Important IB Exam Session Information

May 2026

Diploma Programme

Career-related Programme

Conduct of the examinations

Notice to students

The following instructions must be observed for all IB examinations. Failure to comply may result in no grade being awarded for the subject being examined.

If you do not understand these instructions, please contact your coordinator.

Arrive on time for your examination. You are not permitted to leave the examination within the first 60 minutes, or the last 15 minutes.

Do not communicate with other students in the examination room.

Do not bring any unauthorized materials to your desk.

Follow all invigilator instructions. Raise your hand if you require the invigilator's attention.

Do not take any examination material out of the examination room.

Ensure that you report any incidents of possible academic misconduct to your coordinator.

Do not discuss the content of the examination with any person outside of your school in the next 24 hours.

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Diploma Programme

Career-related Programme

Conduct of the examinations

Items not permitted

If you take any of the following items into an IB examination - *even by mistake* - you will be in breach of regulations and may not be eligible for a grade in the subject being examined.

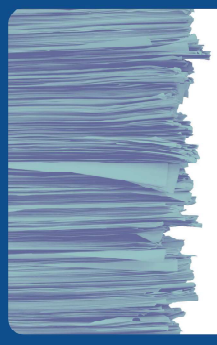
If you do not understand these instructions, please contact your coordinator.

Electronic equipment

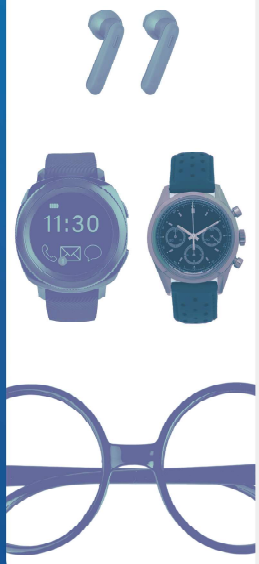
Note that this includes, but is not limited to, mobile phones/cellphones and any device that allows communication.

An approved calculator is permitted in certain examinations.

Books or guides



Rough/scratch paper or notes



Wearable technology and all types of watches

Note that this includes, but is not limited to, smart watches, smart glasses, and wireless headphones.

Refreshments

Water is permitted at the discretion of the coordinator.

Diploma Programme

Career-related Programme

Conduct of the examinations

Language acquisition listening comprehension examinations

You will have five minutes' reading time to review the content of the examination. No writing is allowed during this time.

Once the five minutes' reading time has concluded, you may write answers and notes at any time during the examination.

You may write notes in the spaces provided. Notes will not be marked.

Pauses are built in between each audio text.

You are only permitted to use wireless headphones if they are supplied by your school.

If the audio is played on an individual device, you are not permitted to interact with the device once the examination has started.

Once three beeps are heard, the examination has concluded, and you must stop writing.

Further to the information provided here, please ensure that you read the full instructions on the front page of each examination. If you would like any further information, please speak to your coordinator.

The conduct of examinations rules apply to these examinations and must be observed at all times.

What is academic honesty?

International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes encourage students to inquire and to think critically and creatively, and to present their thinking in a variety of ways. They should be able to make their thoughts and their learning visible and explicit, show how they have constructed their ideas, and demonstrate the views they have followed or rejected. This is essentially what scholarship and academic honesty are: making knowledge, understanding and thinking transparent.

Students need to understand how knowledge is constructed and, consequently, their own role in furthering knowledge construction and building understanding. An essential aspect of this is an understanding of the technical aspects of academic honesty, of citing and referencing.

Academic honesty is an essential principle of the IB's academic programmes that enhances the organization's credibility and position as a leader in international education. As stated in the IB learner profile, all members of the IB community strive to be "principled", acting with "integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities".

For more information,
please view the IB learner profile at
http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/learner-profile/
and the publication Academic honesty in the
IB educational context at
http://www.ibo.org/myib/digitaltoolkit/brochuresflyersposters/

As the legal guardian of a Diploma Programme student, how can we support our children?

- Encourage them to plan each assignment.
- Provide support with the scheduling of their work, as they may have many assignments to complete.
- Establish a good level of communication with the school so that you understand the requirements of the Diploma Programme and what is expected of students.
- Encourage them to ask their teacher for advice if they are having difficulty with their work.

Diploma Programme

Academic Honesty in the Diploma Programme

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What is academic misconduct?

Academic misconduct is a behaviour that results in, or may result in, the student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage (or a behaviour that disadvantages other students) in one or more assessment components. Unfortunately in every Diploma Programme examination session there are students who are investigated for alleged "academic misconduct".

Categories of "academic misconduct" in the IB:

Plagiarism is defined as the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgment. The use of translated materials, unless indicated and acknowledged, is also considered plagiarism.

