

Guide to converting component marks into syllabus grades

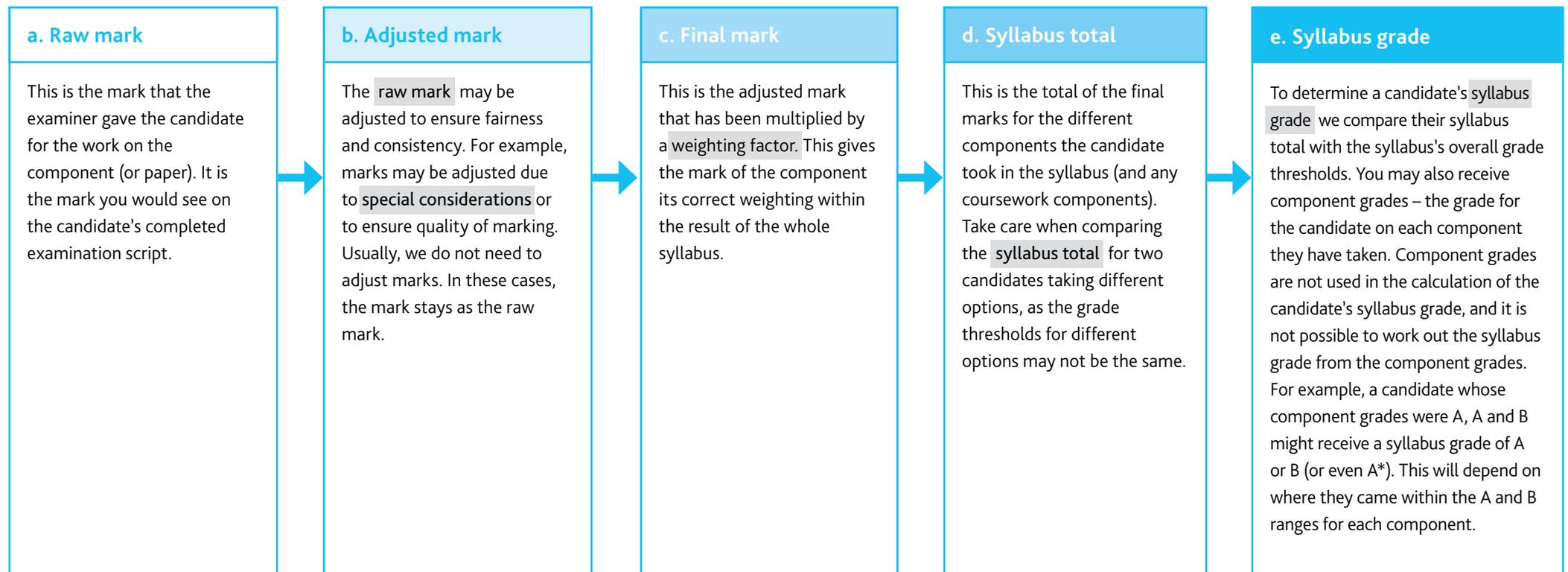
To help you understand more about how grades are determined, this guide explains:

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



Section 2: Convert mock exam raw marks into syllabus grades

Follow these three 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.

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

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.

$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{COO}^-$

→ intermediate →

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

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

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 or to compensate for different marking approaches taken by different teachers.

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

Step 2. 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.cambridgeinternational.org/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	x	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

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Series	Syllabus	Component	Maximum raw	Maximum weighted mark	Weighting factor
March 2017	0417	12	100	120	1.2
March 2017	0417	21	80	90	1.125
March 2017	0417	31	80	90	1.125
March 2017	0450	12	80	80	1
March 2017	0450	22	80	90	1
March 2017	0452	12	120	120	1
March 2017	0452	22	120	120	1
March 2017	0455	12	30	45	1.5
March 2017	0455	22	90	105	1.16667
07	01	60	60	60	1
07	02	60	60	60	1
07	32	60	60	60	1
07	81	80	80	80	1
07	82	60	60	60	1
80	03	60	60	60	1
80	12	75	100	133.333	1.33333
80	22	60	60	60	1
85	42	60	60	60	1
85	83	60	60	60	1
70	03	40	40	40	1
70	12	60	60	60	1
70	22	50	50	50	1
70	42	40	40	40	1
70	83	40	40	40	1
78	12	75	75	75	1
78	22	50	50	50	1
86	05	50	25	0.5	0.5
86	12	60	60	60	1
86	22	50	50	50	1
86	32	25	25	25	1
86	42	25	25	25	1
86	86	25	25	25	1
00	04	50	50	50	1
00	05	30	0	0	0
00	06	30	0	0	0
00	12	50	50	50	1
00	22	50	50	50	1

Syllabus component weighting factors

March 2017, June 2017 and November 2017

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

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

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June 2017

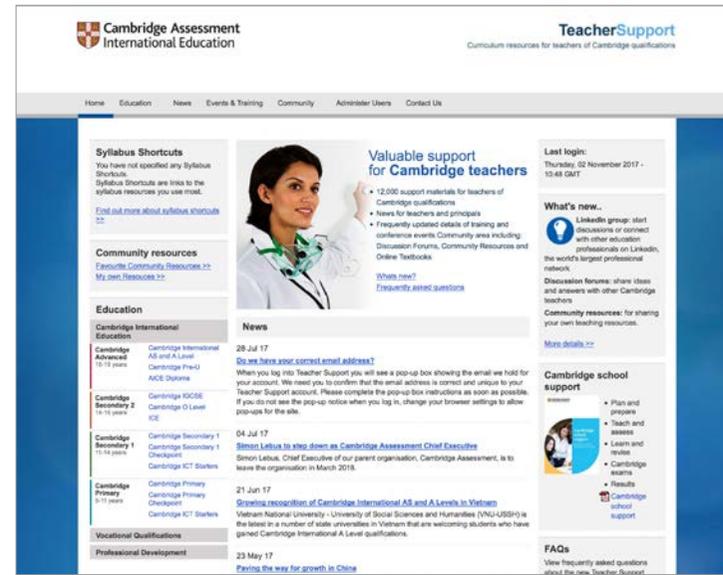
November 2017

See Step 3 on next page ▶

Step 3. 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:

- 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
- 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
B1	01, 02, 03	135	120	114	103	90	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

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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.

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