

# Guide to converting component marks into syllabus grades

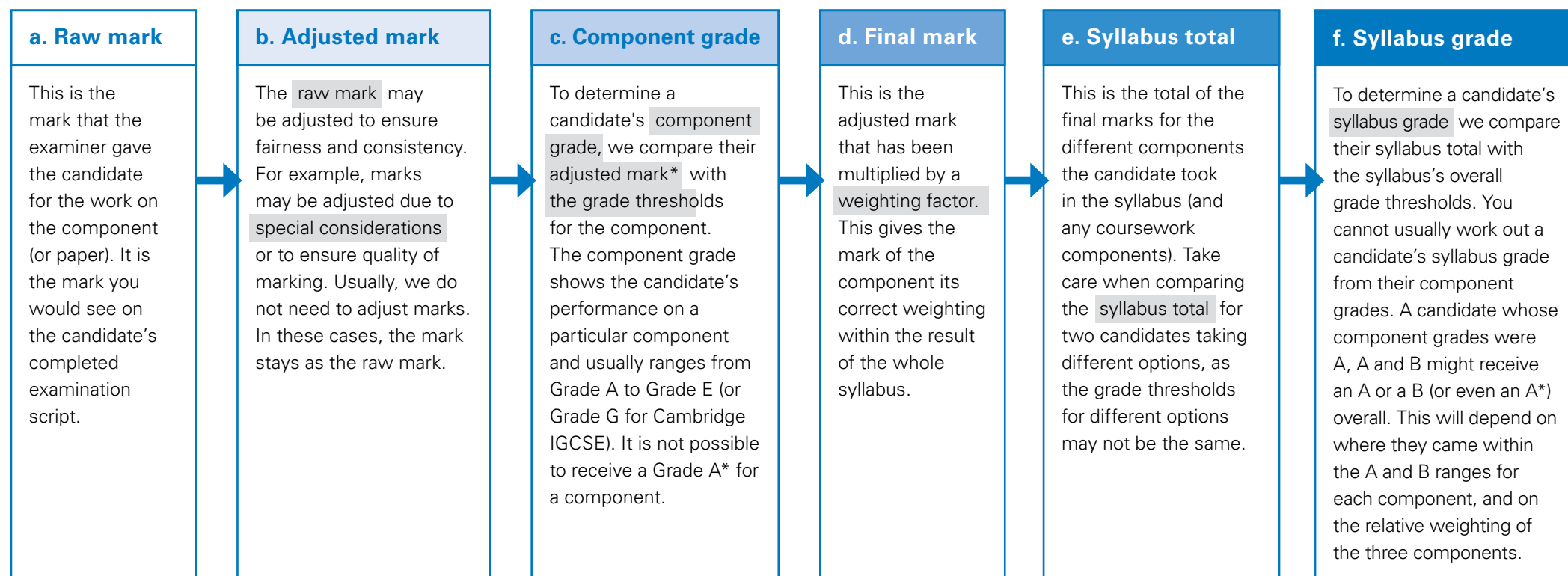
To help you understand more about how grades are determined, this guide explains:

**Section 1:** The journey a candidate's mark takes from the raw mark to the syllabus grade

**Section 2:** How to convert mock exam raw marks into syllabus grades.



## Section 1: From the raw mark to the syllabus grade



**Note:** see glossary on last page

\*this is the raw mark if no adjustments have been made

See Section 2 on next page

## Section 2: Convert mock exam raw marks into syllabus grades

Follow these four steps to calculate mock exam raw marks into syllabus grades.

### Step 1. Find the component's raw mark

To find the raw mark of the component, add up the total marks the candidate achieved in that component.

Example: Syllabus 0748

3 (a) Amino acids such as alanine are essential building blocks for making proteins. They can be synthesised by a general reaction of which the following is an example.

$$\text{CH}_3\text{C}\equiv\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{NaCN} + \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}} \text{E} \xrightarrow[\text{(ii) neutralise}]{\text{(i) H}_3\text{O}^+ + \text{heat}} \text{CH}_3\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CO}_2\text{H}$$

alanine

E:  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_5\text{N}_2$

(i) Suggest the structure of the intermediate compound E by drawing its structural formula in the box above.

