



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Further adjustments
to the written examinations

Leaving Certificate, 2021

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* Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Modern Greek, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovakian, Slovenian, Swedish.

Introduction

Context of the further adjustments to the 2021 Leaving Certificate written examination papers

The Department of Education published *Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2021* in September 2020 and an updated version of that document in December. That document set out the adjusted arrangements for post-primary students taking certificate examinations in the 2020/21 school year designed to take account of the disrupted learning experienced by students during the 2019/20 school year with some contingency built in for future further disruptions to learning. In light of the extended period of school closure in 2021, resulting in further disruption to learning, it was agreed that further adjustments should be made to the written examination papers to recognise this additional impact on learning. The aim of these further adjustments is to lessen the load, as far as is reasonably possible, for candidates both in their preparation for the written examinations and also on the day of the examination.

These further adjustments have been finalised following discussions between the Department of Education, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and the State Examinations Commission. They are additional to the previous adjustments, but in some instances these further adjustments supersede the previous ones. Details of the previous adjustments are available in *Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2021*.

Scope of the further adjustments

These further adjustment apply to the written examinations only. In the case of Gaeilge and the modern foreign languages, there is no change to the aural component, and there is likewise no change to the listening component in music. There are no further adjustments to practical coursework, orals and practical performance tests. Information on the adjustments to these assessment components are set out in *Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2021* and these still apply.

Given the time of the year, late into the two years of the Leaving Certificate programme, these further adjustments aim to maintain the overall structure and layout of the examination paper so that the examination papers remain as familiar as possible to candidates. This means that no new material has been added to the papers and, for the most part, no material removed. To the greatest extent possible, all amendments to the papers were transacted by changing the instructions on the examination paper. In the case of Gaeilge no fair adjustment to paper 1 was feasible, so the adjustments have been confined to paper 2.

The adjustments as set out in this document involve, in almost all cases, providing further choice to candidates by reducing the number of questions to be answered in the examination. While this will have the effect of also reducing the time needed to complete the examination, the duration of each examination will remain unchanged, thus substantively relieving time pressures.

Mark totals and the weighting of examination components

The total mark for the examination paper in the majority of cases will be reduced and there may be a small redistribution of marks within examination papers as a result of the introduction of

further choice. However, in the case of subjects with more than one paper and subjects with practical coursework, oral, aural or listening tests, the relative weighting between the other components and the written paper will be retained. This will be achieved by re-weighting the components as required during the grading process. For example, in the case of Paper 2 in Gaeilge, which will be marked out of a total of 120 instead of 200 this year, the mark for Paper 2 will be multiplied by 1.67 (which is $200 \div 120$) before being combined in the usual way with the marks from the other components.

It is recognised that the introduction of further choice and the reduction in the number of questions to be answered means that, in many cases, the examination no longer samples across the entire syllabus or subject specification. In the case of some subjects, entire categories of skill may not be assessed at all for candidates who choose particular combinations of questions that would not be allowed in a normal year.

Impact across subjects and levels

It is important to note that, while every effort was made to ensure consistency in the level of reduction in the demand on candidates across different subjects and levels, the different structures of the examinations placed significant limits on the degree to which this could be achieved.

However, the great majority of candidates take a wide range of subjects (six to eight) and therefore, in the round, the level of benefit accruing to candidates from these changes will be broadly even across the range of subjects they take, although it is recognised that this will not be true in respect of all subject combinations.

In order to ensure as much clarity as possible to teachers and candidates, this document provides a description of what candidates will be required to answer in the examination and draws attention to how it differs from what is usually required. The amended instructions as they will appear on the examination paper are also provided.

Leaving Certificate Applied written examinations

The arrangement set out for Leaving Certificate Applied candidates in the document *Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2021* was that there would be no adjustment to the final examination papers, but that a scaling, by a factor of 1.15 would instead be applied to the mark awarded. It gave the example that, if a candidate is awarded a mark of 200 out of a total of 300 marks, this mark would be scaled by 1.15 so that the mark awarded for grading purposes would be 230 marks out of 300.

It remains the case that no adjustments will be made to these examination papers, but the scaling factor to be applied is now being increased from 1.15 to 1.25. In the case of the above example where a candidate is awarded 200 marks out of a total of 300, this will now be scaled by 1.25 so that the mark awarded for grading purposes will be 250 marks out of 300.

As previously noted, the mark will be capped at the examination total, so that a candidate whose scaled mark exceeds the maximum mark available will be awarded the maximum mark available.

Accounting

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

In 2021, both examination papers will, as usual, have three Sections.

In Section 1 candidates will be required to answer either Question 1 **or** any two of the remaining questions in the Section. In 2021, there will be an additional alternative Question 1 (Sole/Company/Manufacturing) to provide additional choice within Question 1.

There will be three questions, as usual, in Section 2. In 2021, Question 5 will be based on Interpretation of Accounts. Candidates will be required to answer only one question from this section; this is one question less than in previous years.

In 2021, there will be no change to Section 3; there will be two questions as usual and candidates will be required to answer one question.

Given that candidates will answer one question less in Section 2, the total mark allocation for both Higher Level and Ordinary Level will be reduced from 400 marks to 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

Section 1: Financial Accounting (120 marks).

This section has four questions (numbers 1 - 4). The first question (A or B) carries 120 marks and the remaining three questions carry 60 marks each.

Candidates should answer either QUESTION 1 (A or B) only **OR** answer any **TWO** of the remaining three questions in this section.

Section 2: Financial Accounting (100 marks).

This section has three questions (numbers 5 - 7). Each question carries 100 marks.

Candidates should answer any **ONE** question.

Section 3: Management Accounting (80 marks).

This section has two questions (numbers 8 and 9). Each question carries 80 marks.

Candidates should answer **ONE** of these questions.

Agricultural Science

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

The 2021 examination papers have two sections: Section A and Section B. Increased choice is provided through the inclusion of additional questions, combined with a reduced number of questions which candidates are required to complete.

Section A: There are twelve short questions (Q1-Q12), with additional internal choice in four of these questions. Candidates are required to answer any **seven** questions from Section A. Each question carries 10 marks. The total for Section A is 70 marks.

Section B: There are six long questions (Q13-Q18), with internal choice in two questions. Candidates are required to answer any **three** questions from Section B. Each question carries 50 marks. The total for Section B is 150 marks.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 is 220 marks, instead of the usual 300 mark total.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021.

Section A	Answer any seven questions from this section. There is internal choice in four questions. Each question carries 10 marks.
Section B	Answer any three questions from this section. There is internal choice in two questions. Each question carries 50 marks

Ancient Greek

Higher Level

Candidates are required to answer all four questions. There is no change to Question 1.

In Question 2, candidates will be required to translate into English one passage instead of the usual two passages.

There will be increased internal choice in Question 3 and the amount of prescribed text to be studied has been reduced. There are no further adjustments to this question.

In Question 4, there will be no Section A and Section B in 2021. Candidates will be required to answer any two questions, instead of the usual three, from a list of eight questions.

The total mark allocation for the paper will be 280 marks instead of the usual 400 total marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Question 1	Answer Section A or Section B.	50 marks
Question 2	Translate into English one passage from either Section A or Section B.	90 marks
Question 3	Answer either Section A or Section B.	80 marks
Question 4	Answer any two questions.	60 marks

Ordinary Level

Candidates are required to answer all three questions. In 2021, in Question 1, candidates will be required to translate into English one passage instead of the usual two passages.

There will be increased internal choice in Question 2 and the amount of prescribed text to be studied has been reduced. There are no further adjustments to this question.

In Question 3, there will be no Section A and Section B in 2021. Candidates will be required to answer any two questions instead of the usual three, from a list of eight questions.

The total mark allocation for the paper will be 265 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Question 1	Translate into English any one of the passages A, B, C, D. (All passages in this question carry equal marks.)	105 marks
Question 2	Translate into English and answer any four questions.	100 marks
Question 3	Answer any two questions. (Each question carries thirty marks.)	60 marks

Applied Mathematics

Higher Level

Candidates are usually required to answer six questions from ten. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer five questions from ten. Each question carries 50 marks, as in previous years.

The total mark allocation for the paper will be 250 marks, instead of the usual 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Five questions to be answered. All questions carry equal marks.

Ordinary Level

Candidates are usually required to answer six questions from nine. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer five questions from nine. Each question carries 50 marks, as in previous years.

The total mark allocation for the paper will be 250 marks, instead of the usual 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Five questions to be answered. All questions carry equal marks.

Arabic

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

Usually, candidates taking the examinations in Leaving Certificate Arabic are required to answer on **all** four parts on the examination paper: Part 1, Reading Comprehension, Part 2, Literature, Part 3, Language Usage/Grammar and Part 4, Continuous Writing/Composition.

Candidates taking Leaving Certificate Arabic examinations in 2021 will now be required to answer on fewer parts of the examination than in previous years.

In the 2021 examination, candidates will be required to answer on **Part 2 Literature** and **Part Four Continuous Writing/Composition**. Candidates may choose to answer on either **Part 1, Reading Comprehension OR Part 3, Language Usage/Grammar**.

In **Part 2, Literature**, as usual, an extract from one prescribed text in each of the following areas: The Koran, Classical Arabic verse and Modern Arabic prose will appear on the examination paper. This year, candidates will be able to choose from a greater selection of questions in this part of the examination than heretofore. In 2021, there will be one additional question on each of these extracts. Therefore, three questions will be set in each of the following areas: The Koran, Classical Arabic verse and Modern Arabic prose. Candidates will be required to answer **any four** of the nine questions in Part 2 of the examination.

