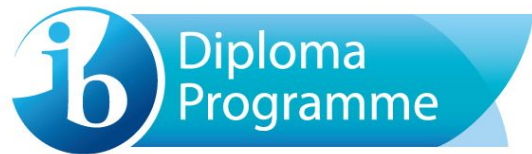


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# Class of 2026 / 10th grade

## Introduction to the IB Diploma Programme

21 November 2023



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## Activator

In groups of 3-4, answer as many of the following as you can:

1. Where did IB program initially start?
2. How many subjects can students study in the IB DP?
3. How many languages are you required to study in the IB DP?
4. The IB programmes encourage students across the world to become ..... learners.
5. What does "S" stand for in CAS?
6. Give an example of an IB learner profile characteristic.
7. What does TOK stand for?

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# Agenda

1. ISG mission statement and IB learner profile
  2. Academic pathways at ISG
  3. IB DP subject choices
  4. The core
  5. Assessment in the IB DP
  6. Post high school planning
  7. Strategies for success
  8. More information and next steps
  9. Q&A
-

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# Mission

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## MISSION STATEMENT

We are a community of adaptable learners who inspire a love of learning that extends beyond the walls of the school.

The following principles are the foundations upon which our school is built:

### Respect

We foster respect for self, others and the environment, which is based on compassion, inclusivity and a celebration of diversity. We embrace the interconnectedness of our world, while maintaining a sense of individual identity.

### Responsibility

We develop creative problem solvers who have the capacity to enact positive change, and who feel empowered to take action in their immediate and global environment.

### Reaching for Excellence

We nurture the confidence, imagination and resilience that form the pathways to individual success.

**Respect, Responsibility and Reaching for Excellence**

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# IB learner profile



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# Academic pathways at ISG

ISG High School Diploma

```
graph TD; A[ISG High School Diploma] -- "+" --> B[Full IB diploma]; A -- "+" --> C[Some IB exams]; A -- "+" --> D[No IB exams];
```

Full IB diploma

Some IB exams

No IB exams

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## Academic pathways at ISG

**All 3 pathways** (ISG High School diploma + full IB diploma, or + some IB exams, or + no IB exams) **can lead to the best-match post-secondary plans for a student.**

That's why it is important for each student to clarify long-term goals, to study university requirements carefully, and to use teacher input to reflect on most the appropriate combination of courses.

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# The ISG High School Diploma

All students at ISG are candidates for the  
“**ISG High School Diploma.**”

Graduation requirements for the class of 2024 and beyond include:

- Attendance
- Course credits
- Additional requirements
- Alternative graduation path

Full requirements available at: <https://www.isgenoa.it/key-policies/> →

School policies → Graduation Requirements Policy

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# The IB

...The International Baccalaureate aims to develop **inquiring**, **knowledgeable** and **caring** young people who help to create a better and more **peaceful** world through **intercultural** understanding and **respect**...

...Our programmes encourage students across the world to become **active**, **compassionate** and **lifelong learners** who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right....



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# IB diploma programme



- 1 - Studies in Language and Literature
- 2 - Language Acquisition
- 3 - Individuals and Societies
- 4 - Sciences
- 5 - Mathematics
- 6 - The Arts

[IB DP Curriculum](#) / [ISG IB DP Curriculum documents](#)

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# What choices must students make?

*You must choose 6 SUBJECTS total:*

- **1<sup>st</sup> subject** – a first language from group 1
- **2<sup>nd</sup> subject** – a second language, EITHER from group 1 OR group 2
- **3<sup>rd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> subjects** – one subject from EACH of the groups 3, 4, and 5
- **6<sup>th</sup> subject** – EITHER visual arts (group 6) OR any other subject from group 2, 3, or 4

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# IB subject levels

You must choose one of two **LEVELS** for each of your 6 subjects:

- 3 subjects at **higher level (HL)** - 240 teaching hours and
- 3 subjects at **standard level (SL)** - 150 teaching hours

“HL and SL courses differ in scope but are measured according to the same grade descriptors, with students expected to demonstrate a greater body of knowledge, understanding and skills at higher level” (IBO).

*Unless otherwise indicated, at ISG all HL and SL subjects are taught together.*

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# Are any limits imposed by ISG on my choices?