(ii) Suggest, in the box below, the structural formula of the starting material needed to synthesise phenylalanine by the above general reaction.

$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COOH}$

→ intermediate →

$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CO}_2\text{H}$   
 phenylalanine

[2]

(b) (i) What is a protein?  
 a sequence of amino acids

(ii) Using alanine as an example, draw a diagram to show how proteins are formed from amino acids. Show two repeat units in your answer.

$\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{NH}-\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{NH}_2$

Component 1 raw mark
18

Total marks available
50



### Step 1a. Adjusting raw marks

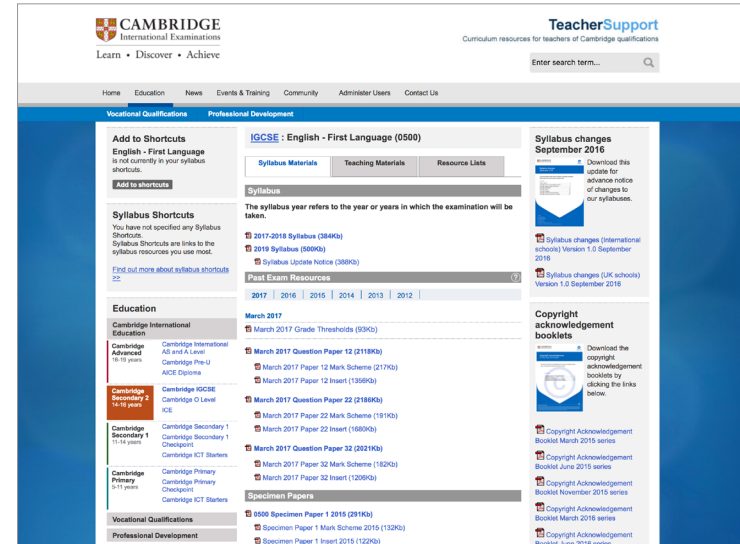
You may want to adjust raw marks to ensure fairness and consistency. For example, you may adjust a mark because of special considerations to ensure quality of marking between teachers.

Component 1 raw mark	+	Adjustments	=	Adjusted mark
18		1		19

## Step 2. Find the component grade

Compare the component's raw mark or adjusted mark with the component's grade thresholds. To compare the raw or adjusted mark with the component's thresholds:

- log in to the [Teacher Support Site](#)
- find the relevant syllabus page
- find the 'Past exam resources' tab
- download the *Grade Thresholds* document for your syllabus
- go to the component's grade thresholds table
- compare the component's raw mark with the component's grade thresholds
- find the component grade.



Example: Syllabus 0748

Component 1 adjusted mark
19

Compare mark >

Component	Maximum mark available	Component grade thresholds							
		A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Component 1	50			28	23	19	17	14	9
Component 2	50	29	27	24	21	19	18		
Component 3	50	35	30	26	22	20	19	12	10

>

Grade C threshold
<i>23 marks and above</i>



Grade D threshold
<i>19 marks and above</i>



=

Component 1 grade
D



### Step 3. Calculate the final mark and syllabus total

Calculate the final mark by multiplying each component's mark by its weighting factor. Find component weighting factors at [www.cie.org.uk/weighting](http://www.cie.org.uk/weighting)

Calculate the syllabus total by adding all final marks together. Round up syllabus totals that end in 0.5 to the nearest whole number.