In **Part 4, Continuous Writing/Composition**, candidates will, as usual, be required to write one composition from the choice of six provided. As a result of these changes, Leaving Certificate Arabic in 2021 will be marked out of a total of 320 marks, instead of the 400 mark total of previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

- Answer **either Part 1**, Reading Comprehension **OR Part 3**, Language Usage/Grammar.
- Answer any **four** of the nine questions set in **Part 2**, Literature.
- Write **one** of the listed compositions in **Part 4**, Continuous Writing/Composition

Art - History and Appreciation of Art

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

Candidates are usually required to answer three questions, choosing one question from each of the three sections: one question from Section I (Art in Ireland), one question from Section II (European Art 1,000 AD - Present), and one question from Section III (Appreciation of Art). In 2021, candidates will be required to answer a total of **two** questions. Each question must be selected from a different section.

The total mark allocation for each examination paper in 2021 is 100 marks, instead of the usual 150 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher level and Ordinary level, 2021.

You must attempt TWO questions. Each question must be from a different section.

- Section I (Art in Ireland)
- Section II (European Art 1,000 AD – Present)
- Section III (Appreciation of Art).

All questions carry equal marks (50).

Biology

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

The 2021 examination papers will have three sections: Section A, Section B and Section C. Increased choice is provided with additional questions provided in the examination paper, combined with a reduced number of questions for candidates to complete.

Section A – There are seven short questions (Q1–Q7). Candidates are required to answer any **four** questions from this section. Each question carries 20 marks. The total for Section A is 80 marks.

Section B – There are three mandatory practical questions (Q8–Q10). Candidates are required to answer any **one** question from this section. Each question will align with a specific unit(s) within the syllabus as follows: Q8 will have practical activities from unit 1, sub-unit 2.1 and 2.5; Q9 will have practical activities from sub-unit 2.2 and Q10 will have practical activities from unit 3. Each question carries 30 marks. The total for Section B is 30 marks.

Section C – There are seven long questions (Q11–Q17), including additional internal choice in two questions (Q16 and Q17). Candidates are required to answer any **three** questions from this section. In relation to both Q16 and Q17, an additional part (d) has been added to each question, giving candidates a choice of four question parts (a), (b), (c), (d). If a candidate chooses to answer these questions they will be required to answer any two parts in each of these two questions.

Each question carries 60 marks. The total for Section C is 180 marks.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 is 290 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level 2021.

Section A	Answer any four questions from this section. Each question carries 20 marks.
Section B	Answer any one question from this section. Each question carries 30 marks.
Section C	Answer any three questions from this section. Each question carries 60 marks.

Business

Higher Level

The 2021 examination paper will have three sections as usual.

In Section 1, candidates are usually required to answer 8 short answer questions out of 10. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 4 out of a total of 12 short answer questions.

In Section 2, as always, candidates are required to answer the Applied Business Question (ABQ).

In Section 3, candidates are usually required to answer 4 out of 7 questions – choosing one question from Part 1, two questions from Part 2 and one other question from Part 1 or Part 2. In 2021, there will be an additional question added to Part 1 to provide more choice. Candidates will be required to answer 3 out of 8 questions. They will be required to choose one question from Part 1, one question from Part 2 and the third question from either Part 1 or Part 2.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher level, 2021

CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO ANSWER:

(A) Four questions from SECTION 1

AND

(B) The Applied Business Question in SECTION 2

AND

(C) Three questions from SECTION 3 as follows:

One question from Part 1,

One question from Part 2

And One other question from either Part 1 or Part 2.

Ordinary Level

The 2021 examination paper will have two sections as usual.

In Section 1, candidates are usually required to answer 10 short answer questions out of 15. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 5 out of 15 short answer questions, at 15 marks each. Total mark allocation will be 75 marks.

In Section 2, candidates are usually required to answer 4 questions out of 8 - choosing one question from Part 1, two questions from Part 2 and one other question from Part 1 or Part 2. In 2021, there will be an additional question added to Part 1 to provide more choice. Candidates will be required to answer 3 out of 9 questions. Candidates will be required to choose one question from Part 1 and one question from Part 2 and the third question from either Part 1 or Part 2.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO ANSWER:

(A) Five questions from SECTION 1

AND

(B) Three questions from SECTION 2 as follows:

One question from Part 1 and

One question from Part 2 and

One other question from either Part 1 or Part 2.

Chemistry

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

In 2021, both Higher Level and Ordinary Level Chemistry papers have an additional part in Question 4 and an additional part in Question 11.

In each paper, the first 11 parts of Question 4, i.e. parts (a) to (k), will be based on the Core syllabus and part (l) will be based on the Options. Candidates attempting Question 4 will be required to answer 8 of these parts as usual.

In each paper, the first three parts of Question 11, i.e. parts (a), (b) and (c), will be based on the Core syllabus and part (d) will be based on the Options. Candidates attempting Question 11 will be required to answer 2 of these parts.

Apart from these changes to Question 4 and to Question 11, the structures of the Higher Level and Ordinary Level Chemistry papers are unchanged; as usual in each paper, Section A will have three questions based on the mandatory experiments and there will be eight other questions in Section B. All questions carry equal marks (50 marks).

Candidates in 2021 are required to answer **any** 6 questions; candidates in 2021 are **not** required to answer at least two questions from Section A, which has been the usual requirement.

The total mark allocation for the 2021 examination paper is 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

Answer any **six** questions.

All questions carry equal marks (50).

Classical Studies

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

For 2021, there is a reduction in the number of questions which candidates will be required to attempt. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer four questions instead of six questions.

For 2021, it remains a requirement that candidates must select a topic from each of the three groups on the paper. Candidates are required to answer one question from each of these chosen topics. Candidates are free to choose their fourth question from any topic in any group on the examination paper.

Each question carries 50 marks. The total mark allocation for the examination at both Higher Level and Ordinary Level in 2021 is 200 marks, instead of the usual 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

There are questions on TEN TOPICS.

The topics are divided into three groups as follows:

Group I: Topics 1 to 4.

Group II: Topics 5 to 7.

Group III: Topics 8 to 10.

*Candidates are required to answer **FOUR QUESTIONS**. Candidates must answer **one** question from a Topic **in each** of the three Groups. Candidates can then select their remaining question from any Topic in any Group.*

Computer Science

Higher Level

In Section A candidates are required to answer short answer questions. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 6 of 12 questions, rather than all 12.

In Section B candidates are required to answer long questions. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 1 of 3 questions, rather than all 3.

In Section C candidates are required to carry out programming tasks on an electronic device. There will be one question in this section in 2021. Part (b) of the question, an open-ended programming task, has been removed from the examination paper. Candidates will now only answer questions on a single Python file. There is no choice in this section of the paper.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 110 marks, instead of the usual 210 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Section A	Short Answer Questions	Attempt any six questions	30 marks
		All questions carry equal marks	
Section B	Long Questions	Attempt any one question	30 marks
Section C	Programming	One question	50 marks
	Answer all question parts		

Ordinary Level

In Section A candidates are required to answer short answer questions. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 6 of 12 questions, rather than all 12.

In Section B candidates are required to answer long questions. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 1 of 3 questions, rather than all 3.

In Section C candidates are required to carry out programming tasks on an electronic device. Part (b) of the question, an open-ended programming task, has been removed from the examination paper for 2021. Candidates will now only answer questions on a single Python file. There is no choice in this section of the paper.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 110 marks, instead of the usual 210 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary level, 2021

Section A	Short Answer Questions	Attempt any six questions	30 marks
		All questions carry equal marks	
Section B	Long Questions	Attempt any one question	30 marks
Section C	Programming	One question	50 marks
	Answer all question parts		

Construction Studies

Higher Level

Candidates are usually required to answer a compulsory Question 1 and any other four other questions from the remaining nine.

In 2021, candidates will be required to answer any four of the ten questions. Question 1 will not be compulsory in 2021.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 240 marks, instead of the usual 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Answer any four questions

All questions carry equal marks.

Ordinary Level

Candidates are usually required to answer a compulsory Question 1 and any three other questions from the remaining eight.

In 2021, candidates will be required to answer any three questions from nine. Question 1 will not be compulsory in 2021.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 150 marks, instead of the usual 200 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary level, 2021

Answer any three questions

All questions carry equal marks.

Design and Communication Graphics

Higher Level

Section A; Core - Short Questions, will remain unchanged from previous years. Candidates will be required to answer 3 of the 4 questions presented. All questions in Section A carry 20 marks.

In **Section B; Core - Long Questions** and **Section C; Applied Graphics - Long Questions**, candidates will be required to answer any two of the eight questions presented across the two sections. Therefore, candidates may choose to answer two questions from *Section B Core*, or two questions from *Section C Applied Graphics* or one question from each section.

All questions in Section B and Section C will be marked out of 60 marks each in 2021, instead of the usual 45 marks allocated to each question.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 will be 180 marks instead of the 240 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Section A: Core short-answer questions

60 marks

Attempt any 3 questions

All questions carry equal marks

Section B: Core AND Section C: Applied Graphics

120 marks

Attempt any TWO questions from the eight questions presented in Section B and Section C.

All questions carry equal marks.

