

Your guide to Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

Humanities

Geography, History and
Global Citizenship



First teaching
September 2017

Welcome

Our new suite of Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) qualifications has been refreshed to meet the needs of you and your students, to keep the content up-to-date and relevant. Designed to understand today’s global learner, respect local contexts and ensure a global standard, the suite has been developed to align with UK government intentions to raise standards.

This guide has been designed to provide you with in-depth information about the key features of the new Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography, History and Global Citizenship specifications, available for first teaching in September 2017.

Before we go into detail about Geography, History and Global Citizenship, we wanted to give you an overview of what the changes to the Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) suite of qualifications are.



Why choose Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)?

With over 3.4 million students, in 97 countries, studying Pearson qualifications worldwide, we offer internationally recognised qualifications to schools, colleges and employers globally. We are also the UK's largest academic and vocational Awarding Organisation.

Our new suite of International GCSE (9–1) qualifications is designed to:



Be more relevant for international students

With more international content, including the addition of further international content topics and the use of local contexts where possible.



Reward outstanding academic achievement

By introducing a new 9–1 grading scale, with the new grade 9 representing a new level of attainment, you can differentiate your top performing students. There's also greater differentiation in the middle of the scale, with three grades (6, 5, and 4) rather than two grades (B and C).



Contain embedded transferable skills

Developing skills such as problem-solving and verbal reasoning, skills that are valued by universities and employers, supporting students to seamlessly progress to higher-level study.



Provide detailed exam analysis with ResultsPlus

ResultsPlus is a service unique to Pearson that provides free online in-depth mock and actual exam performance analysis, supporting teachers to plan improvements in teaching and learning, driving attainment.



Offer a wider range of teaching and learning materials, resources and training

This support includes schemes of work, Getting Started guides, exemplar materials, ExamWizard, comprehensive textbooks and interactive resources, digital services and tailored teacher training.



Support progression to further study

Developed with the help of teachers and higher-education representatives, they provide seamless progression to further study, including A levels and beyond.



Why choose Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Humanities qualifications?

We listened to feedback from all parts of the international school community, including a large number of teachers. The changes we've made will engage students and give them skills that will support progression to further study and beyond.



Clear and straightforward question papers

Our question papers are clear and provide sufficient challenge and support for students of all ability ranges. Our mark schemes are straightforward so that the assessment requirements are clear.



Reward outstanding academic achievement

To ensure that we fully align with UK government intentions to raise standards, and that international students have the same opportunity to be rewarded for outstanding academic achievement, our new qualifications use a new 9–1 grading scale, instead of the A*–G grading scale that you are used to.

- The new grade 9 represents a new level of attainment and has been introduced to differentiate your top performing students.
- The bottom of the grade 7 broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade A.
- There is also greater differentiation in the middle of the scale with three new grades (6, 5 and 4) rather than two grades (B and C).
- The bottom of the grade 4 broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade C.
- The bottom of the grade 1 broadly aligns with the bottom of the grade G.



Comparable to GCSE

We have designed our Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography, History and Global Citizenship qualifications to be of a broad equivalent standard to Pearson's regulated Edexcel GCSE qualifications. This ensures that Pearson Edexcel International GCSEs (9–1) are recognised globally and provide learners with the same progression routes.



Support progression to A Level

Our Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography, History and Global Citizenship qualifications enable successful progression to A Level and beyond. Through our world-class qualification development process, we have consulted with International Advanced Level and GCE A Level teachers, as well as university professors, to validate the appropriateness of this qualification including the content, skills and assessment structure.

At Pearson Edexcel, we provide Geography, History and Global Citizenship International GCSE (9–1) qualifications to offer teachers the choice and flexibility to select a specification that best meets the needs of their learners.

Why choose Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography?

- **Dual focus on Physical and Human Geography:** A new, two-paper model allows students to focus on Physical and Human geography. The qualification will test knowledge and understanding, as well as analytical, evaluation and fieldwork skills in both papers.
- **Engaging and accessible content:** The content in both Paper 1 (Physical Geography) and Paper 2 (Human Geography) is engaging and accessible for all students. The material is appropriate and relevant for progression, building understanding and awareness of a range of geographical concepts and skills, including fieldwork.
- **Designed for international students:** We have provided teachers with the option to localise content through the fieldwork element of the qualification.
- **Broad and deep development of students' skills:** The design of the new Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography qualification aims to extend students' knowledge by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students will:
 - develop and apply a holistic range of knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts and skills, including fieldwork
 - present and analyse data, draw conclusions and evaluate information from different sources
 - develop awareness of global issues and challenges and that, in moving towards a sustainable future, people have different views and attitudes to the environment.