**Yes!** Limits may be imposed due to a variety of factors, including - but not limited to - the following:

- Number of requests for any given subject
- Scheduling conflicts
- Suitability of subject for student (e.g., math and/or language level)

*Important: Just because a given subject, or a particular scheduled combination of subjects, was ever made available at any time in the past **does not guarantee** that it will be made available in the future.*

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# IB subject possibilities - Group 1

## IB Group 1: Studies in Language and Literature

- English A Language and Literature (HL or SL)
- Italian A Literature (HL or SL)

**In Italian A: literature** the focus is directed towards developing an understanding of the techniques involved in literary criticism and promoting the ability to form independent literary judgments.

**English A: language and literature** looks more openly at the method of inquiry embodied in critical literacy and is directed towards understanding the constructed nature of meanings generated by language and the web of relationships they share with the social world. In addition to the study of literary texts, language A: language and literature allows the exploration of a wide variety of non-literary texts.

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# IB subject possibilities - Group 2

## IB Group 2: Language Acquisition

- English B (HL or SL)
- French B (HL or SL)
- German B (HL or SL)
- German *ab initio* (SL only)
- Italian B (HL or SL)
- Italian *ab initio* (SL only)
- Spanish B (HL or SL)
- Mandarin B (HL or SL)
- Mandarin *ab initio* (SL only)

### *Notes:*

1. *At ISG, language B and language ab initio are often taught together.*
2. *Language offerings will be based among other things on the number of requests.*
3. *The school will refer to its updated Language Policy and to each student's unique language profile when determining the most appropriate placements in languages for groups 1 - 2.*
4. *In the vast majority of cases, students continue the 3rd language from the MYP.*

**Language B** is a language acquisition course designed for students with some previous experience of the target language. In the language B course, students further develop their ability to communicate in the target language through the study of language, themes and texts. In doing so, they also develop conceptual understandings of how language works, as appropriate to the level of the course.

**Language ab initio** is a language acquisition course designed for students with no prior experience of the target language, or for those students with very limited previous exposure. It should be noted that language ab initio is offered at SL only. At the language ab initio level, a student develops receptive, productive and interactive communicative skills. Students learn to communicate in the target language in familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

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# Languages and levels

IB Group	Subject	HL exist?	SL exist?
1	English A: language and literature	YES	YES
1	Italian A: literature	YES	YES
2	Language B	YES	YES
2	Language <i>ab initio</i>	NO	YES



# Making language choices

<b>CEFR</b>	Basic user		Independent user		Proficient user	
	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2
<b>MYP</b>	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5/6	
<b>Level</b>	Foundation		Intermediate	Advanced	Language A / Mother tongue	
<b>IB DP language</b>	Language ab initio SL		Language B SL	Language B HL	Language A SL	Language A HL

Placement in the most appropriate level of a language is at the final discretion of the school and dependent, among other things, on the school's assessment of the student's level of language proficiency.

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## Worksheet updating ...

Write down 2 languages you might take.

At least one of those should be a “language A.”

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# IB subject possibilities - Groups 3-4

