



Examiners' Report June 2013

GCSE Arabic 5AR04 01

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications come from Pearson, the UK's largest awarding body. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.edexcel.com or www.btec.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.



Giving you insight to inform next steps

ResultsPlus is Pearson's free online service giving instant and detailed analysis of your students' exam results.

- See students' scores for every exam question.
- Understand how your students' performance compares with class and national averages.
- Identify potential topics, skills and types of question where students may need to develop their learning further.

For more information on ResultsPlus, or to log in, visit www.edexcel.com/resultsplus. Your exams officer will be able to set up your ResultsPlus account in minutes via Edexcel Online.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk.

June 2013

Publications Code UG035427

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2013

Introduction

Like previous years this examination paper has been designed to accommodate a wide range of student profiles, and rewards work from grades G to A*.

Students were asked to choose one topic from each of the two tasks. They were asked to answer one question in each task out of a choice of four. Students are required to write 30-70 words in task one (Section A), and 120-150 words in task two (Section B). Students have one hour to complete this paper and it carries a maximum of 50 marks.

Section A (Short writing task):

Task 1: Candidates were required to produce a short writing task in Arabic (30-70 words) in response to a choice of four questions that relate to both prescribed themes;

- 1. Media, Travel and Culture
- 2. Sports, Leisure and Work.

The task was assessed for Content and Communication (10 marks) and Knowledge and Application of Language (10 marks) only. The maximum mark for this task is 20.

Section B (Longer writing task):

Task 2: Candidates were required to produce a longer writing task in Arabic (120-150 words) in response to a choice of four questions that relate to both prescribed themes;

- 1. Media, Travel and Culture
- 2. Sports, Leisure and Work.

In this task, candidates were assessed for Content and Communication (15 marks), Knowledge and Application of Language (10 marks) and Accuracy (5 marks). The maximum mark for this task is 30.

The questions in this examination paper were carefully selected to give candidates a wide choice of tasks through which they can express their knowledge of the Arabic language. In general, the performance of the candidates was of a high standard. Most of the questions proved accessible for a considerable number of candidates and there was no indication that English words or phrases in the question paper presented any difficulty for the majority of candidates.

Question 1(a)

Students seemed to be more focused and prepared in their responses and quality of writing when it came to the more popular questions, such as Q1(a). In this question candidates were required to write an email to their family about a trip which they won in a competition. Students were required to mention the following points:

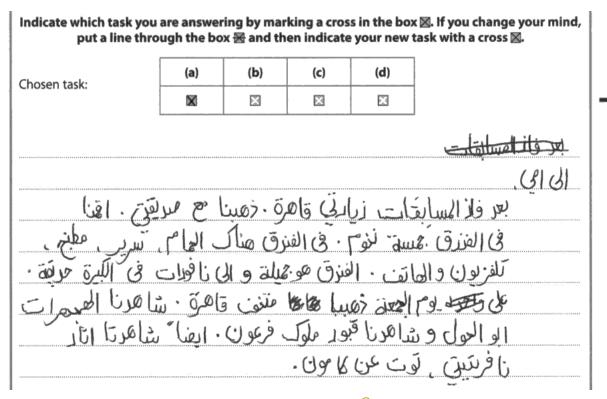
- The accommodation they stayed in. (hotel, flat etc)
- The places they visited.
- The people they met.
- What they thought of the holiday.

The majority of the students who answered this question managed to give good details and descriptions and hence they scored high marks. It seemed that candidates are now more trained to write about holidays. Some students who chose this question, expanded to the point that they went far beyond the scope of what was asked for in the question.

A small number of students seemed to have misunderstood the task, and wrote about a trip that they went on with their parents or family. As a result marks were lost for Communication and Content.

Evidence of misreading the task was evident in some answers where the student started well but ended up not mentioning why the trip was enjoyable.

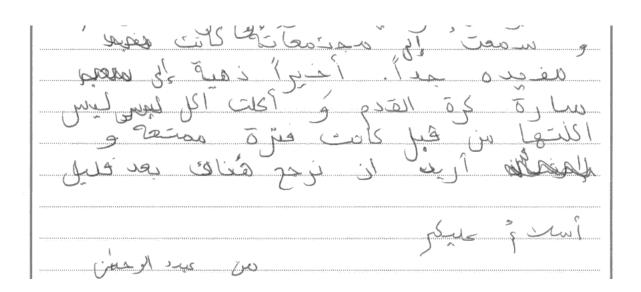
This student managed to provide all the information required by the question.