Collusion is defined as supporting academic misconduct by another student, for example allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another.

Misconduct during an IB examination includes taking unauthorized material into an examination room, disruptive behaviour and communicating with others during the examination.

Communication about the content of an examination 24 hours before or after the examination with others outside their school community is also considered a breach to IB regulations.

Duplication of work is defined as the presentation of the same work for different assessment components and/or Diploma Programme requirements.

Good practice—recommendations for students

- Make sure that information you have used is acknowledged in the body of the text and is fully listed in the bibliography using the referencing style agreed with your teacher.
- Cite your sources so that readers can find them; if you cannot state the origin of the source it is probably better not to use it.

The IB has no means of knowing whether an act of academic misconduct was deliberate or not. Students should know how to indicate and cite material that is not their own. Students are also expected to follow the rules of acceptable behaviour in the exam room and around the time of the examination.

For these reasons, a student's intent cannot be taken into account if the IB investigates an alleged breach of the *General regulations: Diploma Programme*.

Be aware that a breach of IB regulations will have serious consequences.

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Acknowledging the work of others

Proper citation is a key element to academic scholarship and intellectual exchange.

More guidance can be found in the IB publication Effective citing and referencing available in the Digitial toolkit section on the IB website (**http://www.ibo.org/myib/digitaltoolkit/brochuresflyersposters/**)

Essentials

- Make clear which words, ideas, images and works are not your own (including maps, charts, musical compositions, movies, computer source codes and any other material).
- Give credit for copied, adapted and paraphrased material.
- When using text, make clear where the borrowed material starts and finishes.
- All sources cited in the text must also be listed in the bibliography (or reference list/list of works cited) and all sources listed in the bibliography (or reference list/list of works cited) must be cited in the text.

Some important advice

- ✓ Know your candidate session number.
- ✓ Read the IB poster *Conduct of the examinations: notice to candidates*. If you have any questions about what it says, ask your coordinator.
- ✓ Take only authorized material into the examination room. If you are found in possession of unauthorized material (for example, notes, a mobile/cell phone) even by mistake, you will be in breach of the IB regulations.
- ✓ Write in dark blue or black ink only. Do not use gel pens. The use of colour is only permitted in geography examinations.
- ✓ Draw a line through any plans or working out that you do not want marked.
- ✓ At the end of the examination, place the below material (where applicable) together in the following sequence:
  - the blue coversheet at the front
  - the examination paper (but **only** if this is the kind of examination paper in which you write answers)
  - the answer booklet(s)
  - squared paper (used in Chinese/Japanese language examinations)
  - graph paper

Secure the above material together with a string tag.

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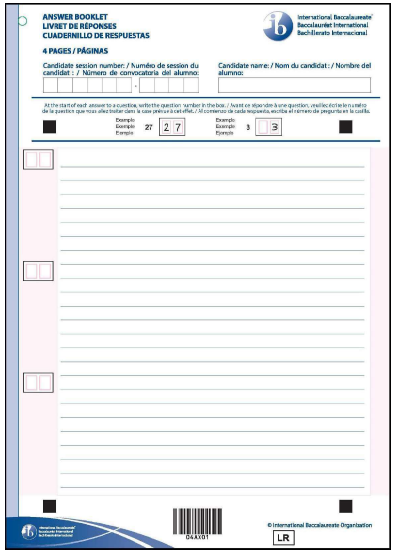
Answer Booklet Guide



Introduction

This guide has been produced to help you as a candidate become familiar with using answer booklets in IB Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme examinations.

What does the answer booklet look like?

Each booklet consists of four pages. On the top of the front page there are sections in which to indicate your session number and name, along with brief instructions on how to correctly write question numbers. The remainder of this page and all other pages are for you to write your answers to examination questions. Please remember to write your answers on the lines, keeping within the large pink box on each page. Beside the lines for your answers are boxes in which you must write the number of each question you answer.

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Completing your session number and name

Before you begin writing answers to questions, please write your candidate session number and name in the appropriate boxes on the first page. If you do not know your session number, ask the examination invigilator. Your session number and name must appear on the front page of each booklet you use.

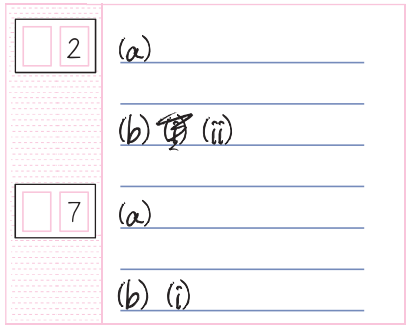
Completing the boxes

You must ensure you have written the question number correctly before you begin writing each of your answers.

