

4. Assessment at a glance

Cambridge IGCSE Physics candidates are awarded grades ranging from A* to G.

Candidates expected to achieve grades D, E, F or G, study the Core syllabus content only and are eligible for grades C to G.

Candidates expected to achieve grade C or higher should study the Extended syllabus content, which comprises the Core and Supplement content; these candidates are eligible for all grades from A* to G.

All candidates must enter for **three** papers.

All candidates take:		
Paper 1 Multiple choice question paper Weighted at 30% of total available marks		45 minutes
and either:		or:
Paper 2 Core theory paper Weighted at 50% of the total marks available	1 hour 15 minutes	Paper 3 Extended theory paper Weighted at 50% of the total marks available
		1 hour 15 minutes
and either:	or:	or:
Paper 4 Coursework Weighted at 20% of the total marks available	Paper 5 Practical Test Weighted at 20% of the total marks available	Paper 6 Alternative to Practical Weighted at 20% of the total marks available
	1 hour 15 minutes	1 hour

Availability

This syllabus is examined in the May/June examination series and the October/November examination series.

Detailed timetables are available from www.cie.org.uk/examsOfficers

This syllabus is available to private candidates.

Core: 1, 2, 4 or 5 or 6

Extended: 1, 3, 4 or 5 or 6

2016-2018 (New syllabus)

A2

4. Assessment at a glance

All candidates must enter for three papers.

Core candidates take:		Extended candidates take:	
<p>Paper 1 45 minutes</p> <p>A multiple-choice paper consisting of 40 items of the four-choice type.</p> <p>This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Core syllabus content.</p> <p>This paper will be weighted at 30% of the final total mark.</p>		<p>Paper 2 45 minutes</p> <p>A multiple-choice paper consisting of 40 items of the four-choice type.</p> <p>This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Extended syllabus content (Core and Supplement).</p> <p>This paper will be weighted at 30% of the final total mark.</p>	
and:		and:	
<p>Paper 3 1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>A written paper consisting of short-answer and structured questions.</p> <p>This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Core syllabus content.</p> <p>80 marks</p> <p>This paper will be weighted at 50% of the final total mark.</p>		<p>Paper 4 1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>A written paper consisting of short-answer and structured questions.</p> <p>This paper will test assessment objectives AO1 and AO2. Questions will be based on the Extended syllabus content (Core and Supplement).</p> <p>80 marks</p> <p>This paper will be weighted at 50% of the final total mark.</p>	
All candidates take:			
either:		or:	
<p>Paper 5 1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>Practical Test</p> <p>This paper will test assessment objective AO3. Questions will be based on the experimental skills in Section 7.</p> <p>The paper is structured to assess grade ranges A*–G.</p> <p>40 marks</p> <p>This paper will be weighted at 20% of the final total mark.</p>		<p>Paper 6 1 hour</p> <p>Alternative to Practical</p> <p>This paper will test assessment objective AO3. Questions will be based on the experimental skills in Section 7.</p> <p>The paper is structured to assess grade ranges A*–G.</p> <p>40 marks</p> <p>This paper will be weighted at 20% of the final total mark.</p>	

Core: 1, 3, 5 or 6

Extended 2, 4, 5 or 6.

Changes to syllabus for 2016

The syllabus has been revised. You are advised to read the whole of the syllabus before planning your teaching programme. The most significant changes are outlined below.

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

Changes to the structure of the assessment

The practical option, Paper 4: Coursework has been withdrawn.

A new Multiple Choice paper for extended candidates has been included. This paper is now Paper 2.

The papers are:

Paper 1: Multiple Choice (Core)

Paper 2: Multiple Choice (Extended)

Paper 3: Theory (Core)

Paper 4: Theory (Extended)

Paper 5: Practical Test

Paper 6: Alternative to Practical

Core candidates will now take Paper 1: Multiple Choice (Core), and Paper 3: Theory (Core) and either Paper 5: Practical Test or Paper 6: Alternative to Practical.

Extended candidates will now take Paper 2: Multiple Choice (Extended) and Paper 4: Theory (Extended) and either Paper 5: Practical Test or Paper 6: Alternative to Practical.

Paper 5: Practical test will now typically consist of 4 exercises, only 3 of which will require the use of apparatus. Candidates are expected to spend about 20 minutes on each of the practical exercises.

Changes to syllabus content

The syllabus content has been revised and updated to modernise and improve the relevance of the syllabus.

The wording of some learning outcomes has been changed for clarification.

Some material has been reordered or moved from the Core to the Supplement or from the Supplement to the Core syllabus content.

Deleted topics (2014 references)

Capacitors and transistors in Electrical circuits 4.3

Cathode rays and the oscilloscope 4.6

New topics (2016 references)

1.6 Momentum

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