Students should make sure that they tick all the requirements asked by the question.





This candidate achieved full marks for Content and Communication as they were able to mention all bullet points. This candidate scored 8 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.



Candidates should use past papers when preparing for the exam.

This candidate wrote about a trip they had previously made with Their parents instead of writing about a holiday.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
×	⊠	×	×

خصبت غلال العطله الهيفه الاللى القاهرة حذهبت مع اليي وابيء المتى في النور والمسه نموم وهي كربيب ساخل اليم في وندى اللها مر الفضاء الفخانه وسرير والمتور ومشور المراك والمتور ومشور العرب مع احتى ساحال يقرو كره تل العرب والمساد وحسيد العامه الانرم و دلاسات و تعتن قامون و تفتدي وقلي وبندراء



This candidate scored 9 marks for Communication and Content and 10 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.



Pre-learnt essays will not secure full marks

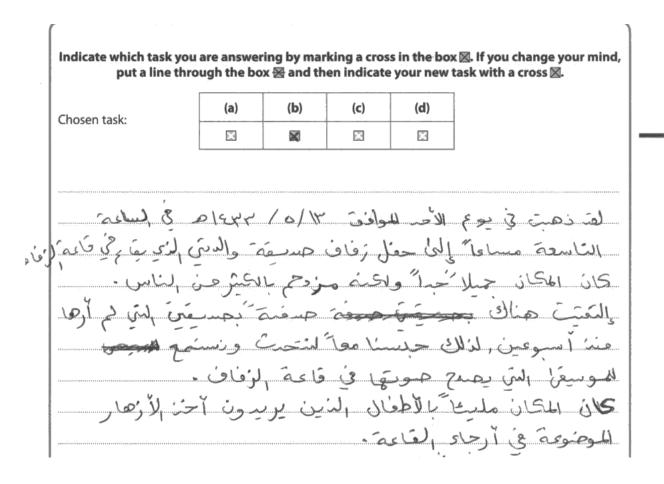
Question 1(b)

This question required students to write about a wedding of a relative they attended, and were required to mention the following points:

- Where was the wedding.
- When was the wedding.
- Description of the wedding.
- How much they enjoyed the wedding

About 36% of the candidates chose this question, and many managed to respond well to all or most of the required bullet points. This was an interesting essay to mark as it brought out the cultural and traditional flavour of students. Most students described the proceedings of the wedding with good descriptive images and details however; some were very concise with their response or made no mention of how much they enjoyed the event.

This is an excellent example of how Question 1(b) should be answered.





This student achieved full marks for Communication and Content and Knowledge and Application of Language. Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊞ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
		×	E3

فر العلاق السينية وهي شهر المعللية السينية والمن المعللية والمن المعللية والمن المعللية والمن المعللية والمن والم



Fair command of language but very good on Content and Communication.

This student scored 9 marks for Content and Communication and 7 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

Question 1(c)

This question required students to write an email to apply to enrol in a course in an Arab country. Students were required to mention the following points:

- Relevant information about themselves/ age, hobbies ... (minimum two)
- The type of course they like to join.
- The advantages of the course to them.

Only a small number of students chose to answer this question. However, most of those students who had chosen this question showed a good confidence and ability in Arabic and were able to produce interesting pieces of writing.

Questions revolving around education and studying are not popular with students. However, it was pleasing to note that the students who attempted this question were able to produce enough information about themselves, the type of course they wanted to do and its advantages to them.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a) (b)		(c)	(d)
23	×	×	×

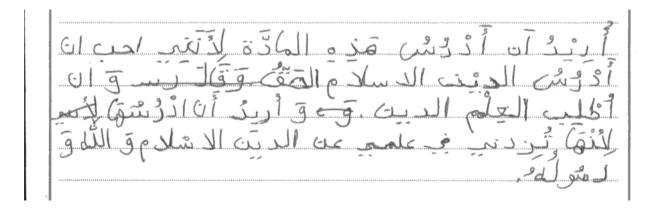
النا اسم اليلاف الحيم النا من عمل الناعمري عيشرون سناء الت كذي عاسة في المريكة والسوي و برازيان الناء حيم الناء الدمان و كف في المركب عندي حيم الناء مثل القطاق الثال و السماك . الناء الريد اغدم في المستشفاة على فلحد للديوان. الناء الريد ان المحل عشمان احد السعد حيات



Very successful answer which manages to cover almost all the points required by the question.