At a glance: New Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) in Geography

Paper 1: Physical Geography	Paper 2: Human Geography
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● External assessment (1 hour 10 mins).● 40% of total marks.● Section A: Candidates choose two out of three questions on river environments, coastal environments, hazardous environments.● Section B: Candidates choose one out of three fieldwork-related questions on river environments, coastal environments, hazardous environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● External assessment (1 hour 45 mins).● 60% of total marks.● Section A: Candidates choose two out of three questions on economic activity and energy, rural environments, urban environments.● Section B: Candidates choose one out of three fieldwork-related questions on economic activity and energy, rural environments, urban environments.● Section C: Candidates choose one out of three questions on fragile environments and climate change, globalisation and migration, development and human welfare.

The questions are a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer, data-response and open-ended questions.

Feedback from teachers on the Geography specification

“There is a wide variety of data that candidates need to be able to read and interpret and an appropriate range of question types, including those that require judgment and evaluation in open responses.

I like the balance of thematic topics with issues based topics; there is a good range of methods which is important and fieldwork questions are well designed. There is plenty

I like, such as the requirement for detailed named case studies and the explicit mention of context (crucial in geography). I strongly endorse the levels methodology for marking certain questions.”

Professor David Lambert,
Professor of Geography Education,
Institute of Education, UK.

“All the content in the specifications is adequately assessed on through a good range of assessment descriptions. All the data-response questions and field work related questions are backed by well-sourced material in resource booklets. The range of methods will cater for differentiation in abilities and enable all learners to demonstrate the understanding, the correct knowledge and integrated quantitative and qualitative skills in all the topical questions.

With shorter duration for each paper, the exam management by candidates is less exhaustive hence more qualitative and quantitative responses are expected from both top and lower level achievers. More rigorous and in-depth responses will be quite evident given the variety of options offered in the two papers.”

Gabriel Ntumabandi, Head of Geography,
Oshwal Academy Nairobi, Kenya.

Why choose Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) History?

- **Greater choice and flexibility:** With no compulsory topics and no forbidden combinations, teachers can choose areas of study that they'll enjoy teaching and that will engage their students.
- **Designed for international students:** We've ensured that our topic choices are diverse and international, covering a broad geographical spread, with some brand new topics for those looking to teach something new.
- **Broad and deep development of students' skills:** The design of the new Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) aims to extend learners' knowledge and understanding by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students will:
 - explain, analyse and make judgements about historical events and periods studied using second order historical concepts
 - use a range of source material to comprehend, interpret and cross-refer sources
 - analyse and evaluate historical interpretations in the context of historical events studied.

At a glance: New Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) in History

Paper 1: Depth Studies	Paper 2: Investigation and Breadth Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● External assessment (1 hour 30 mins). ● 50% of total marks. ● Students must study at least two depth studies from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The French Revolution, c1780–99 - Development of a nation: unification of Italy, 1848–70 - Germany: development of dictatorship, 1918–45 - Colonial rule and the nationalist challenge in India, 1919–47 - Dictatorship and conflict in the USSR, 1924–53 - A world divided: superpower relations, 1943–72 - A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945–74 - South Africa: from union to the end of apartheid, 1948–94. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● External Assessment (1 hour 30 mins). ● 50% of total marks. ● Students must study one historical investigation from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A1 The origins and course of the First World War, 1905–18 - A2 Russia and the Soviet Union, 1905–24 - A3 The USA, 1918–41 - A4 The Vietnam Conflict, 1945–75 - A5 East Germany, 1958–90. ● Students must study one historical investigation from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - B1 America: from new nation to divided union, 1783–1877 - B2 Changes in medicine, c1848–c1948 - B3 Japan in transformation, 1853–1945 - B4 China: conflict, crisis and change, 1900–89 - B5 The changing role of international organisations: the league and the UN, 1919–c2011 - B6 The changing nature of warfare and international conflict, 1919–2011 - B7 The Middle East: conflict, crisis and change, 1917–2012.

Students will:

- learn how to use a range of source material to comprehend, interpret and cross-refer sources
- develop skills to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations in the context of historical events studied.