Ordinary Level

Section A; Core - Short Questions, will remain unchanged from previous years. Candidates will be required to answer 3 of the 4 questions presented. All questions in Section A carry 20 marks.

In **Section B; Core - Long Questions** and **Section C; Applied Graphics - Long Questions**, candidates will be required to answer any two of the eight questions presented across the two sections. Therefore, candidates may choose to answer two questions from *Section B Core*, or two questions from *Section C Applied Graphics* or one question from each section.

All questions in Section B and Section C will be marked out of 60 marks each in 2021, instead of the usual 45 marks allocated to each question.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 will be 180 marks instead of the 240 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Section A: Core short-answer questions**60 marks**

Attempt any 3 questions

All questions carry equal marks

Section B: Core AND Section C: Applied Graphics**120 marks**

Attempt any TWO questions from the eight questions presented in Section B and Section C.

All questions carry equal marks

Economics

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

In Section A, candidates are usually required to answer 8 short answer questions with internal choice in two of the questions. In 2021, to provide additional choice, there will be 10 short answer questions with internal choice in three of the questions. Candidates will be required to answer 5 out of 10 short answer questions. The total mark allocation for Section A will be 75 marks.

In 2021 the short answer questions will carry 15 marks per question.

In Section B, candidates are usually required to answer 4 out of 5 extended response questions. In 2021, one additional question has been included to provide more choice. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer 3 out of 6 extended response questions with a total mark allocation of 225 marks (75 marks per question).

The total mark allocation for both the Higher Level and Ordinary Level Papers will be 300 marks each, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO ANSWER:

Section A:	Short Answer Questions	Answer 5 out of 10	75 marks
Section B:	Extended Response Questions	Answer 3 out of 6	225 marks

Engineering

Higher Level

In 2021, Question 1 will not be a compulsory question. Question 1 Section A and Question 1, Section B have each become standalone questions. There are now nine questions on the examination paper. All questions carry equal marks (50 marks). In order to provide further choice, candidates are now required to answer any five from nine questions.

In 2021, the total marks for the paper will be 250 marks, instead of the 300 marks total of previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

1. Answer any FIVE questions.
2. All questions carry equal marks.

Ordinary Level

In 2021 there will be seven questions on the examination paper with all questions carrying equal marks (50 marks). Candidates will be required to answer any three questions from these seven questions.

As advised previously, Question 1 will no longer be compulsory but if a candidate chooses to answer Question 1 they will be required to answer any 8 parts from 13. This question will not be divided into Section A and Section B as in previous year.

In 2021, the total mark allocation for the paper will be 150 marks, instead of the 200 marks total of previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary level, 2021

- Answer any THREE questions.
- All questions carry equal marks.

English

Higher Level, Paper 1

In **Section I, Comprehending**, instead of answering a Question A on one text and a Question B on another text, as is usually required, this year candidates will be required to answer only **ONE** question in Section I. They must answer **either** one Question A **OR** one Question B on **ONE** text in this section. All questions in Section I will be marked out of 40 marks in 2021, instead of the usual 50 marks allocated to each question.

Section II, Composing, will remain unchanged. Candidates will still be required to write one composition from the usual list of seven. The composition will be marked, as usual, out of 100 marks.

As a result of these changes, Paper 1 in 2021 will be marked out of a total of 140 marks, instead of the 200 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level Paper 1, 2021

- Both sections of this paper (COMPREHENDING and COMPOSING) must be attempted.
- Section I, Comprehending, carries 40 marks.
- Section II, Composing, carries 100 marks.

Section I – Comprehending

- Two Questions, A and B, follow each text.
- Candidates must answer **ONE** question in Section I: **either one** Question A **OR one** Question B on **ONE** text.

Section II – Composing

- Candidates must write on **one** of the compositions 1 – 7.

Higher Level, Paper 2

As with Paper 1, candidates will also be required to answer fewer questions than heretofore, with more choice available in Section II, The Comparative Study and in Section III, Poetry.

This year, instead of answering on all three of the sections that appear on this examination paper, candidates may choose to answer the required number of questions in any **two** of the following sections:

- Section I, The Single Text (70 marks)
- Section II, The Comparative Study (70 marks)
- Section III, Poetry (70 marks)

N.B. In order to facilitate the level of choice laid out above, candidates will **not** be required to answer on Shakespearean Drama in 2021, although of course they may choose to do so.

The usual choice of questions will be offered in **Section I, The Single Text**, for candidates who opt to answer on this section. As in previous years, candidates will answer one of the two questions set on the particular single text which they have studied.

In **Section II, The Comparative Study**, a wider choice of modes will be offered, with questions on all three modes prescribed for study in 2021 appearing on the examination paper. Candidates who choose to answer a two-part comparative question – marked out of 30 and 40 marks respectively – must, as usual, refer to **one** text in answer to Part (a) and to **two other** texts in answer to Part (b). Candidates who elect to answer a question marked out of a single block of 70 marks in the 2021 examination must refer to **at least two** texts in their response. Candidates who choose to answer a question on a text in Section I, The Single Text, as usual, may not refer to the same text should they choose to answer a question in Section II, The Comparative Study.

Candidates who choose to answer on Section III, **Poetry**, will be required, as usual, to answer on both Part A, Unseen Poetry and Part B, Prescribed Poetry. There will be additional choice in Part B, with questions on five of the poets prescribed for study in 2021 rather than on four poets as was the norm.

As a result of these changes, Paper 2, like Paper I, will be marked in 2021 out of a total of 140 marks, instead of the usual 200 mark total.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level Paper 2, 2021

Candidates must attempt the required number of questions in **any TWO** of the following sections:

- SECTION I – The Single Text
- SECTION II – The Comparative Study
- SECTION III – Poetry, Part A, Unseen Poetry and Part B, Prescribed Poetry
- All sections carry 70 marks.

N.B. Candidates are **NOT** required to answer on Shakespearean Drama.

Ordinary Level, Paper 1

In **Section I, Comprehending**, instead of answering a Question A on one text and a Question B on another text, as usually happens, this year candidates will be required to answer only **ONE** question in Section I. They must answer **either one** Question A **OR** one Question B on **ONE** text in this section. All of the questions in Section I will be marked out of 40 marks in 2021, instead of the usual 50 marks allocated to each question.

Section II, Composing, will remain unchanged. Candidates will still be required to write one composition from the usual list of seven. The composition will be marked, as usual, out of 100 marks.

As a result of these changes, Paper 1 in 2021 will be marked out of a total of 140 marks, instead of the 200 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level Paper 1, 2021

- Both sections of this paper (COMPREHENDING and COMPOSING) must be attempted.
- Section I, Comprehending, carries 40 marks.
- Section II, Composing, carries 100 marks.

Section I – Comprehending

- Two Questions, A and B, follow each text.
- Candidates must answer **ONE** question in Section I, **either one** Question A **OR one** Question B on **ONE** text.

Section II – Composing

- Candidates must write on **one** of the compositions 1 – 7.

Ordinary Level, Paper 2

In 2021, instead of answering on all three of the sections that appear on this examination paper, candidates may choose to answer the required number of questions in any **two** of the following sections:

- Section I, The Single Text (70 marks)
- Section II, The Comparative Study (70 marks)
- Section III, Poetry (70 marks).

Candidates who opt to answer on **Section I, The Single Text**, will have a greater choice of questions than in previous years. This will be achieved by combining the usually compulsory questions – Question 1 and Question 2 – into one three-part question, two parts marked out of 10 marks, with the third part marked out of 15 marks. The questions usually labelled Parts (i), (ii) and (iii) of Question 3 will appear as three individual 35 mark questions. This means that in 2021, candidates will be presented with a choice of four questions in this section. They will be required to answer **any two** of the four questions set on the particular single text which they have studied.

In **Section II, The Comparative Study**, a wider choice of modes will be offered than was available previously, with questions on all three modes prescribed for study in 2021 appearing on the examination paper. As usual, candidates will be required to answer one question on one comparative mode. The internal choice within each mode will remain the same. All questions will continue to be marked out of 70 marks, broken down into three parts as in previous years. The required level of reference to studied texts remains the same as before. Candidates who choose to answer a question on a text in Section I, The Single Text, as usual, may not refer to the same text should they choose to answer a question in Section II, The Comparative Study.

Candidates who choose to answer on Section III, **Poetry**, will be required, as usual, to answer on both Part A, Unseen Poetry and Part B, Prescribed Poetry. There will be additional choice in Part B, with questions on six of the poems prescribed for study in 2021 rather than on four poems, as was the norm. One of the two extra poems will be drawn from the poetry common with the Higher Level course. The second poem added to the examination paper will be from the list of poems prescribed for study at Ordinary Level only.

As a result of these changes, Paper 2, like Paper 1, will be marked in 2021 out of a total of 140 marks, instead of the usual 200 mark total.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level Paper 2, 2021

Candidates must attempt the required number of questions in any **TWO** of the following sections:

- SECTION I – The Single Text
- SECTION II – The Comparative Study
- SECTION III – Poetry, Part A, Unseen Poetry and Part B, Prescribed Poetry.
- All sections carry 70 marks.

French

Higher Level

There will be no change to the Listening Comprehension test in 2021.

In **Section A, Reading Comprehensions**, instead of answering both reading comprehensions 1 and 2, as is usually required, this year, candidates will be required to answer questions on only **ONE** reading comprehension in this section. Candidates will do either Reading Comprehension 1 or Reading Comprehension 2. This question will be marked out of 60 marks.