This student scored 9 marks for Content and Communication and 9 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

Very detailed response where the student was able to fully communicate but lost some marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.





Excellent detailed response.

This student scored 9 marks for Content and Communication and 8 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

Question 1(d)

This question required students to write a report about their experience in taking a group of children on a day out. Students were required to mention the following points:

- Where they took them.
- How much the children enjoyed the day out.
- Whether they recommend the experience of caring for children to others.
- Reasons for their recommendations.

About 30% of the students chose this question and a good number of them managed to use appropriate words and expressions to respond to the requirements of the question. Few students who were less able in Arabic resorted to the use of the dictionary and that resulted in scoring less on Communication and Content.

Surprisingly, some students missed out on the same point namely 'how much the children enjoyed the day out'.

The following was a very successful answer, a pleasure to read.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
×	×	×	



A perfect example, where the student provided almost full information and had enough language to obtain full marks.



Pay attention to the question's requirements to secure an excellent score.

The following example missed out on 'how much the children enjoyed the day out.'



This student missed out on marks for Content and Communication. It is very important for students to realise what the question is asking them to do before answering.

This student scored 8 marks for Content and Communication and 7 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

Question 2(a)

This question required students to write an article for their school newsletter about their experience in working as a reporter for a television channel. Students were required to mention the following points:

- Benefits of that experience.
- Obstacles / Problems reporters might face.
- How they felt about being involved in the media.

About 8% of the students chose this question. A good number of them were able to respond well to the bullet points resulting in some excellent pieces of writing. Some wrote about the benefits but forgot to write about the obstacles. Others found it difficult and maybe misunderstood the task and went on to write about TV programmes. Those students lost some marks for Communication as a result.

The following essay is a perfect example that can be used for future reference.

					c ⊠. If you change your mind, task with a cross ⊠.		
Chosen task:	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)			
Chosen task.	×	×	×	3			
	في الأول من بيم يوديو، ذهبت إلى الدومة						
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		**		_	ا في قطر لأشت		
					لمدة شهر لقد		
	-	T. Jan.			المحفين و		
			-		خصاحت أفياً		
	_				الكه بمقه في ا		
					والملايين و		
ن نَعُمْرَتُ	لن أ	ئے یہ	و فُھ	نى نىرت	و إذا تحو ت		
ininim-quantum minim-qu	***************************************	مهور،	ے الم	ك بير	و تقل ستعبية		
		******************	***************************************				
j	ن تلو	1 65	النسى	de la constante de la constant	صن الأشيا ل		
مود طوال	کون م	آن دت		アベイト	Coba Coban		
تعمل في	نِد ة	بار می	ے ا ف	إلى أء	الموقت تحسراً		
الودن	القراء	متنك	ي لا ن	ے آپ	العالم ويعني		
					ألكا في مدة		
,:		vininios pinos montrios que	······································				
55	1	未让华	ميرآ ـ	5 5	لقرايستمتع		
ا تحری	اء لأن	لى الهو	کون ک	1 6	orland assessor		
ر کن	لكثم	ا جعلعا	غدا د	ـ ما ا	بالا مشهور		
		`			إنعالم وماذا		
90	العماء	N'15	5.10	· / / Lo-	لقد أحست		

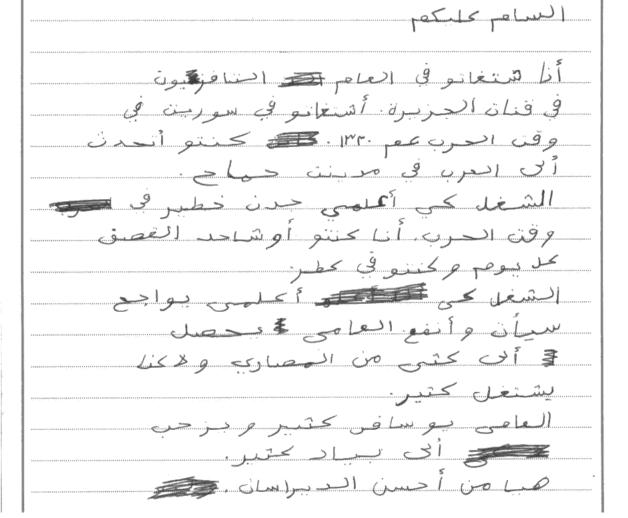
و ما لا علاج النواد المعالمة ا



A very successful answer. The essay satisfied all the requirements of the question and had excellent command of Arabic language, obtaining full marks. Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⋈ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⋈.