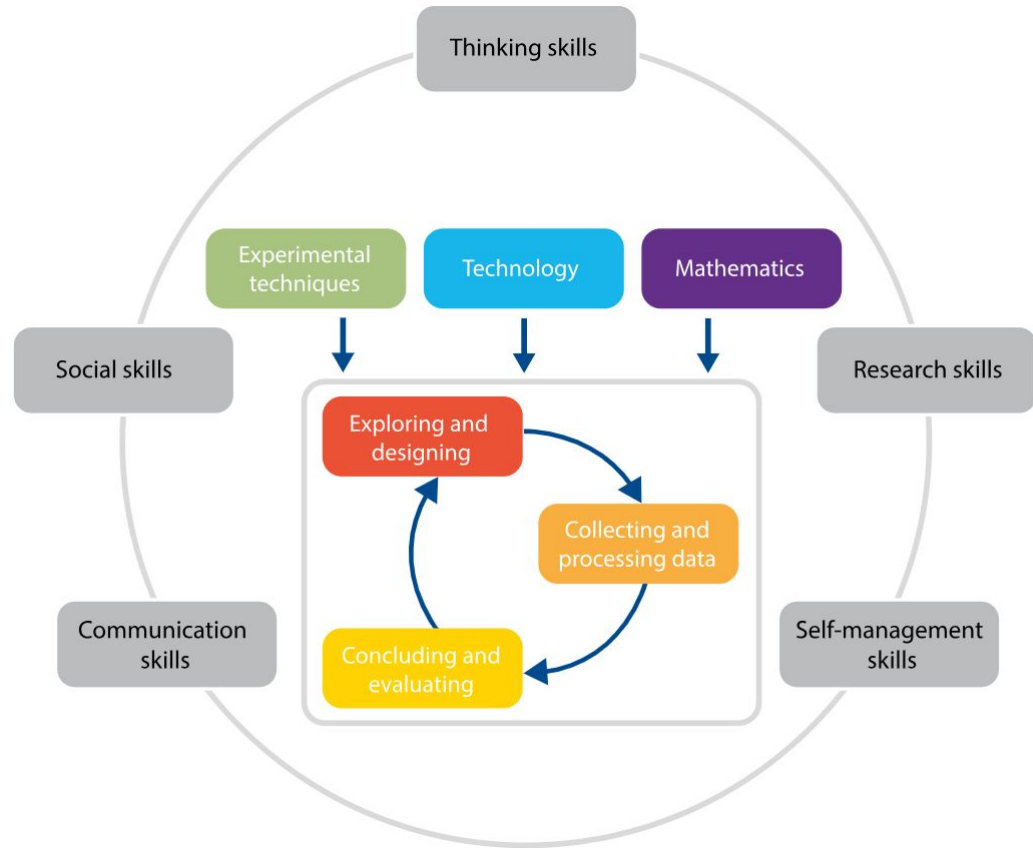
## IB Group 3: Individuals and Societies

- Economics (HL or SL)
- History (HL or SL)
- Psychology (HL or SL)

## IB Group 4: Sciences

- Biology (HL or SL)
- Chemistry (HL or SL)
- Computer science (HL or SL)
- Physics (HL or SL)

# IB Sciences: Biology Chemistry Physics



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# IB subject possibilities - Groups 5-6

## IB Group 5 – Mathematics

- Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches (HL or SL)\*
- Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation (SL only)

*\* Mathematics AA is taught separately at HL and SL*

## IB Group 6 – The Arts

- Visual Arts (HL or SL)

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# Mathematics: Analysis and approaches

**Mathematics: Analysis and approaches** emphasizes the ability to construct, communicate and justify correct mathematical arguments; develop insight into mathematical form and structure; and appreciate the links between concepts in different topic areas.

- Emphasis on algebraic methods
- Develop strong skills in mathematical thinking
- Real and abstract mathematical problem solving