In **Section B, Written production**, as previously notified, candidates will be required to answer **TWO** questions: question 1, (a) or (b) or (c) and one other question from questions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. (There will be no internal choice in questions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6). Question 1 will be marked out of 40 marks and questions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be marked out of 30 marks, (not 60 and 40 respectively as previously notified).

The total mark allocation for the written paper, excluding the aural component, will be 130 marks, instead of the usual 220 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Section A – Reading Comprehension (Compréhension Écrite)	60 marks
Answer ONE question, either Reading Comprehension 1 or Reading Comprehension 2.	
Section B – Written Production (Production Écrite)	70 marks
Answer TWO questions – Question 1 (a or b or c) and ONE of Questions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.	

Ordinary Level

There will be no change to the Listening Comprehension test in 2021.

In **Section A, Reading Comprehensions**, instead of answering all four questions, as is usually required, this year, candidates will be required to answer questions on only **TWO** Reading Comprehensions in this section. Candidates will do either Reading Comprehension 1 or 2 (where they answer in English or in Irish) and either Reading Comprehension 3 or 4 (where they answer in French). Each Reading Comprehension will be marked out of 40 marks.

In **Section B, Written production**, as previously notified, candidates will be required to answer **TWO** questions from questions 1, 2 and 3. Each question has an internal choice of (a) or (b). Question 1(a) – cloze test is unchanged. Questions 1(b) – Form – candidates will answer parts one to five and **three** of the four remaining parts. Questions 2(a), 2(b) 3(a) and 3(b) internal choice will be introduced – Candidates will respond to **three** of the **five** points in the question(s) they choose. Each question will be marked out of 30 marks.

The total mark allocation for the written paper, excluding the aural component, will be 140 marks, instead of the usual 220 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Section A – Reading Comprehension (Compréhension Écrite)	80 marks
Answer TWO questions. Answer Reading Comprehension question 1 or 2 AND answer Reading Comprehension question 3 or 4.	
Section B – Written Production (Production Écrite)	60 marks
Answer TWO questions from questions 1, 2 and 3	

Geography

Higher Level

In Part One, candidates are required to answer short answer questions. In 2021, as in previous years, there are 12 questions in Part One, of which candidates will be required to answer 10.

In Part Two, candidates were previously required to answer four questions, choosing one question from each of the four sections, Physical, Regional, Electives, and Options. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer a total of three questions in Part Two. Candidates may not choose all three questions from the same section, however candidates may choose two questions from the same section. All questions will carry equal marks, 80 marks each.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 320 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Part One: Short-Answer Questions	80 marks
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Attempt any TEN questions.

All questions carry equal marks.

Part Two: Structured and Essay questions	240 marks
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You must attempt THREE questions. You are not allowed to **choose** all three questions from the same section. You may **choose** two questions from the same section if you wish.

- Section 1: Patterns and Processes in the Physical Environment (Questions 1-3)
- Section 2: Regional Geography (Questions 4-6)
- Section 3: Electives (Questions 7-12)
- Section 4: Options (Questions 13-24)

All questions carry equal marks.

Ordinary Level

In Part One, candidates are required to answer short answer questions. In 2021, as in previous years, there are 12 questions of which candidates are required answer 10.

In Part Two candidates were usually required to answer three questions, choosing one question from each of the three sections, Physical, Regional, and Electives. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer a total of two questions. Each question must be from a different section. All questions will carry equal marks, 100 marks each.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Part One: Short-Answer Questions	100 marks
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Attempt any TEN questions.
All questions carry equal marks.

Part Two: Structured questions	200 marks
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You must attempt TWO questions. Each question must be from a different section.

- Section 1: Patterns and Processes in the Physical Environment (Questions 1-3)
- Section 2: Regional Geography (Questions 4-6)
- Section 3: Electives (Questions 7-12)

All questions carry equal marks.

German

Higher Level

There will be no change to the aural examination in 2021.

Candidates will answer *Text I* (Reading Comprehension 1) **AND** *Angewandte Grammatik* (Applied Grammar) (Question 1 **or** Question 2).

OR

Candidates will answer *Text II* (Reading Comprehension 2) **AND** *Äußerung zum Thema* (short written piece) (Option (a) **or** (b)).

AND

All candidates will be required to answer either option (a) **or** (b) in the *Schriftliche Produktion* (Written Production) section.

The earlier assessment adjustments remain in place, i.e. where candidates choose Reading Comprehension 1, they will be asked (in the final question) to find one to two examples of tone/theme in the text and not the usual three to four examples. In addition, candidates will be required to answer either Question 1 **OR** Question 2 in the Applied Grammar section (*Angewandte Grammatik*).

In the *Schriftliche Produktion* (Written Production) section:

Option (a): candidates will be offered five topic areas – to answer four.

Option (b): candidates will be offered six bullet points – to answer five.

In 2021 the written paper will be marked out of a total of 135 marks, instead of the 220 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

The following instructions will appear on the inside front cover:

Answer *Text I* (Reading Comprehension 1)(60 marks) **AND** *Angewandte Grammatik* (Applied Grammar) (Question 1 **or** Question 2) (25 marks).

OR

Answer *Text II* (Reading Comprehension 2)(60 marks) **AND** *Äußerung zum Thema* (short written piece) (Option (a) **or** (b)) (25 marks).

AND

Answer either option (a) **or** (b) in the *Schriftliche Produktion* (Written Production) section (50 marks).

Ordinary Level

There will be no change to the aural examination in 2021.

Candidates will answer *Text I* (Reading Comprehension 1) **AND** *Angewandte Grammatik* (Applied Grammar) (Question 1 **or** Question 2).

OR

Candidates will answer *Text II* (Reading Comprehension 2) **AND** *Äußerung zum Thema* (short written piece) (Option **(a)** or **(b)**).

AND

All candidates will be required to answer *Text III* (Reading Comprehension 3)

AND

All candidates will be required to answer Option **(a)** or **(b)** in the *Schriftliche Produktion* (Written Production) section.

The earlier assessment adjustments remain in place i.e. where candidates choose Reading Comprehension 1 with Applied Grammar, candidates will be required to answer either Question 1 **OR** Question 2 in the Applied Grammar section.

In the *Schriftliche Produktion* (Written Production) section:

Option (a): candidates will be offered six points (excluding the closing sentence), candidates to answer five. Candidates to complete letter with a suitable closing sentence.

Option (b): candidates will write three sentences on two of the pictures and two sentences on three of the pictures [Pictures 2-6]. Candidates will be free to choose the pictures on which they will write the two/three sentences.

In 2021 the written paper will be marked out of a total of 145 marks, instead of the 220 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary level, 2021

The following instructions will appear on the inside front cover:

Answer *Text I* (Reading Comprehension 1)(60 marks) **AND** *Angewandte Grammatik* (Applied Grammar) (Question 1 **or** Question 2) (15 marks).

OR

Answer *Text II* (Reading Comprehension 2)(60 marks) **AND** *Äußerung zum Thema* (short written piece) (Option (a) **or** (b)) (15 marks).

AND

Answer *Text III* (Reading Comprehension 3)(40 Marks)

AND

Answer either option **(a)** or **(b)** in the *Schriftliche Produktion* (Written Production) section (30 marks).

Additionally, the following instruction will appear in option (b) in the Schriftliche Produktion section:

Give a short account of pictures 2-6. Write 3 sentences on 2 of the pictures and 2 sentences on 3 of the pictures (total 12 sentences).

Hebrew Studies

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

In 2021, at both Higher Level and Ordinary Level, instead of answering one of two questions on all four of the sections (A, B, C and D), candidates will be required to answer one of two questions from any three of the four sections in these papers (A or B or C or D). Usually, candidates are required to answer all of the three parts within each question. In 2021, in order to provide further choice, candidates will be required to answer *either* part a, *or* b and part c, of the questions chosen from three of the four sections in Ordinary Level and Higher Level papers.

This will reduce the total marks for the examination papers at both levels from 400 to 225 marks for 2021.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

Three sections A, B, C or D must be answered.
Each section carries 75 marks.

Instructions to candidates on each section (A, B, C and D), Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

SECTION

Candidates must answer *either* part (a) *or* (b) and part (c) on one passage only.

1. — (*passage — prescribed Hebrew text*)

- (a) 25 marks.
- or (b) 25 marks.
- (c) 50 marks.

or

2. — (*passage — prescribed Hebrew text*)

- (a) 25 marks.
- or (b) 25 marks.
- (c) 50 marks.

History

Higher Level

Section 1: Candidates should answer Section 1 (the Documents Based Question) as normal.

Sections 2 and 3: Instead of writing three essays, the candidate are required to write **two** essays. The essay questions should be chosen from two different topics from the eleven topics in Section 2 (Ireland) and Section 3 (Europe and the wider world).

The total mark allocation for the paper is 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the **Later Modern** examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

- **Section 1 (100 marks)**

Documents-based question (Europe and the wider world: Topic 6)

Answer all parts of this section.

- **Section 2 and Section 3 (200 marks)**

Ireland: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, *and*

Europe and the wider world: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Answer **one** question from each of **two** topics.

Note: a corresponding set of instructions will appear on the **Early Modern** paper in which Europe and the wider world: Topic 2 is specified for Section 1.

Ordinary Level

Section 1: Candidates should answer Section 1 (the Documents Based Question) as normal.