Feedback from teachers on the History specification

“More flexibility facilitates a greater choice of content, which allows centres to tailor KS4 work to dovetail with, or avoid, topics studied at KS5, where appropriate. The focus on modern history responds to what pupils prefer to study. This fosters enthusiasm for the subject and promotes stronger up-take at A level.

Using the same question stems for questions in Paper 1 Section A and Section B – this is really helpful. It enables the teacher to spend less time on teaching redundant ‘question technique’ and more time developing generic skills and exploring the interesting content of the options. This was an attractive feature of the current specification and it is pleasing that it has been retained.”

Stephen Mew, History Teacher at an International School.

“The new International GCSE (9–1) History specification is found to be supported by substantial and innovative teaching materials that will enable teachers to deliver the syllabus effectively in order to achieve successful learner results. The overall choice of topics as well as the content of each topic are suitable and equivalent to the desired outcome, since it combines both knowledge and skills development for candidates.

The addition of new topics broadens the international scope of the qualification. An entirely appropriate qualification, best suited to international learners and equivalent to UK GCSE. Its assessment has a positive marking structure and seems to have a broader scope. This is an advantage for those progressing to the A level.”

Marios Hadjivassiliou, History teacher,
Pascal English School, Larnaca, Cyprus.

Why choose Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Global Citizenship?

- **Designed for international students:** Students will develop an understanding of key changes affecting societies across the world, enabling them to have a global outlook and understand diverse points of view. For students who are internationally mobile, or wish to study and work in fields that require a global outlook, this qualification will support them to become global citizens, and understand how they can affect positive change.
- **Practical community action project:** Students will be required to undertake a practical community action project to enable them to apply citizenship knowledge, understanding and skills in real life. They will have the opportunity to be active citizens through tasks such as research, problem solving, advocacy and evaluation.
- **Develop useful transferable skills:** Students will have an opportunity through this qualification to explore topics that span the humanities in a social context, giving them a stronger base of knowledge and skills with which to make decisions about future specialisms. The diverse nature of the content will provide interdisciplinary skills, enabling student progression to further study across a variety of subjects.
- **Broad and deep development of students' skills:** The design of the new Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) aims to extend students' knowledge and understanding by broadening and deepening skills. For example, students will:
 - develop skills of enquiry, analysis and evaluation of different perspectives in relation to global themes and change
 - participate in local community actions and understand their impact on a range of scales linked to global change and on societal impacts
 - make interdisciplinary linkages to equip students to successfully engage in a global society.

At a glance: New Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) in Global Citizenship

Paper 1: Global Citizenship

- Weighted 100%.
- Externally assessed (2 hours, 30 mins).

This paper assesses knowledge and understanding of four key themes relating to global citizenship studies:

- Politics and Governance
- Economic Development and the Environment
- Culture and Community
- Technology.

These themes are broken down into related subject areas, which enable students to explore a wide range of issues and ideas, with a specific focus on how they interrelate with being an effective citizen.

The assessments are separated into four sections:

- **Section A:** Citizenship Community Action Project
- **Sections B & C:** Politics and Governance, Economic Development and the Environment, Culture and Community, Technology. The combinations may change year on year
- **Section D:** Synoptic assessment.

Feedback from teachers on the Global Citizenship specification

“It is comparable to other GCSEs that have been configured under the new Government led guidelines for GCSEs with a reduction in coursework and an increased move to securing subject knowledge via terminal assessment so that students build their knowledge and understanding through the two year course. It is in line with the review I have carried out for exam boards on the new Citizenship GCSE specifications in the UK.”

David Kerr, Consultant Director of Education, Citizenship Foundation, UK.

“This qualification would complement a range of social science subjects (e.g. geography, sociology, and politics) as well as history. I think it would support students undertaking any of those subject areas at A level or beyond, and enable them to make inter-disciplinary linkages.

Additionally it would enable students undertaking the natural sciences or engineering subjects at GCSE level or beyond, to think about their subject areas in a broader context. For instance the relationship between technological change and community development. This ability to think across subject areas is something that is prized at university level.

I think one of the major benefits of this qualification would be the impact that students could have within the wider community through their community action. This would be a benefit for schools as it would help to positively project their activities within their local communities.”

Dr Andrew Brooks, Lecturer in Development Geography & Undergraduate Tutor, Department of Geography, King's College London, UK.

Your guide to assessment timelines

The table below shows each assessment opportunity for Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography, History and Global Citizenship specifications*.