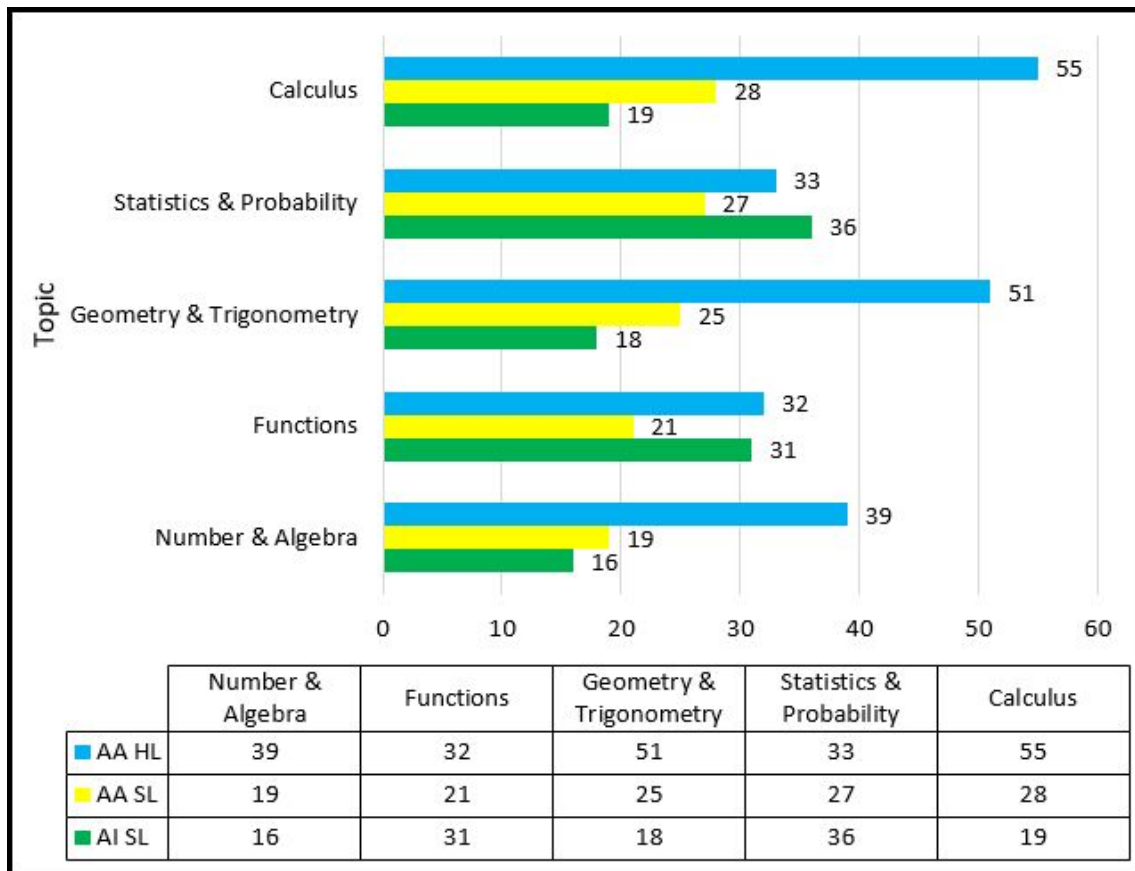
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# Mathematics: Applications and interpretation

**Mathematics: Applications and interpretation** emphasizes the meaning of mathematics in context by focusing on topics that are often used as applications or in mathematical modelling. Students are encouraged to solve real-world problems, communicate them mathematically and interpret the conclusions or generalizations.

- Emphasis on modelling and statistics
- Develop strong skills in applying mathematics to the real-world
- Real mathematical problem solving using technology

# Mathematics: Teaching hours





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# Mathematics: Assessment

	Math: Applications and Investigation	Math: Analysis and approaches	
	SL	SL	HL
<b>Paper 1</b>	90 min. / GDC 40%	90 min. / <b>no GDC</b> 40%	120 min. / <b>no GDC</b> 30%
<b>Paper 2</b>	90 min. / GDC 40%	90 min. / GDC 40%	120 min. / GDC 30%
<b>Paper 3</b>	N/A	N/A	60 min. / GDC 20%
<b>Internal Assessment</b>	Exploration 20%	Exploration 20%	

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# Mathematics: Consider future plans

“Students who are unsure about what they want to study at university should consider the right balance between the mathematics course that offers the most challenge and their ability to score well in the course.”

- students interested in engineering, physical sciences and economics take either of the higher level (HL) DP mathematics courses
- students interested specifically in pure mathematics take the Mathematics: analysis and approaches subject
- students interested in social sciences, natural sciences, business, psychology and design take either mathematics subject and check with the university
- students interested in the performing arts, creative arts, and humanities take the Mathematics: application and interpretation subject.

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# Mathematics: University requirements

See handout: “Table 1: General DP mathematics admissions criteria”

Take the most challenging course in which you can be successful.

University entrance requirements are always subject to change. The student must always verify that they meet the requirements for application.

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# Mathematics: Teacher recommendations

- **Math AA HL potential candidates:**
  - Students who consistently earn 6+ in criteria A and B in extended MYP math (better if 7-8)
  - Students who are interested in HL physics / HL computer science, possibly also HL chemistry
- **Math AA SL potential candidates:**
  - Students who consistently earn 5+ in criteria A and B in extended MYP math OR who consistently earn 6+ in criteria A and B in standard MYP math
  - Students who are interested in SL physics / maybe HL economics
- **Math AI SL potential candidates:**
  - Most other students

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## **Worksheet updating ...**

**Write down which subjects you are considering from groups 3, 4, 5, and - if applicable - group 6.**

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# The IB Core

Made up of the three required components, the DP core aims to broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills.