Sections 2 and 3: Candidates are required to answer parts A, B and C from **two** topics of the eleven topics in Sections 2 (Ireland) and 3 (Europe and the wider world).

Because of this further change, the extra “Part A” questions - which were to appear on page 15 of the 2021 examination paper - are no longer required and will therefore not appear on the 2021 paper.

The total mark allocation for the paper is 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the **Later Modern** examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

- **Section 1 (100 marks)**

Documents-based question (Europe and the wider world: Topic 6)

Answer all parts of this section.

- **Section 2 and Section 3 (200 marks)**

Ireland: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, *and*

Europe and the wider world: Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Answer parts A, B and C from each of **two** topics.

Note: a corresponding set of instructions will appear on the **Early Modern** paper in which Europe and the wider world: Topic 2 is specified for Section 1.

Home Economics – Scientific and Social

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

In **Section A**, candidates are usually required to answer ten questions out of twelve questions. In 2021 candidates will be required to answer five questions out of fourteen. Each question will carry six marks. The total mark allocation for this section will therefore be 30 marks instead of the usual 60 marks.

In **Section B**, candidates will be required, as usual, to answer Question 1. In 2021, candidates will only be required to answer one question from questions 2, 3, 4 and 5. The total mark allocation for Section B will therefore be 130 marks instead of the usual 180 marks.

In **Section C**, as previously indicated, in order to provide additional choice, there will be an additional question (Question 4) which will examine the core areas of the syllabus. Question 4 will have the same layout, format and choice as electives 1, 2 and 3; to answer part (a) and either part (b) or (c).

In 2021 candidates will be required to answer one elective question in Section C as usual, or candidates may opt to choose to answer the additional question on the core material instead. As usual and in 2021, Section C carries 40 or 80 marks.

The total mark allocation for the 2021 examination paper will be 200 or 240 marks, instead of the usual 280 or 320 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

Section A:

30 marks

Answer any five questions in this section.

Each question carries 6 marks.

Section B:

130 marks

Answer Question 1 and one question from questions 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Question 1 is worth 80 marks.

Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 are worth 50 marks each.

Section C:

40 or 80 marks

Answer one elective question or question 4 (core) to include part (a) and part (b) or (c).

If you submitted *Textiles, Fashion and Design* coursework for examination, you may only attempt Question 2 from this section.

Electives 1 and 3 are worth 80 marks each.

Elective 2 is worth 40 marks.

Question 4 (core) is worth 80 marks.

Irish

Higher Level, Paper I

There will be no change to Paper 1 in 2021.

- Listening Comprehension (60 marks)
- Composing (100 marks)

Higher Level, Paper II

There are four questions on Paper II every year. Candidates answer the four questions as follows:
Question 1: Reading Comprehension A (50 marks) **and** Reading Comprehension B (50 marks)

Every year, candidates answer **three** questions in the literature part of the paper:

Question 2: **One** question on Prescribed or Optional Prose (30 marks)

Question 3: **One** question on Prescribed or Optional Poetry (30 marks)

Question 4: **One** question on Additional Literature (40 marks)

Question 1: Reading Comprehension

In 2021, candidates will have the choice between Reading Comprehension A and Reading Comprehension B. Candidates will answer Reading Comprehension A (50 marks) **or** Reading Comprehension B (50 marks). The layout of the extracts and the number of questions in each reading comprehension extract will be the same as every year. Question 1: Reading Comprehension carries 50 marks in total in 2021.

Question 2: Prescribed or Optional Prose and Question 3: Prescribed or Optional Poetry

In 2021, candidates will have the choice between Question 2 (Prescribed or Optional Prose) and Question 3 (Prescribed or Optional Poetry). There will be no change to the allocation of marks. Question 2 and Question 3 carry equal marks, 30 marks each.

Question 4: Additional Literature

Candidates must answer Question 4 (Additional Literature). Question 4 carries 40 marks as usual, in 2021.

In 2021, candidates must answer **two** literature questions, as follows:

Question **2** (30 marks) **or** Question **3** (30 marks)

and

Question **4** (40 marks)

In 2021, the total mark for the literature part of the paper will be changed from 100 marks to 70 marks. In relation to Question 2 and Question 3, there will be additional internal choices on the examination paper.

Question 2: Prescribed or Optional Prose

There will be **two** questions 2A (a) and 2A (b) on two prescribed works and **two** questions 2B (a) and 2B (b) on two optional works on the examination paper.

If candidates choose Question 2, they must answer **one** question from their choice of, 2A (a) or 2A (b) or **one** question from their choice of, 2B (a) or 2B (b).

Question 3: Prescribed or Optional Poetry

There will be **two** questions 3A (a) and 3A (b) on two prescribed poems and **two** questions 3B (a) and 3B (b) on two optional poems on the examination paper.

If candidates choose Question 3, they must answer **one** question from their choice of, 3A (a) or 3A (b) or **one** question from their choice of, 3B (a) or 3B (b).

Question 4: Additional Literature

Candidates must answer **one** question (A, B, C, D, E or F) on one work from the six prescribed works on the examination paper. There will be no change on the layout of the questions in the case of Question 4.

Paper II carries 200 marks in total every year. As a result of the changes on Paper II in 2021, it will carry 120 marks in total.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level in 2021

Page 3: Instructions to candidates

Candidates must answer **three** questions, as follows:

Question 1 (50 marks)

and

Question 2 (30 marks) **or** Question 3 (30 marks)

and

Question 4 (40 marks)

Question 1: Answer Reading Comprehension A (50 marks) **or** Reading Comprehension B (50 marks).

Answer Question 2 (30 marks) **or** Question 3 (30 marks).

Question 2: Answer Question 2A (30 marks) **or** Question 2B (30 marks).

2A. Prescribed Prose

Answer **one** question from your choice of, 2A (a) **or** 2A (b).

2B. Optional Prose

Answer **one** question from your choice of, 2B (a) **or** 2B (b).

OR

Question 3: Answer Question 3A (30 marks) **or** Question 3B (30 marks).

3A. Prescribed Poetry

Answer **one** question from your choice of, 3A (a) **or** 3A (b).

3B. Optional Poetry

Answer **one** question from your choice of, 3B (a) **or** 3B (b).

Question 4: Additional Literature (40 marks)

Answer your choice of **one** question from Question 4 (A, B, C, D, E **or** F).

Ordinary Level, Paper I

There will be no change to Paper 1 in 2021.

- Listening Comprehension (60 marks)
- Composing (100 marks)

Ordinary Level, Paper II

There are three questions on Paper II every year. Candidates answer the three questions as follows:

Question 1: Reading Comprehension A (50 marks) **and** Reading Comprehension B (50 marks)

Every year, candidates answer **four** questions in the literature part of the paper:

Question 2: **Two** questions on Prescribed or Optional Prose (50 marks)

Question 3: **Two** questions on Prescribed or Optional Poetry (50 marks)

In 2021, there will be no change to Question 1: Reading Comprehension, but there will be fewer literature questions to be answered by the candidates.

Question 1: Reading Comprehension

In 2021, candidates must answer Reading Comprehension A (50 marks) **and** Reading Comprehension B (50 marks), as they do every year. There will be no change to the layout of the extracts and the number of questions in each reading comprehension extract.

Literature Section

Question 2: (Prescribed or Optional Prose) and Question 3: (Prescribed or Optional Poetry)

Candidates must answer **two** questions from the Literature Section in 2021.

Candidates can answer the **two** literature questions, as follows:

Two questions on Prescribed or Optional Prose

or

Two questions on Prescribed or Optional Poetry

or

One question on Prescribed or Optional Prose **and one** question on Prescribed or Optional Poetry

In relation to Question 2 and Question 3, there will be additional internal choices on the examination paper in 2021.

Question 2: Prescribed or Optional Prose

In 2021, there will be **three** questions 2A (a), 2A (b) and 2A (c) on three prescribed works and **three** questions 2B (a), 2B (b) and 2B (c) on three optional works on the examination paper.

Question 3: Prescribed or Optional Poetry

In 2021, there will be **three** questions 3A (a), 3A (b) and 3A (c) on three prescribed poems and **three** questions 3B (a), 3B (b) and 3B (c) on three optional poems on the examination paper.

There will be no change on the administration of marks in the various questions. Each literature question carries 25 marks each. As candidates will only answer two literature questions, the total mark on the literature part of Paper II will change from 100 marks to 50 marks.

Every year, Paper II carries 200 marks in total. As a result of the changes in Paper II in 2021, it will carry 150 marks in total.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level in 2021](#)

Page 3: Instructions to candidates

Answer Question 1 and **two** questions from the Literature Section (Question 2 and Question 3).

Question 1: Reading Comprehension (100 marks)

Answer Reading Comprehension A (50 marks) **and** Reading Comprehension B (50 marks).

Literature Section (50 marks)

Question 2: 2A. Prescribed Prose

2B. Optional Prose

Question 3: 3A. Prescribed Poetry

3B. Optional Poetry

Answer **two** questions from this section.

You must answer **two** questions, as follows:

Two questions from 2A **or Two** questions from 2B

or

Two questions from 3A **or Two** questions from 3B

or

One question from 2A **and One** question from 3A **or** from 3B

or

One question from 2B **and One** question from 3A **or** from 3B

All questions carry equal marks (25 marks).