Example: Syllabus 0748

Calculate the final mark:

Component 1 adjusted mark	×	Component 1 weighting factor	=	Component 1 final mark
19		1.5		28.5

Calculate the syllabus total:

Component 1 final mark	+	Component 2 final mark	+	Component 3 final mark	=	Syllabus total	→	Syllabus total rounded up
28.5		33		33		94.5		95

Series	Syllabus code	Component	Maximum raw mark	Maximum weighted mark	Weighting factor
June 2016	0511	13	70	140	2
June 2016	0511	21	90	140	1.55555
June 2016	0511	22	50	140	1.55555
June 2016	0511	23	90	140	1.55555
June 2016	0511	31	30	30	1
June 2016	0511	32	30	30	1
June 2016	0511	33	30	30	1
June 2016	0511	41	40	30	0.75
June 2016	0511	42	40	30	0.75
June 2016	0511	43	40	30	0.75
June 2016	0511	51	30	30	1
111	52	30	30	30	1
111	53	30	30	30	1
111	81	30	30	30	1
111	82	30	30	30	1
111	83	30	30	30	1
111	86	30	30	30	1
113	01	50	50	50	1
113	02	50	50	50	1
114	01	50	50	50	1
114	02	50	50	50	1
115	01	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
115	02	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
115	03	100	50	0.5	0.5
115	04	50	50	1	1
115	83	50	50	1	1
116	01	50	50	1	1
116	02	50	50	1	1
118	02	60	60	1	1
118	03	40	40	1	1
200	08	100	50	0.5	0.5
200	11	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
200	12	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
200	13	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
200	21	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
200	22	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
200	23	45	50	1.11111	1.11111
200	41	50	50	1	1
200	42	50	50	1	1
200	43	50	50	1	1

[Returns to contents](#)

**Syllabus component weighting factors**  
June 2016, November 2016 and March 2017

Find a component's weighting factor to calculate final marks.

**Contents**  
June 2016  
November 2016  
March 2017

For more information on how and when to use component weighting factors, use our [Guide to converting component raw marks into syllabus grades factsheet](#).

### Step 4. Find the syllabus grade

Compare the syllabus total with the syllabus's overall grade thresholds. To compare the syllabus total with the overall grade thresholds:

- go back to the *Grade Thresholds* document for your syllabus (used in 'Step 2: Find the component grade')
- find the overall thresholds table
- make sure to select the candidate's correct option code
- compare the syllabus total with the syllabus's overall grade thresholds
- find the syllabus grade.

Example: Syllabus 0748

Syllabus 0748 total  
**95**

Compare syllabus total >

Option code	Combination of components	Overall grade thresholds								
		A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
A1	01, 03, 05	-	-	-	75	64	53	36	19	
A2	01, 04, 05	-	-	-	81	67	54	38	22	
A3	01, 03, 06	-	-	-	75	64	53	36	19	
A4	01, 04, 06	-	-	-	64	67	54	38	22	
<b>B1</b>	01, 02, 03	135	120	114	103	<b>90</b>	80	-	-	
B2	02, 04, 05	105	94	83	73	62	51	-	-	
B3	02, 03, 06	94	85	76	67	64	50	-	-	
B4	02, 04, 06	105	94	83	73	64	51	-	-	
C1	01, 05, 84	-	-	-	81	64	54	38	22	
C2	01, 03, 86	-	-	-	75	64	53	36	19	

Grade C threshold  
*103 marks and above*

Grade D threshold  
*90 marks and above*

Syllabus grade  
**D**

## Glossary

### Adjusted mark

This is the raw mark plus any adjustments. We may adjust raw marks to ensure fairness and consistency.

### Component grade

This is an indicator of the candidate's performance on a component.

### Final mark

This is the adjusted mark multiplied by a weighting factor to give the result of the paper its correct weighting within the result of the whole syllabus.

### Raw mark

This is the mark that the examiner gave the candidate for the work on the component (or 'paper').

### Special considerations

These are post-exam adjustments made to candidates' raw marks to make any allowances for adverse circumstances.

### Syllabus grade

This is an indicator of the candidate's performance for the syllabus overall. It usually ranges from Grade A\* to Grade E (or Grade G for Cambridge IGCSE).

### Syllabus total

The total of all component final marks.

### Weighting factor

This is used to give the result of the component its correct weighting within the result of the whole syllabus.

## Notes