The three core elements are:

- [Theory of knowledge](#), in which students reflect on the nature of knowledge and on how we know what we claim to know.
- [The extended essay](#), which is an independent, self-directed piece of research, finishing with a 4,000-word paper.
- [Creativity, activity, service](#), in which students complete a project related to those three concepts.

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# How do I know what's right for me?

- Consider your strengths
- Consider your preferences
- Talk to your teachers
- Keep in mind your progress in 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grades
- **Consider your university and post-high school plans**, and in particular:
  - Are there any *required* IB subjects? (Medicine, engineering, economics)
  - Are there any IB subjects that they will *not* accept?
  - Do you want to keep the doors open for Italian universities?
- Remember to maintain balance! There are no easy IB subjects, and all of them will require effort and commitment.
- What is right for *you* and *your* future plans: the full IB diploma or several IB courses?

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# Which IB subjects do I need for university?

- **UK and some other European universities:** Courses generally require a specific overall total and certain scores in required HL subjects. See [UCAS Search](#) for more information about UK requirements.
- **USA:** Except for “technical” universities (e.g. MIT, CalTech), US colleges and universities will not express any preference for any IB subjects. The most selective universities may make distinctions based on the degree of difficulty of your subjects and levels. See the [College Board Big Future](#) and the [IB's recognition](#) websites for more information.
- **Italian universities:** Generally require IB diploma with equipollenza; may also have entrance exams.



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# Sample university requirements

## Economics, University of Bath

36 points overall and 7, 6, 6 in three Higher Level subjects including either HL Mathematics.

If you are studying Standard Level Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches we may be able to consider you. In this case the typical offer is 36 points overall and 6, 6, 6 or 7, 6, 5 in three Higher Level subjects plus 6 in the Standard Level Mathematics: Analysis & Approaches.

We do not accept Standard Level Mathematics: Applications and Interpretations for this course.

## Economics and Business Economics, University of Amsterdam

International Baccalaureate Diploma. DP courses obtained without fulfilling all graduation requirements for the IB diploma will not be accepted.

- Analysis and Approaches SL or
- Analysis and Approaches HL or
- Applications and Interpretation HL

A minimum of 4 points is highly recommended.

# Equipollenza con una maturità Italiana

	Linguistica	Scientifica	Scienze Umane
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Prima lingua</b>	Prima lingua	Prima lingua
<b>Group 2</b>	Seconda lingua	Seconda lingua	Seconda lingua
<b>Group 3</b>	Storia o Economia o Geografia o Filosofia o Psicologia o Antropologia.	Storia o Economia o Geografia o Filosofia o Psicologia o Antropologia-	<b>Storia</b> o Economia o Geografia o <b>Psicologia</b> o Antropologia o Sociologia o Pedagogia
<b>Group 4</b>	Chimica o Fisica o Biologia o Informatica o Scienze Ambientali	Fisica o Chimica o Biologia	Chimica o Fisica o Biologia o Informatica o Scienze Ambientali
<b>Group 5</b>	Matematica o Studi Matematici	<b>Matematica</b>	Matematica o Studi Matematici
<b>Group 6</b>	Terza Lingua	Chimica o Biologia o Scienze Ambientali Informatica o Latino o Arte	<b>Filosofia</b> o <b>Storia</b> o Economia o Geografia o Arte

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# How to meet Italian requirements

In all cases, you need to meet IB requirements *first*.

**IN ADDITION**, you also need to meet the following requirements:

- **Maturità linguistica:**
  - **HL** requirement: first language (language A) **HL** – preferably Italian
  - 6<sup>th</sup> subject requirement: must be a third language (SL or HL)
- **Maturità scientifica:**
  - **HL** requirement: mathematics **HL**
  - Group 4 subject requirement: must have one of biology, chemistry, or physics
  - 6<sup>th</sup> subject requirement: chemistry, biology, computer science, or visual arts (SL or HL)
- **Maturità di scienze umane:**
  - **HL** requirement: history or psychology **HL**
  - 6<sup>th</sup> subject requirement: economics, history, psychology, or visual arts (SL or HL)