Foundation Level

The Foundation Level Paper includes Listening Comprehension, Reading Comprehension and Written Expression.

Part I: Listening Comprehension (120 marks)

There will be no change to the listening comprehension examination in 2021.

Part II: Section I – Reading Comprehension (150 marks)

There will be no change to the reading comprehension questions in 2021.

Question 1 (40 marks): Matching

Question 2 (50 marks): 2 questions to be answered from (a), (b) or (c)

Question 3 (60 marks): 2 questions to be answered from (a), (b) or (c)

Part II: Section II – Written Expression

Question 4 and Question 5: Writing tasks

There are two questions in this part of the examination paper: Question 4 and Question 5. Candidates undertake two writing tasks every year – one task from a choice of two tasks in Question 4 and one task from a choice of two tasks in Question 5.

In 2021, candidates will undertake **one** writing task from Question 4 **or** Question 5.

The candidate will answer **one** task from the **four** following tasks:

4 (a), 4 (b), 5 (a) **or** 5 (b)

The layout of the various sections will be as they are every year:

4 (a) and **4 (b)** A notice **or** a Written answer to an invitation **or** a Letter **or** an Application form (CV)

5 (a) A continuous account based on one picture

5 (b) An account based on 4 pictures with guidance vocabulary

There will be a change to the administration of marks in the case of this section.

Part II: Section II – Written Expression carries 90 marks in total every year: Question 4 (40 marks) and Question 5 (50 marks). In 2021, Part II: Section II – Written Expression will carry 45 marks. All of the questions - 4 (a), 4 (b), 5 (a) and 5 (b) – will carry equal marks, 45 marks each.

Every year, the Foundation Paper carries 360 marks in total. As a result of changes to the paper in 2021, the paper will carry 315 marks in total in 2021.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Foundation Level, in 2021

Page 2

Part I: Listening Comprehension – (120 marks)

Answer **every** question.

Page 5

Part II: Section I – READING COMPREHENSION (150 marks)

Answer **every** question (**1, 2** and **3**).

Page 13

Part II: Section II – Written Expression (45 marks)

Answer **one** question from the following **four** questions:

4 (a), 4 (b), 5 (a) **or** 5 (b)

Question 4 (a) is on page 14.

Question 4 (b) is on page 15.

Question 5 (a) is on page 16.

Question 5 (b) is on page 17.

Each question carries 45 marks.

Italian

Higher Level

There will be no change to the Listening Comprehension test.

In 2021, in order to provide further choice, on the written paper, there will be a choice between answering Section A or Section B. Therefore, candidates may choose to answer either **Section A - Journalistic passage** or **Section B - Literary section**, instead of having to do both. Each section will still have a mark allocation of 60 marks.

Section C remains as per the initial adjustments. That is, there will be an internal choice of three questions from five within Question 1, and, in Question 2, an extended range of ten points from which the candidates must choose six to develop in the guided composition.

The total mark allocation for the written paper, excluding the aural component, will be 160 marks, instead of the usual 220 marks.

Instructions on examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

The following instruction will appear immediately above the heading for Section A, the Reading Comprehension.

Answer **either** Section A **or** Section B

The following instruction will appear immediately below the heading for Section C, Writing.

Answer all 3 questions

The following instruction will appear immediately below the question heading for Question 1 in Section C, which will contain 5 parts, labelled (a), (b), (c), (d), (e):

Answer any **three** of parts (a), (b), (c), (d), (e).

The following instruction will appear within Question 2 in Section C:

Use any **six** of the following ideas.

Ordinary Level

There will be no change to the Listening Comprehension test.

In 2021, in order to provide further choice, on the written paper, there will be a choice offered in **Section A**. In this section candidates usually have to answer both Question 1 **and** Question 2, this year they will only have to answer one or other of them. Each question will have a mark allocation of 40 marks.

There will be no change to **Section B**.

Section C remains as per the initial adjustments. That is, there will be an internal choice of four questions from six within Question 1, and, in Question 2, there will be an internal choice of fifteen questions from seventeen. That is, in Question 2, part A, there will be an internal choice of eight questions from nine, and, in Question 2, part B, there will be an internal choice of seven questions from eight.

The total mark allocation for the written paper, excluding the aural component, will be 180 marks, instead of the usual 220 marks.

Instructions on examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

The following instruction will appear immediately below the heading for Section A, the Reading Comprehension.

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2

The following instruction will appear immediately below the heading for Section B, the Publicity Pieces/Advertisements

Answer all 5 questions

The following instruction will appear immediately below the heading for Section C, Writing.

Answer all 3 questions.

The following instruction will appear immediately below the question heading for Question 1 in Section C,

In both (a) and (b), write on any **four** of the following six ideas.

Question 2, in Section C, will be divided into 2 parts - A. and B. The following instructions will appear within the boxes labelled A. and B.

A: Answer any **eight** of the following nine questions.

B: Answer any **seven** of the following eight questions.

Japanese

Higher Level

There will be no adjustments made to the aural examination in 2021.

The adjustments initially announced in Japanese, detailed below, will remain as previously stated. In addition to these, candidates will now have a choice between answering Question 4 and Question 5. The mark allocation will be changed for these two questions so that both questions now carry an equal 50 marks.

There are no changes in Question 1 and candidates are required to answer all question parts.

In Question 2 candidates will answer all of Part A, 10 of 12 questions in Part B and 10 of 12 questions in Part C.

In Question 3 candidates will answer all of Part A and Part B. Candidates will be required to answer 5 of 6 questions in Part C and 10 of 12 in Part D.

In addition to the above previously announced amendments, candidates will be required to answer either Question 4 or Question 5, with both questions now carrying an equal 50 marks.

The total mark allocation for the paper will be 170 marks, instead of the usual 220 marks.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021](#)

Answer Questions 1-3. Answer either Question 4 or Question 5.

Ordinary Level

There will be no adjustments made to the aural examination.

The adjustments initially announced in Japanese, detailed below, will remain as previously stated. In addition, candidates will now have a choice between answering Question 4 and Question 5. The mark allocation will be changed for these two questions so that both questions now carry an equal 40 marks.

There are no changes in Question 1 and candidates are required to answer all question parts.

In Question 2 candidates will be required to answer all of Part A, 5 of 6 questions in Part B, 10 of 13 questions in Part C and all of Part D.

In Question 3, Part A candidates will be required to answer questions 1-4, in part 5 they will answer 3 of 4 questions. In Question 3, Part B candidates will answer 10 of 12 questions.

In addition to the above previously announced amendments, candidates will be required to answer either Question 4 or Question 5 with both now carrying an equal 40 marks.

The total mark allocation for the paper in 2021 will be 160 marks, instead of the usual 200 marks.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021](#)

Answer Questions 1-3. Answer either Question 4 or Question 5.

Latin

Ordinary Level and Higher Level

The following changes apply to both Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

As previously announced, the prescribed material is reduced as follows:

Livy Book XXX: Chapters 29 to 37 will not be examined in 2021.

Virgil Aeneid II: Lines 343 to 506 will not be examined in 2021.

These reductions in prescribed material continue to apply in 2021.

In 2021, in Question 1 candidates will be required to answer Section A or Section B, as is usually the case. The mark allocation for Q. 1 remains at 75 marks.

In Question 2 candidates are usually required to answer one of two parts from Section A, and one of two parts from Section B. In 2021 candidates will be required to answer just one part from either Section A or Section B. The mark allocation for Q. 2 will therefore be 65 marks.

In Question 3, as previously notified, the extracts presented in Q. 3. A (i) and Q. 3. B (i) will be taken from the reduced prescribed material, and the scope of questioning and answering in Q. 3. A (ii) and Q. 3. B (ii) will also be restricted to the reduced prescribed material. The mark allocation for Q. 3 remains at 90 marks.

Candidates are usually required to answer all three parts of Question 4. In 2021 candidates will be required to answer any two of the three parts of this question. The mark allocation for Q. 4 will therefore be 20 marks.

In Question 5 candidates are usually required to answer one part from Section A, one part from Section B, and a third part from either Section A or Section B. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer any two of the six parts from Sections A and B. The mark allocation for Q. 5 will therefore be 50 marks.

The total mark allocation for both the Ordinary Level paper and the Higher Level paper in 2021 will be 300 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

All questions 1 – 5 are to be attempted.

Question 1. Answer either Section A **or** Section B.

Question 2. Translate any **one** of the passages A, B, C, D.

Question 3. Answer either Section A **or** Section B.

Question 4. Answer any **two** of parts (i), (ii), (iii).

Question 5. Answer **any two** of the six parts in this question.

Mathematics

Higher Level and Ordinary Level, Paper 1 and Paper 2

Both Paper 1 and Paper 2 at both levels usually contain two sections and candidates are required to answer all of the questions in each section.

For all four of these papers in 2021, Section A will contain six questions, as usual. However, the marks per question in Section A will increase to 30 marks, and candidates will be required to answer any four of the questions. In Section B, there will be four questions at 50 marks each, and candidates will be required to answer any two of them.

The total mark allocation for each examination paper will be 220 marks, instead of the usual 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, Paper 1 and Paper 2, 2021

There are **two** sections in this examination paper.

Section A	Concepts and Skills	120 marks	6 questions
Section B	Contexts and Applications	100 marks	4 questions

Answer questions as follows:

- any four questions from Section A – Concepts and Skills
- any two questions from Section B – Contexts and Applications.

