

Information Sheet

SINGAPORE-CAMBRIDGE GCE A-LEVEL CERTIFICATE

In 2006, the Ministry of Education (MOE), Singapore introduced a new A-Level curriculum and examination for Pre-University students (Year 11 to Year 12) in Singapore. The first examination of this new curriculum was held in 2007. The purpose of this information pamphlet is to help university admissions officers, prospective employers and interested parties understand the rationale for the new A-Level examination and the main features of the new A-Level certificate.

The new A-Level curriculum aims at preparing students for the rapidly changing world of the 21st century. It emphasises the breadth of study and multi-disciplinary learning that are essential in a knowledge-based economy. Students are encouraged to think critically and innovatively, and to also develop their communication skills.

Students offering this curriculum will sit the Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A-Level) Examinations. The Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB), together with the University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) are joint examining authorities for this examination. A brief description of the features of this examination and a sample of the GCE A-Level certificate can be found in the centerspread of this pamphlet.





MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

1 SINGAPORE-CAMBRIDGE GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ADVANCED LEVEL

This certifies that the candidate named below sat the Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination conducted by the Ministry of Education, Singapore, the University of Cambridge International Examinations and the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board and obtained the following results:

CANDIDATE

2 YEAR OF EXAM

SCHOOL

CENTRE/INDEX NO.

NRIC/FOREIGN
IDENTIFICATION NO.

4 SUBJECT

3 LEVEL

5 GRADE

6 EXAM AUTHORITY

CHINESE	H1	B	SINGAPORE
GENERAL PAPER	H1	C	CAMBRIDGE
ECONOMICS	H1	A	CAMBRIDGE
PHYSICS	H2	B	CAMBRIDGE
CHEMISTRY	H2	B	CAMBRIDGE
BIOLOGY	H2	A	CAMBRIDGE
PROTEOMICS	H3	DISTINCTION	CAMBRIDGE
SCIENCE RESEARCH [NUS-A*STAR-VJC]^	H3	DISTINCTION	SINGAPORE

Director-General of Education
Singapore

Vice-Chancellor
University of Cambridge

1 The new A-Level examination is known as the **Singapore-Cambridge GCE Advanced Level Examination**. The GCE A-Level certificate will be issued for every examination sitting provided that the candidate obtains at least one pass grade.

2 The year of exam indicates when the candidates sat the subjects listed. All subjects are examined in a **single sitting** at the end of candidates' Pre-University education. However, candidates must sit Project Work, and may sit Mother Tongue Language and one H1 content-based subject a year earlier and subjects will be reflected in the certificate for that year.

3 Subjects may be examined at three levels: **Higher 1 (H1), Higher 2 (H2) and Higher 3 (H3)**.

H1 is half of H2 in breadth but similar to H2 in depth. H2 is equivalent to the previous A-Level subjects.

H3 builds on H2 in knowledge and skills, and provides opportunity for in-depth study. Candidates offering H3 subjects must offer the corresponding subject at H2 Level.

4 School Candidates are required to offer three H2 and one H1 content-based subjects, at least one of which must be a **contrasting subject** which is outside their area of specialisation. In this sample, the contrasting subject is Economics.

In addition, candidates offer Mother Tongue Language (Chinese in this case), General Paper and Project Work at H1 Levels.

Able candidates may offer an additional H1 or H2 subject, or further specialise by offering up to two H3 subjects, as in this case.

5 Examination grades are awarded by CIE and SEAB.

For **H1 and H2 subjects**, the pass grades are A, B, C, D and E, with A being the highest and E the lowest grade.

Students who fail to obtain a pass in the subject may be awarded grades S (Sub-pass) or U (Ungraded).

For **H3 subjects**, the grading system uses Distinction, Merit, Pass and Ungraded.

6 For subjects examined by CIE, the examining authority will be reflected as 'Cambridge'.

For subjects examined by SEAB, the examining authority is 'Singapore'.

Local Universities and research agencies may partner with MOE to develop and examine H3 subjects.

For these subjects, the examining authority is 'Singapore'. The agency offering the subject is printed in brackets after the subject title.

CONTACT US

If you would like to find out more information about the new A-Level examination, you can access our website:

Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board

<http://www.seab.gov.sg>

Alternatively, you can contact us at:

SEAB_ContactUs_Operations@seab.gov.sg