

OxfordAQA

International GCSE

Accounting (9215)

Switching guide

Switching from Pearson Edexcel International or Cambridge International Examinations to Oxford International AQA Examination

Topic by topic comparison

OxfordAQA specification (9215)	Pearson Edexcel specification (4AC1)	Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) (0452)
Overall structure		
<p>Split into five topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sources and recording of data. 2. Verification of accounting records. 3. Development of the accounting model. 4. Preparation of financial statements. 5. Interpretation, analysis and communication of financial information. 	<p>Split into five topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The accounting environment. 2. Introduction to bookkeeping. 3. Introduction to control processes. 4. The preparation of financial statements. 5. Accounting for end of period adjustments. 	<p>Split into seven topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Types of business entity. 2. The accounting system 3. Accounting for non-current assets. 4. Reconciliation and verification. 5. Preparation of financial statements. 6. Analysis and interpretation. 7. Accounting principles and policies.

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Assessment		
<p>There are two exams which are equally weighted.</p> <p>Each paper is worth 75 marks and each is 1 hour 45 minutes in length. Students answer all questions.</p> <p>Paper 1 assesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources and recording of data • Verification of accounting records • Development of the accounting model 	<p>There are two exams.</p> <p>Paper 1: Introduction to bookkeeping and accounting</p> <p>2 hours. 100 marks. 66.6% of the total International GCSE.</p> <p>Paper 1 assesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The accounting environment • Introduction to bookkeeping • Introduction to control processes. <p>The examination comprises a mixture of multiple-choice, short- and long-answer questions, and is presented in two sections.</p> <p>Section A - comprises 10 1-mark multiple-choice questions and three short-answer questions worth 5 marks each.</p> <p>Section B - comprises five multi-part questions worth 15 marks each.</p>	<p>There are two exams.</p> <p>Paper 1: Multiple choice</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes 30% of the total International GCSE. 35 marks. Questions will be based on all syllabus content</p>

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<p>Paper 2 assesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of financial statements • Interpretation, analysis and communication of financial information <p>Each paper follows the same structure:</p> <p>Section A – 25 marks. This section has 10 multiple choice questions followed by a range of short answer questions (15 marks).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section B – 50 marks. This section has three structured questions two worth 15 marks and one worth 20 marks. 	<p>Paper 2: Financial statements</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes. 50 marks. 33.3 % of the total International GCSE.</p> <p>Paper 2 assesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preparation of financial statements • Accounting for end of period adjustments. <p>The examination comprises two multi-part questions focusing on the preparation, analysis or evaluation of financial statements.</p>	<p>Paper 2: Structured Written Paper</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes 70% of the total International GCSE. 100 marks. Questions will be based on all syllabus content.</p>

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General overview		
<p>Although all three qualifications are similar, there are some significant differences.</p> <p>OxfordAQA believe that at IGCSE students need to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of accounting principles, concepts and techniques.• Apply knowledge and understanding of accounting principles, concepts and techniques <p>Due to this there is no assessment of AO3 as the topic areas where analysis and evaluation skills can be assessed are limited and would result in questions becoming predictable. It also allows progression to AS where AO3 is assessed. Both Pearson (Edexcel) and Cambridge International assess AO3 (see below).</p> <p>The total time in the examination room for students is slightly longer with OxfordAQA. Both OxfordAQA examination papers follow the same structure and have an equal number of marks which is different from both Pearson (Edexcel) and Cambridge International.</p>		

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Assessment objectives		
<p>AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of accounting principles, concepts and techniques.</p> <p>AO2: Apply knowledge and understanding of accounting principles, concepts and techniques</p>	<p>AO1: Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of accounting terminology, principles, procedures and techniques</p> <p>AO2: Select and apply their knowledge and understanding of accounting procedures to a variety of accounting problems</p> <p>AO3: Analyse, evaluate and present information in appropriate accounting formats and communicate reasoned explanations.</p>	<p>AO1: Knowledge and understanding. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of facts, terms, principles, policies, procedures and techniques that are in the syllabus. Demonstrate understanding of knowledge through numeracy, literacy, presentation and interpretation and apply this knowledge and understanding in various accounting situations and problems.</p> <p>AO2: Analysis. Select data which is relevant to identified needs of business. Order, analyse and present information in an appropriate accounting form.</p> <p>AO3: Evaluation. Interpret and evaluate accounting information and draw reasoned conclusions.</p>
Tiering/grading		
<p>The exams are not tiered and cover grades 9–1, with 9 being the highest.</p>	<p>The exams are not tiered and cover grades 9–1, with 9 being the highest.</p>	<p>The exams are not tiered and cover grades A*-G, with A* being the highest. The exams are not tiered and cover grades A*-G, with A* being the highest.</p>