Mathematics - Foundation Level

Usually, the Foundation Level paper contains two sections and candidates are required to answer all of the questions in each section.

In 2021, Section A will contain eight questions, as usual. However, the marks per question in section A will increase to 30 marks, and candidates will be required to answer any six of the questions. In section B, there will be three questions at 50 marks each, and candidates will be required to answer any one of them.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 will be 230 marks, instead of the usual 300 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Foundation Level, 2021

There are **two** sections in this paper.

Section A	180 marks	8 questions
Section B	50 marks	3 questions

Answer questions as follows:

- any six questions from Section A
- any one question from Section B

Music

Higher Level Paper 1 – Composing

Usually, candidates are required to answer **two** questions – **one** from Section A – Melody composition (40 marks) and **one** from Section B – Harmony (60 marks).

In 2021, candidates will be required to answer **one question only**. Each question will now carry 50 marks.

As previously indicated, questions will be set in major and minor keys of up to three sharps and three flats only.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 50 marks instead of the usual 100 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

The following instructions will appear on page 2.

There are **two** sections in this examination paper.

Section A	Melody Composition	50 marks	3 questions
Section B	Harmony	50 marks	3 questions

Answer as follows:

- **one** question from Section A Melody Composition
- OR**
- **one** question from Section B Harmony

Higher Level Paper 2 – Listening

The following adjustments to this examination paper have been previously indicated:

1. Reduction in content in set works:
 - *Piano Concerto K.488* by Mozart: Questions will not be set on 3rd movement (*Allegro assai*)
 - *Symphonie Fantastique* by Berlioz: Questions will not be set on 2nd movement (*Un Bal*).
2. Extra choice in Irish music:
 - Question 5B Candidates choose one out of five topics on which to respond.

There are no further adjustments to this paper. The total mark allocation for the paper in 2021 will be 100 marks as usual.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

The following instructions will appear will appear on page 2.

There are **six** questions on this examination paper. Answer all questions.

Higher Level – Composing Elective

There are no adjustments to this component.

Higher Level – Listening Elective

There are no adjustments to this paper.

Ordinary Level Paper 1 – Composing

Usually candidates are required to answer **two** questions – **one** from Section A – Melody composition (40 marks) and **one** from Section B – Harmony (60 marks).

In 2021, candidates will be required to answer **one question only**. Each question will now carry 50 marks.

As previously indicated, the opening phrase for continuation in questions 1-3 will start on the downbeat, i.e. melodies will not start on the upbeat.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 50 marks instead of the usual 100 marks.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021](#)

The following instructions will appear will appear on page 2.

There are **two** sections in this examination paper.

Section A	Melody Composition	50 marks	3 questions
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Section B	Harmony	50 marks	3 questions
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Answer as follows:

- **one** question from Section **A** Melody Composition

OR

- **one** question from Section **B** Harmony

Ordinary Level Paper 2 – Listening

As previously indicated, in 2021 there will be a reduction in the content in the set works as follows:

- *Piano Concerto K.488* by Mozart: Questions will not be set on 3rd movement (*Allegro assai*)
- *Symphonie Fantastique* by Berlioz: Questions will not be set on 2nd movement (*Un Bal*).

There are no further adjustments to this paper. The total mark allocation for the paper in 2021 will be 100 marks as usual.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021](#)

The following instructions will appear will appear on page 2.

There are **six** questions on this examination paper. Answer all questions.

Physics and Chemistry

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

In 2021, Higher Level and Ordinary Level Physics and Chemistry candidates are required to answer five questions in total: two questions from Section I, two questions from Section II and one other question from either Section I or II. Usually candidates are required to answer three questions from each Section.

As is the usual practice, at both levels in the 2021 Physics and Chemistry papers, Section I has six Physics questions and Section II has six Chemistry questions. All the questions carry equal marks. The total marks for each question will be 66.

For 2021, both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level Physics and Chemistry papers have three additional parts in Question 1 and three additional parts in Question 7. Candidates attempting either of these questions are required to answer 11 of 18 parts, instead of the usual 11 of 15 parts.

Otherwise the layout of the examination paper at each level is the same as usual, with substantial choice across the papers including internal choice in some questions.

The total mark allocation for the 2021 examination paper will be 330 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks; all questions carry equal marks (66).

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

Five questions to be answered.

Answer any **two** questions from Section I and any **two** questions from Section II and **one** other question from either Section I or Section II.

All the questions carry equal marks.

Physical Education

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both Higher Level and Ordinary Level for 2021.

In 2021, as usual, candidates will be required to answer all three Sections of the examination paper.

Usually, candidates are required to answer all questions in *Section A* (80 marks). In 2021, in order to provide additional choice, candidates will be required to answer any **five** of the twelve questions in *Section A* (40 marks).

There is no adjustment to *Section B – Case Study* and this Section is compulsory and carries 50 marks. Usually, candidates are required to answer any three of five questions in *Section C*, at 40 marks per question. In 2021, in order to provide additional choice, candidates will be required to answer **two** questions in *Section C* (80 marks).

The total mark allocation for the examination in 2021 is 170 marks, and not 250 marks as applied previously.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

There are **three** sections in this paper.

Section A	Short answer questions	40 marks
Section B	Case study	50 marks
Section C	Long questions	80 marks

Answer questions as follows:

- any **five** of the twelve questions in Section A
- question 13 in Section B - Case Study
- any **two** of the five questions in Section C

Physics

Higher Level and Ordinary Level

The following changes apply to both the Higher Level and the Ordinary Level for 2021.

In Section A candidates are usually required to answer three questions from four. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer two questions from five. Each question in Section A carries 40 marks, as in previous years.

In Section B candidates are usually required to answer five questions from eight. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer four questions from nine. The first question in Section B usually requires candidates to answer eight out of ten short questions. In 2021, candidates will be required to answer eight out of twelve short questions. Each question in Section B carries 56 marks, as in previous years.

The total mark allocation for the examination papers in 2021 will be 304 marks, instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level and Ordinary Level, 2021

Answer **two** questions from Section A and **four** questions from Section B.

Section A (80 marks)

Answer **two** questions from this section.
Each question carries 40 marks.

Section B (224 marks)

Answer **four** questions from this section.
Each question carries 56 marks.

Politics and Society

Higher Level

In 2021, as usual, candidates will be required to answer all three sections of the examination paper. For 2021, in order to provide further choice, *Section A – Short Answer Questions* will have additional questions to choose from; *Section B – Data-based Questions* will have the focus of the last question restricted to the information presented in the data-based documents and *Section C – Discursive Essay Questions* will have five questions at 100 marks each instead of the usual four questions. Candidates will be required to answer Section A and B as usual, however they will be required to answer only one question from Section C.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 is 300 marks instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Section A – Short answer Questions Answer ten out of 15 questions	50 marks
Section B – Data-based Questions Answer all questions	150 marks
Section C – Discursive Essay Questions Answer one question	100 marks

Ordinary Level

As usual, candidates will be required to answer all three sections of the examination paper. For 2021, in order to provide further choice, in *Section A – Short Answer Questions* candidates will be required to answer ten of the twenty short answer questions instead of the usual fifteen. Candidates will be required to answer questions in Section B as normal. In *Section C – Discursive Essay Questions* - candidates will be required to answer two questions at 50 marks each instead of the previous requirement to answer three questions.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 is 350 marks instead of the usual 400 marks.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Section A – Short answer Questions Answer ten out of 20 questions	100 marks
Section B – Data-based Questions Answer all questions	150 marks
Section C – Discursive Essay Questions Answer two questions	100 marks

Religious Education

Higher Level

As usual, in Unit One candidates will be required to answer one of two questions, carrying a total of 80 marks. In 2021, to facilitate further choice in Unit Two, instead of answering questions from two of the three sections, candidates will be required to answer questions from one of the three sections in this Unit. Candidates will have an additional choice of questions within Unit Two and will be required to answer questions from only two of three parts within each section in this unit. Unit Two will carry a total of 80 marks.

As in previous years, in Unit Three, candidates will be required to answer questions from one of four sections. In 2021, candidates will have a choice of questions within each section of Unit Three. Unit Three will carry a total of 80 marks.

The total mark allocation for the examination in 2021 is 240 marks, not 320 marks as in previous years.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021](#)

The following instructions will appear on the cover:

Candidates must answer the following:

- ONE QUESTION FROM UNIT ONE
- ONE SECTION FROM UNIT TWO
- ONE SECTION FROM UNIT THREE

The following instructions will appear within the examination paper:

UNIT ONE

YOU MUST ANSWER PARTS *a)* AND *b)* FROM **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS.
(All questions carry 80 marks each)

UNIT TWO

YOU MUST ANSWER ANY *TWO* OF PARTS: *a)*, *b)*, *c)* FROM **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SECTIONS.
(All sections carry 80 marks each)

UNIT THREE

YOU MUST ANSWER *EITHER* PART *a)* OR PART *b)* FROM **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.
(All sections carry 80 marks each)

Ordinary Level, 2021

For 2021, in Unit One, candidates will be required to answer one of the three questions, rather than answer the usual two questions of previous years. Unit One carries a total of 80 marks.

In Unit Two, instead of answering questions from two of the three sections, candidates will be required to answer questions from one of the three sections in this Unit. Candidates will have an additional choice of questions within Unit Two and will be required to answer questions from only two of three parts within each section in this Unit. Unit Two carries a total of 80 marks.

