

Cambridge IGCSE candidates in Egypt, June 2019

Schools in Egypt entering students for Cambridge IGCSE can choose between the A*-G grade set or the 9-1 grade set. We only issue results and certificates using the grade set the school chose, not the grades a student would have achieved in the alternative grade set. However, we have given schools information to help you work out what grade would have been achieved in the alternative grade set. Students can check this against the Ministry of Higher Education's equivalency levels for admissions to Egyptian universities.

How Cambridge IGCSE A*-G and 9-1 Grades relate to each other, June 2019 exam series

- All exam grades cover a range of marks. 9-1 grades are calculated in a different way to A*-G grades.
- To help people compare between grade sets, three grade thresholds are established as anchor points – these are the minimum number of marks needed to get A/7, C/4 and G/1.
- You can learn more about how A*-G and 9-1 grades relate to each other [here](#).
- A student who gains a specific number of marks in a subject graded A*-G would typically have gained the same number of marks in the same subject graded 9-1, provided they took the same combination of components. Not all A*-G syllabus options have a 9-1 equivalent.
- We only certify a student's achievements using the grade set they have entered for. We do not issue certificates for grades a student would have achieved in the alternative grade set. (See our *Cambridge Handbook*.)

Understanding top grades

- The top grades A/7 and above cover the same range of performance in A*-G as 9-1.
- A*-G has two grades (A and A*), and 9-1 has three grades (7, 8 and 9).
- This means grade 7/8 and grade 8/9 thresholds are not the same as the A*/A threshold, and that the position of A and A* grades can change relative to grades 7, 8 and 9.
- A small number of students at the top of the grade A range of marks usually receive enough marks for a grade 8.
- Grade 8 is placed halfway between grades 7 and 9. Grade 9 is calculated using the "tailored approach" – an equation used by all boards using 9-1:

$$\text{Proportion of students achieving at least grade 7 who should be awarded grade 9} = 7\% + (0.5 \times (\text{percentage of candidates awarded grade 7 or above}))$$

Example: Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry

- Two students take Cambridge IGCSE Chemistry.
- One student receives 147 marks, and the other student receives 163 marks.
- The two students entered for the A*-G version, and they take the same combination of components (option CX, in green). The threshold for grade A is 142, and 169 for grade A*. In other words, any student with 142-168 marks receives a grade A. So these two students here receive a grade A.

Option	Combination of Components	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
BX	21, 41, 51	166	140	114	89	77	66	55	44
BY	22, 42, 52	163	136	109	83	72	61	50	39
BZ	23, 43, 53	161	134	107	81	70	60	49	38
CX	21, 41, 61	169	142	115	88	76	65	54	43

Grade thresholds for A-G options, Chemistry (syllabus code 0620)*

- In the 9-1 version of the same subject with the same option CX, we set the threshold for grade 7 at 142 (the same as for grade A). We set the threshold for grade 8 at 156.
- If these students had chosen the 9-1 version, the student with 147 marks would have received a grade 7. The student with 163 marks would have received a grade 8.
- If a student had taken an A*-G option for which no 9-1 option exists – for example, not CX or BX but BY - comparisons with 9-1 grades would be less meaningful.

Option	Combination of Components	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
BX	21, 41, 51	171	155	140	123	106	89	74	59	44
CX	21, 41, 61	170	156	142	124	106	88	73	58	43
CY	22, 42, 62	167	153	140	121	102	84	69	54	40
FX	11, 31, 51	–	–	–	–	129	114	90	66	42
GX	11, 31, 61	–	–	–	–	129	113	89	65	41

Grade thresholds for 9-1 options, Chemistry (syllabus code 0971)

Example: Cambridge IGCSE Literature in English

- Two students take Cambridge IGCSE Literature in English.
- One student receives 62 marks, and the other student receives 68 marks.
- The two students entered for the A*-G version, and they take the same combination of components (option CY, in blue). The threshold for grade A is 61, and 70 for grade A*. In other words, any student with 61-69 marks receives a grade A. So these two students here receive a grade A.

Option	Combination of Components	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
AX	11, 21	67	59	51	43	37	31	23	15
AY	12, 22	61	53	45	37	32	27	21	15
AZ	13, 23	66	57	48	39	34	30	24	18
BX	11, 31, 41	74	65	56	47	41	35	27	19
BY	12, 32, 42	67	57	47	38	33	29	24	19
BZ	13, 33, 43	67	59	51	43	38	34	28	22
CX	05, 11, 31	79	69	59	50	43	36	27	18
CY	05, 12, 32	70	61	52	43	37	31	25	19

Grade thresholds for 9-1 options, Literature in English (syllabus code 0486)

- In the 9-1 version of the same subject with the same option CY, we set the threshold for grade 7 at 61 (the same as for grade A). We set the threshold for grade 8 at 67.
- Therefore, if these students had chosen the 9-1 version, the student with 61 marks would have received a grade 7, and the student with 68 marks would have received a grade 8.
- If a student had taken an A*-G option for which no 9-1 option exists – for example, not AY, BY or CY but BZ - comparisons with 9-1 grades would be less meaningful.

Option	Combination of Components	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
AY	12, 22	67	60	53	47	42	37	29	22	15
BY	12, 32, 42	71	64	57	50	44	38	31	25	19
CY	05, 12, 32	74	67	61	55	49	43	35	27	19

Grade thresholds for 9-1 options, Literature in English (syllabus code 0992)

Equivalency in Egypt

- The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education sets equivalency levels for A*-G and 9-1 – see the table below. We have advised them about how the grade sets relate to each other, and remain available to advise them further if they wish.

A* -G	Equivalency in Egyptian system	9-1	Equivalency in Egyptian system
A*	100%	9	100%
A	95%	8	100%
B	85%	7	95%
C	70%	6	88%
		5	82%
		4	70%

- Universities worldwide typically treat a grade 8 as an A, and treat grade 9 as an A*. The Egyptian system treats grade 8 AND 9 as an A* by giving them all 100%.
- However, users of our qualifications can understand more about how a student's achievements in A*-G relate to 9-1 (and vice versa) by checking a student's component marks against the grade thresholds we publish in each subject for A*-G and 9-1. Component marks are available from your Centre. Grade thresholds are available from our website [here](#).

If you have any further questions, please contact your school.