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If the learner complies to all five (5) criteria, the learner will be promoted to the next grade. PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADE 10, 11 AND 12Learners in Grade 10, 11 and 12 will be promoted if they have:40% (Level 3) or more for Home Language;Of the six remaining subjects, two (2) must be 40% (Level 3) or more and three (3) must be 30% (level 2) or more.If the learner complies to all three (3) criteria, the learner will be promoted to the next grade (Grade 10 & 11) and the Grade 12 learner will receive his National Senior Certificate. GCSEs are graded differently in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. Scotland has a different qualification system, known as National 5s you can read our guide to National 5 grade boundaries here.GCSEs in EnglandAll GCSE subjects in England have been graded 1-9 since 2020, replacing the old A-G system, with 9 being the highest grade and 1 being the lowest, U means "ungraded".Pupils need to achieve a 4 for a "standard pass" and 5 or above for a "strong pass".Grades 1-3 also count as a pass, but many colleges and sixth forms ask for a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, and some require you get at least a grade 6 or 7 in the subject you wish to study. Requirements will vary across schools and colleges, so it's always best to check and make sure. You will have to resit next year if you get a grade 3 or below in maths or English language.GCSEs in Northern IrelandIn Northern Ireland, grades are A* to G, with a new C* grade being introduced in 2019. However, some students may take exams set by English boards, in which case they will also get results with grades 9-1. A guide to grading in Northern Ireland can be found here.GCSEs in WalesWelsh GCSEs are graded A* to G. Some GCSEs are modular, which means you have assessments throughout the year, whilst other GCSEs are linear, which means you take all exams at the end of the course. Slaagverleieste Pass Requirements GCSEs are graded differently in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. 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However, some students may take exams set by English boards, in which case they will also get results with grades 9-1. A guide to grading in Northern Ireland can be found here.GCSEs in WalesWelsh GCSEs are graded A* to G. Some GCSEs are modular, which means you have assessments throughout the year, whilst other GCSEs are linear, which means you take all exams at the end of the course. Find out more about the way exams are graded using the 9 to 1 grading scales and how attainment and progress 8 aims to ensure that students are well balanced.9 to 1 gradingThe way GCSEs are graded changed in 2017. They're graded using 9 to 1, rather than A* to G. Grade 9 is the highest grade.Ofqual's GCSE grading diagrams outline the changes and also provide some useful guide for parents. Grade descriptors for 9 to 1 GCSEsOfqual's grade descriptors for the reformed GCSEs graded 9 to 1 are designed to help teachers by indicating the likely average level of performance at the mid-points of grades 2, 5 and 8. Equivalent GCSE gradesThe Government has said that grade 4 is a 'standard pass'. Grade 5 is a 'strong pass' and equivalent to a high C and low B on the old grading system. Grade 4 remains the level that students must achieve without needing to resit English and Maths post-16. Setting grade standards for GCSEsThe approach to awarding the top grades will be the same for all GCSE subjects. A formula is used which means that around 20% of all grades at 7 or above will be a grade 9. The grade 8 boundary will be equally spaced between the grade 7 and grade 9 boundaries. To carry forward the current standard, the number of grades 7, 8 and 9 awarded for an individual subject will be based on the proportion of the cohort who would have been expected to get an A or A*, had the qualification not been reformed.GCSE Combined ScienceGCSE Combined Science students will receive a double grade on a 1-7 point scale, from 9-9 to 1-1. This double award is worth two GCSEs and is made up of two equal or adjacent grades. There are 17 possible grade combinations, for example, (9-9), (9-8), (8-8), (8-7) through to (1-1). Generally, a student who would have got an average grade A across science and additional science in 2017 would get grade 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science from 2018 onwards. For additional guidance, see our GCSE Science tiering guide (99.1 KB) (99.1 KB) and our 9 to 1 grading scale guide (96.1 KB) (96.1 KB). Attainment 8 and Progress 8A attainment 8 and Progress 8 aims to show how students perform across the whole curriculum and to what extent they've improved during their time at secondary school. The Attainment 8 score measures the achievement of a pupil across eight different subjects. The Progress 8 score shows how they have improved during secondary school, compared to other pupils who were at the same level when they finished primary school. This measure is designed to encourage schools to offer a broad, well-balanced curriculum. Find out more about these measures and how they're calculated in the DfE Secondary accountability measures guidance. Download You need to meet the following requirements to pass Grade 9. Compiled by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) subject teams The General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) is a UK-based academic qualification, usually taken by students at 16 years old. With subjects ranging from the sciences to language, sports and the arts, GCSEs are a crucial part of students' educational journey. But with so many options, understanding