Chosen task:

(a) (b)		(c)	(d)
	×	×	×





This is not a very successful answer. The student has managed to communicate and describe how he worked as a reporter; however there is a failure to write the essay in good language.

This response scored 3 marks for Accuracy, 13 marks for Communication and Content and 7 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.



Students must practice writing essays.

Some students used a title for their essay.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
	×	⊠	×

حياة الهراسلين

لقد عدت طوال الشهر الماضي كراس لأحد القنوات التلفز ونق الشهره.

كانت تجرية رائحة وفرية من نوعها في الشهر الذي علت فيه

كراسل واحكت العديد من الروافف الم تعقر من أبرز و ألهم اللهو الأشراء

الهميزة للمراسل في تطوير ذاته في الحياة الاجتماعية ،

ويتعلم الاعتمان على نفسه واتخاذ الفراخي الروافف الهعية ، ويتعلم

أبهنا النظام ميكون حاهزاً في كل الأعقال لتغطية أي هذه



Very successful, managing to cover almost all the points required by the question and using good command of Arabic language.

This response scored full marks.



This is a good example to use as reading material for students.

This is an example of a short response with big hand writing.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⋈. If you change your mind, put a line through the box 🔀 and then indicate your new task with a cross 🗵. (a) (b) (c) (d) Chosen task: M



Insufficent response. This response scored 3 marks for Accuracy, 8 marks for Communication and Content and 5 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

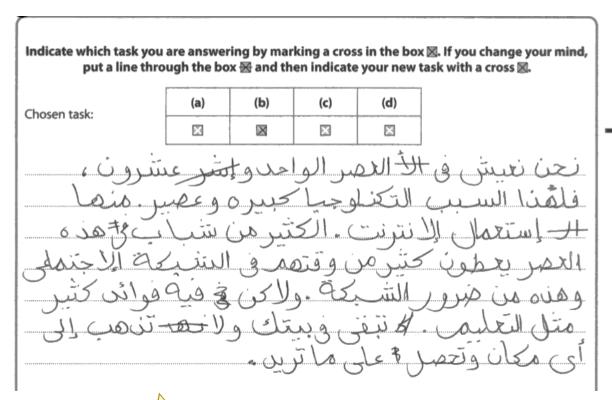
Question 2(b)

This question required students to write an article about the social networking sites. Students were asked to mention the following points:

- Advantages of social networking sites.
- Disadvantages of social networking sites.
- Their experience in the use of social networking.

This question was attempted by almost 29% of the students. Students were able to score well on Communication and Content and most of those who appeared confident in Arabic writing were able to score well on Application of Language and on Accuracy too.

Many were aware of the advantages and the disadvantages of social networking sites. Others discussed the impact of social networking eloquently and were able to use a number of internet vocabulary and relevant expressions.





This is successful answer, losing a few marks for Accuracy but managing to satisfy most of the requirements.

This student scored 3 marks for Accuracy, 12 marks for Communication and Content and 6 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

A very good example, ambitious, with good command of the language.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box \boxtimes . If you change your mind, put a line through the box \boxtimes and then indicate your new task with a cross \boxtimes .

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
×	⊠	×	×

على صدر المن أو من عا عاء و كا ظهر الم متاع في الم تنت و يك في ما عاء و كا ظهر الماء أن هاك و يك في ما عاء و كا في الم يك أو ما يك أو مايك أو ما يك أو مايك أو ما يك أو ما يك

عال المال ا



This is a successful answer where the student has managed to include a number of words which describe social networking, and was able to communicate fully and write the essay in good language

This student scored full marks.

Question 2(c)

This question required students to write an email to the manager of a leisure centre which has newly opened near their house to point out the following:

- How much they like the centre.
- Why.
- What facilities could be added to improve the centre.

This question was very popular. A small number of students did not relate the leisure centre to sport, no marks were deducted for this as the question did not expressly refer to a sport centre.

There was a range of excellent to outstanding pieces of writing by many students.