	May/June 2018	May/June 2019
Legacy specification: 4GE0 4GL0 4HI0	Assessment window	Not available
New specification: 4GE1 4GL1 4HI1	Not available	May/June series available (first assessment window for all centres)

*Timelines may vary for UK centres.



“It is like a global passport - it offers me worldwide recognition and I can go anywhere with my Edexcel qualifications...I would definitely recommend Edexcel.”

Nikita Jha, Edexcel International GCSE student at Sayfol International School, Malaysia.



Developing transferable skills valued by universities and employers

In recent years, universities and employers have highlighted the need for students and graduates to develop a range of transferable skills, often referred to as 'soft skills', to enable them to better meet the demands of undergraduate study and the world of work.

In fact, universities and employers consider transferable skills to be the largest skills gap overall.



1 in 6

employers have difficulty finding candidates with the skills they require¹



54%

of companies say that skills shortages impact their ability to serve their customers²



1 in 3

skills in a job posting is a "soft skill"¹



87%

of university professors do not think students have the research skills needed for degree-level study³

Redeveloping our International GCSEs has ensured we meet the needs of today's learners to support their progression to universities and employment worldwide. We've embedded transferable skills in the qualifications and resources. This means teachers help students develop these skills while they teach, rather than having to add something additional to their lessons, and students are aware of the skills they're developing. These skills are highly valued by universities and employers.

¹ *Employability - Personal & Social Capability Framework report from Pearson, 2016.*

² *Employability report from PSB for Pearson, 2016.*

³ *Bridging the Gap: Understanding the Differing Research Expectations of First-Year Students and Professors, Meg Raven, Mount Saint Vincent University, 2016.*

Supporting you at every stage

We provide an unparalleled level of support services, tools, resources and training alongside our qualifications, making teachers and students lives easier at every stage.

At a glance: support for you at every stage			
FREE resources and support	Planning, teaching & learning	Exam preparation and assessment	Results support
Getting started guide	✓		
Training events (face-to-face and online)*	✓		
Subject advisor support	✓	✓	✓
Community forums	✓	✓	✓
Schemes of work	✓		
Skills mapping	✓		
Sample assessment materials	✓	✓	
Examiner reports*	✓	✓	✓
Exemplar marked responses*	✓	✓	
Past papers*		✓	
examWizard*		✓	
Mark schemes*		✓	
ResultsPlus mock exam analysis		✓	
ResultsPlus		✓	✓
Access to Scripts service (ATS)			✓
Additional online teacher materials	✓	✓	
Additional paid for resources			
Curriculum-matched Student Books with ActiveBooks*	✓	✓	
Online Teacher Resource Pack*	✓	✓	

*Available for selected subjects

Your free subject support

- **Our subject advisors** provide fast, reliable, expert help and aim to answer all emailed questions within 48 hours and resolve 90% of issues phoned in on the first call.
For Global Citizenship and Geography, email TeachingGeography@pearson.com or call + 44 (0)20 7010 2185.
For history, email TeachingHistory@pearson.com or call + 44 (0)20 7010 2186.
- **Connect with other educators around the world**, share ideas and resources and stay up to date with the latest subject developments by joining our international schools community at community.pearsoninternationalschools.com

Offering more advanced support services and tools

Our technology capability also allows us to provide the following unique services and tools to teachers and students:



ResultsPlus provides detailed information on exam performance and a platform to view and compare student results – as individuals or as groups – across the world. It helps with planning improvements in teaching and learning. ResultsPlus Direct is a free online service that gives students a detailed breakdown and comparison of their performance in Pearson Edexcel exams, globally, to help them identify areas of improvement.



examWizard is our free exam preparation tool containing a bank of past Pearson Edexcel exam questions, mark schemes and examiners' reports for a range of subjects. It saves you time by enabling you to create your own mock exams, topic tests, homework or revision activities in minutes and links directly to associated examiner reports and mark schemes!



Access to Scripts Service (ATS) is an online service which allows access to view electronically marked exam papers, free of charge, providing enhanced transparency and support for teachers to evaluate a student's performance on particular questions in relation to what they have been taught.



Awarding reliability. We use ePEN, our unique, image-based marking system ensuring real time monitoring, quality control and reporting to ensure the highest quality marking and provision of data for tools such as ResultsPlus. Pearson Edexcel exam marking processes have been proven to produce the most reliable results. This demonstrates that our qualifications maintain the highest standards and can be relied upon to deliver to expectation.