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Specifications		
Spec reference and title	Description of differences	Description of differences
<p>3.1 Sources and recording of data</p> <p>This section includes the double entry system, recording transactions from source documents in books of prime entry and ledger accounts and transferring accounts to financial statements</p>	<p>These topics are covered in Edexcel in section 2 – introduction to bookkeeping:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Business documentation 2. Books of original entry 3. Ledger accounting 	<p>Both specifications are very similar with Cambridge Internal covering sources and recording of data in 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3</p> <p>The additional transactions are included by Cambridge International in 3.4, 4.2 and 4.4</p>
<p>3.2 Verification of accounting records</p> <p>This section covers the verification of the double entry records using: a trial balance, trade payables and trade receivables ledger control accounts and bank reconciliation statements.</p>	<p>This is covered in section 3 Introduction to control processes.</p>	<p>These topics are covered in Cambridge International section 3.</p> <p>OxfordAQA do not cover the understanding the effect of correction of errors on a statement of financial position.</p>
<p>3.3. Development of the accounting model</p> <p>This section covers the general accounting concepts and their use.</p> <p>The distinction between capital and revenue expenditure and income and accounting for depreciation and disposal of noncurrent asset is covered.</p> <p>The accounting entries for irrecoverable debts in the trade receivables ledger and financial statements are also covered.</p>	<p>These topics are covered in Edexcel in sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The accounting environment: 2. Accounting concepts <p>and</p> <p>Section 2 – introduction to bookkeeping:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Capital expenditure and revenue expenditure 5. Depreciation 6. Irrecoverable debts 	<p>These topics are covered in Cambridge International sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2 The accounting system 1.3 Accounting for non-current assets 4.1 Capital and revenue expenditure and receipts 4.2 Accounting for depreciation and disposal of non-current assets 4.3 Other payables and other receivables 4.4 Irrecoverable debts and provision for doubtful debts 7 Accounting principles and policies

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	<p>7. Other receivables and payables</p> <p>OxfordAQA do not cover professional ethics at IGCSE.</p>	<p>OxfordAQA do not require candidates to be able to explain the purposes of accounting at IGCSE covered in 1.1 by Cambridge International.</p> <p>OxfordAQA do not require candidates to use the revaluation method of depreciation.</p> <p>OxfordAQA do not require candidates to be able to account for the recovery of debts written off.</p> <p>OxfordAQA do not require candidates to be able to recognise the influence of international accounting standards and to understand objectives in selecting accounting policies covered in 7.2.</p>
<p>3.4 Preparation of financial statements</p> <p>This section covers the advantages and disadvantages of sole traders, partnerships and limited companies and the preparation of their financial statements.</p> <p>Preparation of financial statements for manufacturing organisations, clubs and non-profit making organisations and organisations with incomplete records.</p>	<p>These topics are covered in Edexcel in:</p> <p>Section 1</p> <p>1. Types of business organisations</p> <p>Section 4 The preparation of financial statements:</p> <p>1. Sole trader 2. Partnership 3. Incomplete records</p>	<p>The requirement to prepare financial statements is very similar. These topics are covered in Cambridge International sections:</p> <p>4.2 Accounting for depreciation and disposal of non-current assets</p> <p>4.3 Other payables and other receivables</p> <p>4.4 Irrecoverable debts and provision for doubtful debts</p>

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	<p>4. Manufacturer</p> <p>And</p> <p>Section 5 Accounting for end of period adjustments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of accounting concepts 2. Depreciation 3. Irrecoverable debts 4. Other receivables and payables <p>Edexcel do not cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited companies • Clubs and non-profit making organisations. 	<p>4.5 Valuation of inventory</p> <p>and</p> <p>Section 5 Preparation of financial statements of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Sole trader 5.2 Partnerships 5.3 Limited companies 5.4 Clubs and societies 5.5 Manufacturing accounts 5.6 Incomplete records <p>For limited companies OxfordAQA do not require students to understand preference shares or general reserves.</p>

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<p>3.5 Interpretation, analysis and communication of financial information</p> <p>This section identifies the stakeholders who have an interest in a business organisation and how to appraise performance by using financial statements and ratios.</p> <p>The advantages and disadvantages of using computers to record accounting data.</p>	<p>These topics are covered in Edexcel in Section 1:</p> <p>1 Types of business organisation</p> <p>and</p> <p>Section 4 The preparation of financial statements</p> <p>4 The calculation and interpretation of accounting ratios</p> <p>And</p> <p>Section 1</p> <p>3 Use of technology in accounting</p> <p>Edexcel cover fewer ratios than OxfordAQA and Cambridge International.</p> <p>OxfordAQA has no AO3 requirement so students will not be required to evaluate profitability and liquidity.</p>	<p>Both specifications are similar for interpretation and analysis (Cambridge international) section 6: Analysis and interpretation. However, as OxfordAQA has no AO3 requirement students will not be required to answer evaluation questions on profitability, efficiency and liquidity.</p> <p>Cambridge International do not cover the use of computers to record accounting data.</p>