GCSE grades and percentages can be tricky. Among your options, English and Maths GCSEs are particularly pivotal, often listed as essential requirements for post-16 education and employment. So in this article, we'll focus on the grading of GCSE English and Maths, with everything you need to know about how grades and percentages correlate. Here are GCSE grades, explained. What is the GCSE grading system? The GCSE grading system is standardised across the country, so it's fair no matter which exam board you're studying with. It underwent a significant overhaul in 2017, transitioning from traditional A*-G grades to a numerical system ranging from 9 to 1. Now, 9 is the highest grade (equivalent to a high A* under the old system), while 1 is the lowest. This new GCSE grading system aims to provide more differentiation among the highest-achieving students. Instead of just A* or A at the top level, the new 7 at GCSE roughly equates with a low A. Grade 8 is equivalent to a high A or low A*, and grade 9 represents the highest academic achievement. How do GCSE grades and percentages work? A combination of coursework, practical assessments and final exams determine GCSE grades. But final exams (taken at the end of a two-year course) generally carry the most weight. GCSE exam boards (such as AQA, Edexcel, OCR and WJEC Eduqas) set grade boundaries each year, based on exam difficulty and student performance. So this means the percentage for a particular grade varies from year to year, and subject to subject. Generally though, you'll find rough percentages align with grades. Before we go into specific details for GCSE English and Maths, here are the 2023 grade boundaries (across all subjects) for each exam board. What is the pass mark for GCSE Maths? For GCSE Maths (and all GCSE subjects), a grade 4 is considered a standard pass. This equates to a low C under the previous grading system. Across England, only 67.8% of GCSE grades were at grade 4 or above. The percentage you'll need to achieve a grade 4 varies, but it typically falls around 40-60% for GCSE Foundation Maths. For Higher Tier students, you'll only need around 10-25% to secure a grade 4 pass. Here are the 2023 pass marks for each exam board. GCSE Higher Maths: Grade 4 Boundaries AQA: 59 out of 240 marks (25%) Edexcel: 47 out of 240 marks (20%) OCR: 39 out of 300 marks (13%) WJEC Eduqas: 32 out of 240 marks (13%) GCSE Foundation Maths: Grade 4 Boundaries AQA: 158 out of 240 marks (6%) Edexcel: 147 out of 240 marks (61%) OCR: 129 out of 300 marks (43%) WJEC Eduqas: 105 out of 240 marks (44%) If you're preparing for GCSE Maths, read our complete guide to the GCSE Maths syllabus, as well as Maths GCSE exam boards and the lowdown on revision websites like Corbett Maths and Maths Genie. What is the pass mark for GCSE English? Similarly to GCSE Maths, a standard pass for GCSE English is a grade 4. Likewise, the percentage you'll need changes each year, but it ranges from about 30-50%. Here are the 2023 pass marks for GCSE English Language and English Literature. GCSE English Language: Grade 4 Boundaries AQA: 71 out of 160 marks (44%) Edexcel: 80 out of 160 marks (50%) OCR: 69 out of 160 marks (43%) WJEC Eduqas: 75 out of 200 marks (38%) GCSE English Literature: Grade 4 Boundaries AQA: 57 out of 160 marks (36%) Edexcel: 67 out of 160 marks (42%) OCR: 49 out of 160 marks (31%) WJEC Eduqas: 85 out of 200 marks (43%) Achieving a grade 4 in Maths and English is pretty important, as it's a common requirement for further education and professional jobs. Understand how your GCSE grades affect your post-16 choices (and what options are available), with our in-depth guide. If you're preparing for your GCSE English exams, don't miss our tips for exam success in English Language and how to get a grade 9 in English Literature. What GCSE grade is 40%? As you can see, it differs. A score of 40% might just be enough to secure a pass in WJEC Eduqas English Language. It might also get you there with AQA or OCR English Literature. But for English in general, a score of 40% typically falls into the grade 3 category, which is below the standard pass mark for GCSE. In Higher Maths however, a score of 40% equals a grade 5 or above. With OCR and Eduqas, it gets you a grade 6! If you've just fallen short of a grade 4 in GCSE English or Maths, the good news is you've got plenty of options. You can have your papers reviewed (known as an appeal) or resit your exams. As part of this, academic coaching is useful to help you unpack any problems. If resits aren't an option, apprenticeships or vocational qualifications like BTECs generally have more flexible entry requirements. What is 70% in GCSE grades? A score of 70% will usually get you a grade 7 or 8 at GCSE, depending on the subject and your exam boards' grade boundaries for that year. Here are the percentages you'll need to reach a grade 8 in English and Maths. Most are just above or below the 70% mark. GCSE English Language: Grade 8 Boundaries AQA: 111 out of 160 marks (69%) Edexcel: 122 out of 160 marks (76%) OCR: 118 out of 160 marks (74%) WJEC Eduqas: 132 out of 200 marks (66%) GCSE English Literature: Grade 8 Boundaries AQA: 119 out of 160 marks (74%) Edexcel: 121 out of 160 marks (76%) OCR: 118 out of 160 marks (74%) WJEC Eduqas: 141 out of 200 marks (71%) GCSE Higher Maths: Grade 8 Boundaries AQA: 186 out of 240 marks (78%) Edexcel: 174 out of 240 marks (73%) OCR: 193 out of 300 marks (64%) WJEC Eduqas: 152 out of 240 marks (63%) We should also mention that for GCSE Foundation Maths, grade 5 is the highest possible score, even if you achieve 70% or more. Here are the percentages you'll need to reach grade 5. GCSE Foundation Maths: Grade 5 Boundaries AQA: 