Stay Informed

Sign up for regular eNews updates for the latest news and information on your subject quals.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcseenquiry

Feedback from teachers on our qualifications support

“One of the good features of ResultsPlus is that it provides the top ten questions that students scored poorly in, so we as the lecturers can actually identify the topics that students found difficult and can incorporate a different approach when teaching our current students.”

Dr Khong Yoke Kum, Chemistry Lecturer,
A levels Department, HELP Academy, Malaysia.

“Because of ResultsPlus, students can learn about their mistakes and rectify.”

Kanagambigai, Chief Counsellor,
Chemistry Lecturer, A levels Department,
HELP Academy, Malaysia commenting on
the ResultsPlus mocks service.



“I used the website with its course outlines, past papers, summaries of key points, revision notes and mark schemes... they provide great tips about possible exam questions and how you could answer them.”

Alexia Kattavenos, student, The Nicosia Grammar School, Cyprus

Published resources

Developed for the new Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography and History specifications, these completely new resources have progression, international relevance and support at their core.



Specifically developed for international learners, with appropriate international content.

The **new 9–1 grading scale** ensures a consistent international standard of qualification, allowing learners to progress further and achieve their full potential.

Each Student Book will provide access to an **ActiveBook**, a digital version of the Student Book, which can be accessed online, anytime, anywhere, ideal for learning beyond the classroom, revision and exam practice.

Transferable skills, needed for **progression** into higher education and employment, are embedded throughout and explicitly signposted, allowing students to understand, and engage with, the skills they're gaining.

English language focused content, checked by an EAL (English as an Additional Language) specialist, addresses the needs of EAL students with carefully graded writing to B2/C1 level (CEFR). A glossary of specialist vocabulary and English terminology is also provided.

Chapters are mapped closely to the specification to provide comprehensive coverage and are enhanced by targeted reading and writing skills sections. **Chapter summaries** state the most important points in each chapter and aid revision.

Exam Practice tests and exam-style questions cover the whole chapter and provide quick, effective feedback on students' progress and gets them accustomed to what they'll see in the exam.

Accompanying teacher support materials are available online.

You do not have to purchase our published resources, or endorsed resources from any other publisher, to deliver our qualifications. For details of all available published resources, please visit [qualifications.pearson.com](https://www.pearson.com/qualifications)

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) Geography and History

Title	ISBN
Geography	
Geography Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435184 83 4
Geography Online Teacher Resource Pack	978 0 435191 22 1
History	
A Divided Union: Civil Rights in the USA, 1945–74 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 36 7
A World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–72 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 44 2
Changes in Medicine, c1848–c1948 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 40 4
Conflict, Crisis and Change: China, 1900–1989 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 37 4
Conflict, Crisis and Change: The Middle East, 1917–2012 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 41 1
Development of Dictatorship: Germany 1918–45 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 38 1
Dictatorship and Conflict in the USSR, 1924–53 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 46 6
The Changing Role of International Organisations: the League and the UN, 1919–2011 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 39 8
The Origins and Course of the First World War, 1905–18 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 42 8
Russia and the Soviet Union 1905–24 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 43 5
The USA, 1918–41 Student Book and ActiveBook	978 0 435185 45 9

For information on our Online Teacher Resource Packs for Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) History, visit our website.

Learn more at www.pearsonglobalschools.com

“I decided to take Edexcel International GCSEs as they are accepted by institutions around the world for higher studies. The course is modern, well structured & examinations based. Thanks to my ever supporting parents, school, teachers and Edexcel for helping me to gain a world-class qualification.”

Ashfaq Faiz, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

About Pearson Edexcel

At the core of everything we do at Pearson is the desire to make a measurable impact on improving people's lives through learning. From primary school to secondary school, through to professional certification; our qualifications help educate millions of people worldwide.

Foundations for success

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) is part of the iProgress family for ages 5 to 19, which also includes iPrimary, iLowerSecondary and International A Level (IAL). We offer more than just a qualification. With professional development training that keeps teachers up-to-date with the latest educational practices, supporting materials that make planning and teaching lessons easier, and student textbooks and online resources, you'll have more time to focus on the individual development of your students' progress.

Progress to further study and beyond

Developed with the help of teachers and higher-education representatives, they provide seamless progression to further study, including A Levels and beyond.



Find out more

To find out more about our Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1) qualifications, visit our website,

quals.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcse

Or complete our online form to request a local consultant to contact you,

quals.pearson.com/edexcel-internationalgcseenquiry