In Unit Three, candidates will be required to answer questions from one of four sections. Candidate will have a choice of questions within each section. Unit Three carries a total of 80 marks.

The total marks for this examination in 2021 is 240 marks, and not 320 marks as applied in previous years.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021](#)

The following instructions will appear on the cover:

Candidates must answer the following:

- ONE QUESTION FROM UNIT ONE
- ONE SECTION FROM UNIT TWO
- ONE SECTION FROM UNIT THREE

The following instructions will appear within the examination paper:

UNIT ONE

YOU MUST ANSWER PARTS *a)* AND *b)* FROM **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS.
(All questions carry 80 marks each)

UNIT TWO

YOU MUST ANSWER ANY *TWO* OF PARTS: *a), b), c)* FROM **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING THREE SECTIONS.
(All sections carry 80 marks each)

UNIT THREE

YOU MUST ANSWER *EITHER* PART *a)* OR PART *b)* FROM **ONE** OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR SECTIONS.
(All sections carry 80 marks each)

Russian

Higher Level

As usual, candidates will be required to answer both sections of the examination paper. In 2021, in order to provide further choice, candidates will choose between the language and/or cultural awareness questions at the end of the two comprehensions in Section I. In addition to this change, candidates will now only be required to answer one of the two comprehension questions i.e. *Question 1 – Comprehension* or *Question 2 – Comprehension*.

In Section II candidates are required to answer *Question 3 – Guided Writing* and candidates will have an increased choice between either two letters **or** two narratives **or** two discussions of which only one must be attempted.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 170 marks instead of the usual 220 marks.

Instructions to candidates on examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Section I –	Answer question 1 or Question 2	50 marks
	Question 3	20 marks
Section II –	Answer all questions	100 marks

Ordinary Level

As usual, candidates will be required to answer both sections of the examination paper.

In 2021, in order to provide further choice, candidates will choose between the language and/or cultural awareness questions at the end of the two information retrieval exercises in Section I.

In addition to this change, candidates will now only be required to answer one of the two information retrieval exercises i.e. Section I (A) *Question 1 Information Retrieval* or *Question 2 Information Retrieval*.

In Section II candidates are required to answer both *Part A – Short Answers* and *Part B – Extended Writing* and candidates will attempt only one Short Answer (Cultural Awareness) exercise and the prompts for the Extended Writing will be suggested rather than compulsory.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 175 marks instead of the usual 220 marks.

Instructions to candidates on examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Section I	Answer all questions	(130 marks)
Section I (A)	Information retrieval	
	Answer Question 1 or Question 2	30 marks
Section I (B)	Mix and match	40 marks
Section I (C)	Structuring discourse	20 marks
Section I (D)	Comprehension	40 marks
Section II	Answer all questions	(45 marks)
Section II (A)	Answer one question	15 marks
Section II (B)	Extended writing	30 marks

Spanish

Higher Level

There will be no change to the aural examination in 2021.

Section A, Question 1 (a) Prescribed Literature or (b) Journalistic text will remain unchanged in 2021. In **Section A**, Question 2, instead of answering both parts (a) and (b) as is usually required, this year, candidates will be required to answer only **ONE** part. Accordingly, this question will be marked out of 10 marks in 2021, instead of the usual 20 marks. The total mark allocation for Section A in 2021 will be 60 marks, instead of the 70 mark total of previous years.

Section B will remain unchanged. This Section will be marked, as usual, out of 100 marks.

In **Section C**, candidates will be required in 2021 to answer any **ONE** question from the entire Section, that is, either Dialogue **OR** Formal Letter **OR** Diary Entry **OR** Note. All questions will carry equal marks i.e. 25 marks, instead of 30 marks for Question 1 and 20 marks for Question 2 of previous years. The total mark allocation for Section C in 2021 will be 25 marks, instead of the 50 mark total in place in previous years.

As a result of these changes, the Higher Level Spanish Written paper in 2021 will be marked out of a total of 185 marks, instead of the 220 mark total in place in previous years.

[Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021](#)

The following instruction will appear immediately under the heading for Section A

Candidates should answer both Questions 1 and 2.

N.B. In 1. answer EITHER (a) OR (b)

In 2. answer EITHER (a) OR (b)

The following instruction will appear at the beginning of Question 1, (as before).

**Question 1. Answer the questions on either (a) Prescribed Literature or (b) Journalistic Text.
(50 marks)**

The following instruction will appear at the beginning of Question 2.

Question 2. Answer EITHER (a) OR (b) in ENGLISH. (10 marks)

The following instruction will appear immediately under the heading for Section C.

Answer ONE of the four parts in these two questions. That is, answer ONE of:

Question 1 (a) Dialogue Construction OR (25 marks)

Question 1 (b) Letter OR

Question 2 (a) Diary Entry OR

Question 2 (b) Note

Ordinary Level

There will be no change to the aural examination in 2021.

In **Section A**, candidates will be required to answer Question 1 **AND** Question 5 and **ONE** of either Questions 2, 3, or 4. Question 1 will be marked in 2021 out of 45 marks, instead of the usual 50 marks. Question 5 will be marked, as usual, out of 40 marks. Questions 2, 3 and 4 will be marked in 2021 out of 25 marks each, instead of the usual 25, 20, 25 marks. The total mark allocation for Section A in 2021 will be 110 marks, instead of the 160 mark total in place in previous years.

Section B will remain unchanged for 2021. The marks allocation for Section B will remain unchanged at 60 marks.

As a result of these changes, Ordinary Level Spanish Written paper in 2021 will be marked out of a total of 170 marks, instead of the 220 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, 2021

The following instruction will appear immediately under the heading for Section A

Answer Question 1 AND Question 5 and any ONE of Questions 2, 3 OR 4.

Technology

Higher Level

Section A – Core - Short Questions, will remain unchanged from previous years. Candidates will be required to answer 12 of the 15 questions presented. All questions in Section A carry 6 marks.

In **Section B – Core**, candidates will be required to answer any one of the two questions presented instead of answering both questions as in previous years. Both questions in Section B carry 24 marks.

In **Section C – Options**, candidates will be required to answer any one of the five questions presented instead of any two questions, as in previous years. All questions in Section C carry 40 marks.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 will be 136 marks instead of the 200 mark total in place in previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Higher Level, 2021

Section A: Core short-answer questions	72 marks
Attempt any 12 questions	
All questions carry equal marks	
Section B: Core	24 marks
Attempt ONE question from the two questions presented.	
All questions carry equal marks	
Section C: Options	40 marks
Attempt any ONE question from the five questions presented.	
All questions carry equal marks	

Ordinary Level

Section A; Core - Short Questions, will remain unchanged from previous years. Candidates will be required to answer 9 of the 12 questions presented. All questions in Section A carry 8 marks.

In **Section B; Core**, candidates will be required to answer any one of the two questions presented instead of answering both questions, as in previous years. Both questions in Section B carry 24 marks.

In **Section C; Options**, candidates will be required to answer any one of the five questions presented instead of any two questions as in previous years. All questions in Section C carry 40 marks

The total mark allocation for the examination paper in 2021 will be 136 marks instead of the 200 mark total of previous years.

Instructions to candidates on the examination paper, Ordinary Level, 2021

Section A: Core short-answer questions	72 marks
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Attempt any 9 questions

All questions carry equal marks

Section B: Core	24 marks
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Attempt ONE question from the two questions presented.

All questions carry equal marks

Section C: Options	40 marks
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Attempt any ONE question from the five questions presented.

All questions carry equal marks.

Non-Curricular EU Languages

These adjustments apply to:

Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Modern Greek, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovakian, Slovenian, Swedish.

Higher Level

There are traditionally three PARTS from which candidates are required to answer all six questions in PART ONE, the single question in PART TWO, and one of two options in PART THREE. PART ONE is marked out of 30, PART TWO out of 30, and PART THREE out of 40, giving a TOTAL OF 100 marks.

In 2021, the traditional PART TWO will be omitted and there will be two PARTS only.

The new PART ONE will retain the same format as PART ONE of previous years and will require candidates to answer six questions based on a given text. Each question will be marked out of 5, giving a TOTAL of 30 marks.

The new PART TWO will be in the same format as PART THREE of previous years, and will require candidates to write an essay on a topic chosen from two options. The essay will be marked out of 40.

The TOTAL marks for the examination in 2021 will be 70. (PART ONE will be marked out of 30 and PART TWO out of 40.)

Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme

Link Modules – Written Paper

As usual, candidates will be required to answer all the questions in *Section A – Audio Visual* (30 marks).

Heretofore, *Section B – Case Study* was compulsory and was awarded 30 marks. In 2021, in order to provide further choice, *Section B – Case Study* will be optional and will be awarded 25 marks.

Section C – General questions will have seven questions at 25 marks each.

In the case of Sections B and C, candidates will be required to answer a total of four questions across the two sections. Therefore, candidates may choose to answer *Section B – Case Study* and any three questions from *Section C – General Questions* **or** they may choose four questions from *Section C – General Questions*.

The total mark allocation for the examination paper will be 130 marks, instead of the usual 160 marks.

Instructions to candidates on examination paper, Common Level, 2021

Section A – Audio Visual

There are eight questions. Answer **all eight** of them. 30 marks

Section B – Case Study **and** Section C – General Questions 100 marks

Answer Section B and **any three** questions from Section C

or

Answer **any four** questions from Section C.