This student managed to mention the information required.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊠ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(€)	(d)
×	×	减	⊠

وق الله جريري بانة مو مكان صلة دراً وأسا كرة السلة بالتنس كاراتيك ركوب الور و أفراً ركون الم ما في توري تقوى العلاقات أنى من المرورى أن ثعبي مطعم أربي الشذم يأكل طعام م رياضي الطاع م الصوي والفاعية و مثل العنب أنواء من السماك ب السلطة يريد وا مساعد ہ

ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

Excellent command of Arabic language. This response scored full marks.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box ⊠. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ⊞ and then indicate your new task with a cross ⊠.

Chosen task:

(a) (b)		(c)	(d)
×	×		×

الى المرر

اَنَا آخِيُ هُوَ وَقَيْ مُعِينَ وَ فِيكِ لِمُتَ فِهِ اَنَا لَمِي مَعَلَيْ اللّهِ عَلَيْ اللّهِ عَلَيْ اللّهِ ع عَنَانُ نَفَاكُم رَمَّا لُهُ اللّهِ وَ اللّهِ عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلّهُ عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُو عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُو عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُو عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُو عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ اللّهُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُو عَلَيْكُمْ عَلَيْكُ عَلّهُ عَلَيْكُمْ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُمُ عَلَيْكُو عَلَيْكُمْ عَلَيْكُ عَلَيْكُمُ عَلَيْكُمْ عَلَيْ



This student was not very successful although they did gain some marks for Content and Communication. This student scored 2 marks for Accuracy, 8 marks for Communication and Content and 5 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.



Read the question before answering and ensure you know what is required.

Question 2(d)

This question required students to write an article for their school magazine about their experience of winning the prize of the "Athlete of the year". Students were required to include the following:

- Describe the prize.
- How they felt about it.
- How they trained for it.
- If they encourage others to do the same.

This question was not very popular and many students were unable to offer a description of the prize. However, the training aspect of the question was excellently answered.

The following student missed out on Content and Communication but managed to obtain marks for knowledge of the language.

الريان المناف الدول المناف و كند و كند و كند و كن المناف و كند و كند و كن المناف و كند و كند و كن المناف و كن المناف و كند و كند و كن المناف و كند و كند



Very good command of Arabic language, satisfying the requirements of the question.

This response scored 4 marks for Accuracy, 12 marks for Communication and Content and 8 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.



Pay attention to the question's requirements to secure an excellent score.

The following is an example of an essay that was good enough to score but not a very high mark as the task is incomplete.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box I f you change your mind, put a line through the box I and then indicate your new task with a cross I.

Chosen task:

(a) (b) (c) (d)

(At hiete of the year عندما السحاد المحاد ا



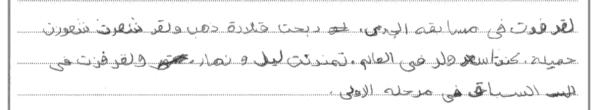
Any English remarks or words in the answer will be ignored.

This response scored 2 marks for Accuracy, 9 marks for Communication and Content and 3 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

Indicate which task you are answering by marking a cross in the box \boxtimes . If you change your mind, put a line through the box \boxtimes and then indicate your new task with a cross \boxtimes .

Chosen task:

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
S	爱	×	K





This student has the ability to communicate but needs more practice in essay writing.

This response scored 1 mark for Accuracy, 4 marks for Communication and Content and 2 marks for Knowledge and Application of Language.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, students are offered the following advice:

- Students seemed to be more familiar with the layout of questions than previous years. However, students are reminded to read well into the questions before answering, so that they do not lose any of the information required by the questions.
- Students should use past papers when preparing for the exam.
- Each question consists of a number of requirements. Students are advised that when the requirement of a question is presented in the plural form, then candidates are expected to produce more than one answer for that particular requirement to secure full marks.
- It was apparent that a number of students chose to write pre-learnt essays, especially for the travel question 1(a). Students are advised to avoid writing pre-learnt essays as these will not secure full marks.
- The use of English words should be avoided.
- Excessive use of dictionaries during the examination can be unhelpful. Some students wrote their essays in English on the exam paper then translated them into Arabic using the dictionary, producing a non-readable Arabic piece of writing.
- Many good students, most of whom are native Arabic speakers, achieved below the
 expected performance in some questions because they do not possess the necessary
 language skills in English to be able to attempt the questions successfully. They did
 not pay attention to what the question required them to do. This was seen in many
 questions and students lost marks as a result.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link: http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx





