
Awarding of A* grades for Applied GCEs (Single Award)

Please note that further guidance has been provided regarding the awarding of A* grades for Applied GCEs (Single Award).

This will affect the following qualifications:

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Engineering (Single Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Leisure Studies (Single Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Media: Communication and Production (Single Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Performing Arts (Single Award)

The specifications for these qualifications will be updated and published on our website. The further guidance will be provided below and in the *Grading information* section of the specification. The revised pages of the specification are shown on the next page, with the additional information indicated with a side bar.

Award of A* grade

To be awarded a grade A* at GCE A level, a candidate must:

1. Achieve a grade A overall for the A level. This can also be described as achieving 80% of the total uniform marks.

AND

2. Achieve 90% of the combined uniform mark total for the A2 units.

For example:

For a six-unit A level, a candidate must achieve at least 480 of the 600 total uniform marks **and** 270 of the 300 combined uniform mark total for the A2 units.

Please note:

- i) The above rules are applied to the best available result for each AS and A2 unit; for each unit, this best available result may be achieved at the first or subsequent sitting.
- ii) Grade A* is **not** available at unit level or for AS qualifications.

Grading information

Mark bands

The assessments are designed to allow learners to demonstrate positive achievement and to have a positive experience in completing each assessment.

In line with the above, the criteria for assessing each assignment have been written so that a learner working at the lower end of the GCE ability range should be capable of meeting approximately 80 per cent of the band 1 criteria. This equates to approximately 40 per cent of the total credit available for the assignment.

Grading, aggregation and equivalence

The overall grade for:

- Advanced Subsidiary (Single Award) qualifications will be graded on a five-grade scale from A to E where A is the highest grade.
- Advanced GCE (Single Award) qualifications will be graded on a six-grade scale from A* to E where A* is the highest grade.

The mark bands used for internal assessment do not relate to pre-determined grade boundaries. Following each examination and moderation series, Edexcel will set the grade boundaries for internally and externally assessed units at an awarding meeting.

The raw mark boundaries will be converted to uniform marks on a scale of 0-100. The final grade for the qualification will be determined by aggregating the uniform marks for the units. The table below gives details of the uniform mark scales (UMS) used for the units and for the qualifications.

In Advanced, to gain Grade A* candidates must gain Grade A on the qualification overall and at least 90% of the maximum uniform mark on the aggregate of the three A2 units.

Unit results

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Unit grade	A	B	C	D	E
Maximum uniform mark = 100	80	70	60	50	40

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade E will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-39.

Qualification results

Advanced Subsidiary (Single Award)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	A	B	C	D	E
Maximum uniform mark = 300	240	210	180	150	120

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade E will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-119.

Advanced GCE (Single Award)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	A	B	C	D	E
Maximum uniform mark = 600	480	420	360	300	240

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade E will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-239.