189 out of 240 marks (79%) Edexcel: 182 out of 240 marks (76%) OCR: 178 out of 300 marks (60%) WJEC Eduqas: 133 out of 240 marks (55%) Is a grade 7 a good GCSE grade? A grade 7 is well above average, equivalent to a high A under the old grading system. It indicates strong exam performance, plenty of dedication and a firm grasp of your subject matter. Across England, only 20.7% of GCSE grades were at grade 7 or above. So if you're in this minority, well done! In Maths, only 17.5% of grades were 7 or above. For English Language, it's 16.3% and English Literature is 21%. So a grade 7 is even more impressive for English and Maths! What GCSE grade is 80%? An 80% score on your GCSE exams will generally get you at least a grade 8. In some cases, you might even get a grade 9. It represents a very high level of achievement, indicating you've excelled in your understanding and application of your subjects. In Maths, 80% would get you a grade 9 with Edexcel and Eduqas. It's probably a grade 8 with AQA and just on the cusp with OCR. For English Language, 80% is a grade 9 for AQA and Eduqas, but a grade 8 for Edexcel and OCR. In English Literature, it will secure you a grade 9 with Eduqas, but a grade 8 with all the other exam boards. Here are the scores you'll need for a grade 9 in English and Maths. GCSE English Language: Grade 9 Boundaries AQA: 121 out of 160 marks (75%) Edexcel: 131 out of 160 marks (81%) OCR: 129 out of 160 marks (81%) WJEC Eduqas: 145 out of 200 marks (73%) GCSE English Literature: Grade 9 Boundaries AQA: 135 out of 160 marks (84%) Edexcel: 132 out of 160 marks (83%) OCR: 134 out of 160 marks (84%) WJEC Eduqas: 153 out of 200 marks (77%) GCSE Higher Maths: Grade 9 Boundaries AQA: 214 out of 240 marks (89%) Edexcel: 203 out of 300 marks (68%) OCR: 242 out of 300 marks (80%) WJEC Eduqas: 187 out of 240 marks (78%) Is a 9 in GCSE 90%? Last but not least, we've reached the highest grade possible at GCSE: grade 9. Like all the other grades we've discussed, a grade 9 doesn't correspond to a fixed percentage like 90%. Instead, it represents the very highest level of academic attainment at GCSE. While the exact percentage required for a grade 9 varies each year, a score of 90% should reliably get you there! Are you looking for help with your GCSE studies? Understanding the GCSE grading system and exam percentages is crucial for students wanting to improve their academic progress. As GCSE English and Maths are core subjects, achieving good grades in these exams is particularly important. So if you need help with your GCSEs, get in touch today. Our expert team of tutors will deepen your understanding, develop effective study strategies, build confidence and help you achieve your academic goals. Image source: Getty Images GCSE students in England, Wales and Northern Ireland will receive their results on Thursday 21 August. In England, GCSEs are graded using a numerical system from 9 to 1. That changed several years ago, before which they were graded using an A-to-U letter system. Exams are graded differently in Wales and Northern Ireland. Scotland has a separate qualifications system, external to the rest of the UK, with National 5s instead of GCSEs. The 9-1 grading scheme was brought in alongside an overhaul of the curriculum in England in 2014. The rollout began in 2017 with three subjects - English language, English literature and maths - being the first to be graded in numbers. By 2020, all subjects were using the new grading system. The highest grade is 9, while 1 is the lowest, and U means "ungraded". The number scale is not directly equivalent to the old letter one. However, the two scales do meet in certain places: the bottom of grade 7 is aligned with the bottom of grade A, the bottom of grade 4 is aligned with the bottom of grade C, the bottom of grade 1 is aligned with the bottom of grade G, the number scale 9-1 is aligned with the letter scale A-U, and the number scale 9-1 is aligned with the letter scale A-U. The previous two grades of A* and A Grade boundaries dictate what the lowest mark is you can get to achieve a grade. They are decided by examiners each year. Exam boards publish grade boundaries on results day. Pupils need a 4 for a "standard pass" and 5 for a "strong pass". While grades 1-3 technically count as a pass, many sixth forms insist on a minimum number of 5s or 6s as a condition of entry for further study. The government's school league tables, external are based on the percentage of pupils who achieve a 5 or above in English and maths GCSEs. If you get a grade 3 or below in maths or English language, you will have to resit next year. Image source: Getty Images The numerical grading scheme was introduced as part of a 2014 curriculum overhaul by then-education secretary, Michael Gove. It put less emphasis on GCSE coursework than before, with grades in almost all subjects decided in final exams. The qualifications were designed to be more challenging, with exams taken after two years of study. Previously, pupils covered the syllabus through a series of modules with regular assessments throughout the course. At the time of the changes, the government argued that, externally, the new scale "recognises more clearly the achievements of high-attaining students", as the additional grades allow for greater differentiation". It also said that the move from letters to numbers would make it clear - for example to an employer - "whether a student has taken a new, more challenging GCSE, or an old reformed GCSE". Grades have changed in Northern Ireland too. In summer 2019, the CCEA introduced a new nine-category grade scale - A* to G, including a C*. Students may also get results with grades 9-1 if they take exams set by