach is not expected (though at the highest levels it is sometimes seen), but great value is placed on evidence of a firsthand response and thoughtful, personal evaluation of what candidates have read. Candidates may have been encouraged to depend closely on prepared notes and quotations: quotation for its own sake is not useful, though it will not be undervalued if used appropriately to illustrate a point in the answer.

Candidates do not tend to show **all** the qualities or faults described in any one mark-band. Examiners attempt to weigh all these up at every borderline, in order to see whether the work can be considered for the category above. At the lower levels, the answer may mention a few 'facts' but these may be so poorly understood, badly organised and irrelevant that it falls into category 10–11; or there may be just enough sense of understanding and focus for the examiner to consider the 12–13 band. Again, at a higher level, an answer may be clear, solid and conscientious (perhaps 18–19), without showing quite the control and attention to perceptively chosen detail which would justify 20 or more.

Examiners take a positive and flexible approach and, even when there are obvious flaws in an answer, reward evidence of knowledge and especially any signs of understanding and careful organisation.

Candidates are expected to write 500–600 words for each of their answers. Candidates who write more than 600 words cannot be placed higher than the 16–17 category in the Mark Scheme.

Marks	Description
22–25	Exceptional work. Excellent ability to organise material, thorough knowledge, considerable sensitivity to language and to author’s intentions, understanding of some literary techniques. Really articulate and intelligent answers should be considered in this band even if there are still flaws and omissions.
20–21	Very good. Close attention to detail of passages, controlled structure, perceptive use of illustration, good insight when discussing characters. Ability to look beyond the immediate material and to show some understanding of author’s intentions and of underlying themes.
18–19	Thoroughly solid and relevant work. Candidate does not simply reproduce information: can discuss and evaluate material and come to clear conclusion. Good focus on passages. Some limitations of insight but coherent, detailed approach and aptly chosen illustrations.
16–17	Painstaking. Sound knowledge of texts; mainly relevant. Some attempt to analyse and compare, some sense of understanding. Possibly not in full control of material; solid but indiscriminate. Many very conscientious candidates fall into this category: they tend to write far too much as they are reluctant to leave out anything they have learnt. Focused, coherent essays which lack really solid detail but convey a good understanding of the text should also be considered for this band.
14–15	Fair relevance and knowledge. Better organised than work in the 12–13 band: the candidate probably understands the demands of the question without being able to develop a very thorough response. Still a fairly simple, black and white approach. Some narrative and ‘learnt’ material but better control and focus than work in the 12–13 band. Many candidates probably fall into this category.
12–13	Sound, if simple and superficial, knowledge of plot and characters. Makes assertions without being able to illustrate or develop points. Probably still too dependent on narrative and memorised oddments but there may be a visible attempt to relate these to the question. Can extract one or two relevant points from a set passage.
10–11	Some very basic material but not much sense of understanding or ability to answer the question. The candidate rarely reads the set passage but uses it as a springboard for storytelling and memorised bits and pieces about characters. Very general, unspecific approach. Random, bitty structure. Signs of organisation and relevance should be looked for in case the answer can be considered for a mark in the 12–13 band.
6–9	Marginally more knowledge here than in the 0–5 band. The candidate may have read the text but is probably unable to see beyond the barest bones of the plot or half-remembered notes. Insubstantial; very little relevance. The candidate may have problems with the language and will be unable to express ideas comprehensibly.
0–5	No discernible material. Often very inadequate language. Marks in this section are awarded almost on the basis of quantity: up to 3 for a sentence or two showing a glimpse of knowledge, 4 or 5 where there is also a hint of relevance to the question. It is possible for a candidate to write a whole page demonstrating no knowledge at all (have they read the book?), or only misunderstood background facts or very vague general remarks unrelated to either text or question.

7 Other information

Equality and inclusion

We have taken great care in the preparation of this syllabus and related assessment materials to avoid bias of any kind. To comply with the UK Equality Act (2010), we have designed this qualification with the aim of avoiding direct and indirect discrimination.

The standard assessment arrangements may present unnecessary barriers for candidates with disabilities or learning difficulties. Arrangements can be put in place for these candidates to enable them to access the assessments and receive recognition of their attainment. Access arrangements will not be agreed if they give candidates an unfair advantage over others or if they compromise the standards being assessed. Candidates who are unable to access the assessment of any component may be eligible to receive an award based on the parts of the assessment they have taken.

Information on access arrangements is found in the *Cambridge Handbook*, which can be downloaded from the website www.cambridgeinternational.org/examsOfficers

Language

This syllabus is available in English only. The associated assessment materials are in the target language.

Grading and reporting

Cambridge International A Level results are shown by one of the grades A*, A, B, C, D or E, indicating the standard achieved, A* being the highest and E the lowest. 'Ungraded' indicates that the candidate's performance fell short of the standard required for grade E. 'Ungraded' will be reported on the statement of results but not on the certificate. The letters Q (result pending), X (no result) and Y (to be issued) may also appear on the statement of results but not on the certificate.

Cambridge International AS Level results are shown by one of the grades a, b, c, d or e, indicating the standard achieved, 'a' being the highest and 'e' the lowest. 'Ungraded' indicates that the candidate's performance fell short of the standard required for grade 'e'. 'Ungraded' will be reported on the statement of results but not on the certificate. The letters Q (result pending), X (no result) and Y (to be issued) may also appear on the statement of results but not on the certificate.

If a candidate takes a Cambridge International A Level and fails to achieve grade E or higher, a Cambridge International AS Level grade will be awarded if both of the following apply:

- the components taken for the Cambridge International A Level by the candidate in that series included all the components making up a Cambridge International AS Level
- the candidate's performance on the AS Level components was sufficient to merit the award of a Cambridge International AS Level grade.

Exam administration

To keep our exams secure, we produce question papers for different areas of the world, known as 'administrative zones'. We allocate all Cambridge schools to one administrative zone determined by their location. Each zone has a specific timetable. Some of our syllabuses offer candidates different assessment options. An entry option code is used to identify the components the candidate will take relevant to the administrative zone and the available assessment options.

'While studying Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International A Levels, students broaden their horizons through a global perspective and develop a lasting passion for learning.'

Zhai Xiaoning, Deputy Principal, The High School Affiliated to Renmin University of China

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