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# IB DP course combination simulations

Group	Student A	Student B	Student C	Student D	Student E
1	English A LL HL	Italian A lit HL	English A LL HL	Italian A lit SL	English A LL SL
1 or 2	Italian A lit HL (IB group 1)	English A LL SL (IB group 1)	Italian A lit SL (IB group 1)	English B HL (IB group 2)	Spanish B SL (IB group 2)
3	History HL	Economics SL	History HL	Economics SL	History SL
4	Biology SL	Chemistry HL	Biology SL	Biology HL	Physics HL
5	Math AI SL	Math AI SL	Math AA SL	Math AA HL	Math AA HL
2, 3, 4, or 6	Visual Arts SL (IB group 6)	French B HL (IB group 2)	Psychology HL (IB group 3)	Chemistry HL (IB group 4)	Comp. Sci. HL (IB group 4)

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# Assessment Overview - IB DP

DP assessment procedures measure the extent to which students have mastered advanced academic skills in fulfilling these goals, for example:

- analysing and presenting information
- evaluating and constructing arguments
- solving problems creatively.

Basic skills are also assessed, including:

- retaining knowledge
- understanding key concepts
- applying standard methods.

In addition to academic skills, DP assessment encourages an international outlook and intercultural skills, wherever appropriate.

Student results are determined by performance against set standards, not by each student's position in the overall rank order.

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# Assessment Overview - IB DP

## External assessment

Examinations form the basis of the assessment for most courses. This is because of their high levels of objectivity and reliability.

They include:

- essays
- structured problems
- short-response questions
- data-response questions
- text-response questions
- case-study questions
- multiple-choice questions – though these are rarely used.

## Internal assessment

Teacher assessment is also used for most courses. This includes:

- oral work in languages
- fieldwork in geography
- laboratory work in the sciences
- investigations in mathematics
- artistic performances.

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# Assessment Overview - IB DP

All group 1 – 6 subjects graded on a scale of 1 – 7.

EE and TOK graded on a scale of A – E (A is highest).

- Groups 1 – 5 **External Assessment: 70 – 80%** of final grade
- Groups 1 – 5 **Internal Assessment: 20 – 30%** of final grade
- Group 6: External = 60%; Internal = 40%
- Strong results on the EE and TOK combined can lead to bonus points
- CAS: program completion - evidence of having met the learning objectives

Teachers will provide predicted grades where needed to universities.

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# Conditions for earning the IB diploma

1. CAS requirements have been met.
  2. The candidate's **total points are 24 or more**.
  3. There is no "N" awarded for theory of knowledge, the extended essay or for a contributing subject.
  4. There is no grade E awarded for theory of knowledge and/or the extended essay.
  5. There is no grade 1 awarded in a subject/level.
  6. There are no more than two grade 2s awarded (HL or SL).
  7. There are no more than three grade 3s or below awarded (HL or SL).
  8. The candidate has gained 12 points or more on HL subjects.
  9. The candidate has gained 9 points or more on SL subjects.
  10. The candidate has not received a penalty for academic misconduct from the Final Award Committee.
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# Assessment Overview - ISG

Students will continue to earn grades for work done at ISG.

This will form part of their 4-year high school academic transcript.

Many universities require a copy of a student's high school transcript as part of the application process and will review the progress made each semester of high school.

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# What makes a successful IB student?

According to the authors of Making the Difference: Differentiation in International Schools, what is the “critical success predictor for students entering the IB program”?:

- A. *Intelligence and hard work?*
- B. *Choice of IB subjects and luck?*
- C. *Maturity of attitude and work habits?*

***Answer ... C!!***

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# Where can I find more information?

- [IB subject briefs](#)
- [General information about the IB for parents](#)

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## Next steps

- **Deadline: Monday 4 December 2023:**  
[IB DP subject request form - class of 2026 - Initial Survey](#)
- **Between now and 16 February 2024:**
  - IB teachers will speak with 10th graders about their IB subjects and will make recommendations for math & languages.
  - Individual meetings with students and families.
- **Deadline: Friday 15 March 2024:**  
Submit final IB DP subject request form. To be sent in January.

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# Thank you and Questions