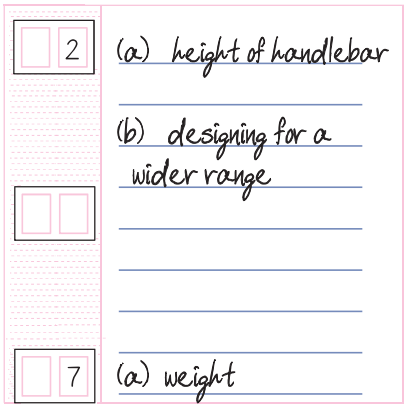
Where a question is split into part numbering, for example (a), (b), (c) or (i), (ii), you must write this on the line at the start of your answer. It is not necessary to indicate the question number more than once for questions that are split into part numbering, and there is no need to write the name of the section, topic or theme that you are answering from (see **Example 1**).

If your answer goes over more than one page, there is no need to write the question number again at the top of each new page.

Example 1



Example 2



Leave at least one line space between each answer. If there is not one line space available between the last line of your answer and the next question number box, go to the next available question number box and start your next answer there (see **Example 2**).

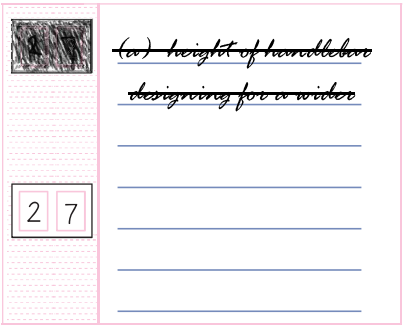
If you make a mistake when writing your question number, fill in the question number box and use the next available box.

If you make a mistake

If you make a mistake when writing your question number, fill in the question number box and use the next available box.

If you start writing an answer to a question and then decide you are going to answer a different question altogether, fill in the question number box in addition to putting a line through the wrong answer. Write the question number of the new answer in the next box and begin your answer again (see **Example 3**).

Example 3

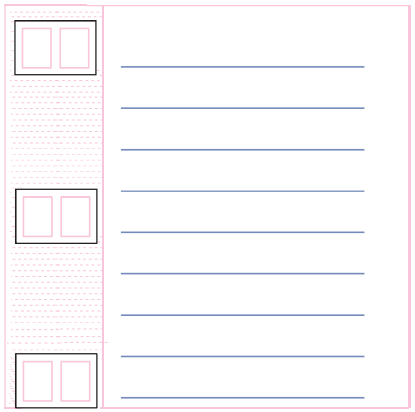


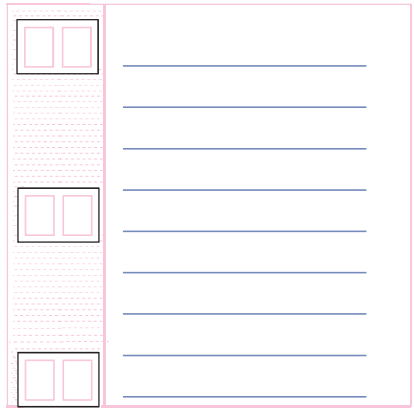
If you run out of space

If you run out of space in your answer booklet, ask the invigilator for a new booklet and complete your session number and name on the front page. If you are continuing with an answer that you started in your first booklet, write the question number again in the new booklet before continuing with your answer.

If you need to go back and write more for any of your answers at any stage, go to the end of the last answer that you wrote in your answer booklet. In the next available box, write the question number again and then continue your answer.

Practice





2.0 Groups and subjects

Calculators of the types indicated as suitable are allowed only in the subjects listed in the table below.

Subjects	Calculators
Business management Environmental systems and societies	A four-function (plus, minus, multiply, divide) calculator, scientific calculator or GDC is required for paper 2. A calculator may be taken into the examinations for paper 1 and paper 3 (HL only).
Economics	Calculators are **not** allowed for paper 1. For paper 2 and paper 3, while all questions requiring a calculator can be answered fully using a four-function calculator (plus, minus, multiply, divide), GDCs are allowed during the examination. The graphing functions on these calculators may assist students and it is therefore recommended that all students are familiar with the use of GDCs.
Astronomy Marine science Nature of science	A calculator with the following minimum functionalities is required for all examinations (a GDC is recommended). • Decimal logarithms • Values of xy and $x1/y$ • Value of π (pi) • Trigonometric functions • Inverse trigonometric functions • Natural logarithms • Values of e^x • Scientific notation
Biology Chemistry Physics Sports, exercise and health science	Calculators are **not** allowed for paper 1. On paper 2 and paper 3, a calculator with the following minimum functionalities is required (a GDC is recommended). • Decimal logarithms • Values of xy and $x1/y$ • Value of π (pi) • Trigonometric functions • Inverse trigonometric functions • Natural logarithms • Values of e^x • Scientific notation
Design technology	Calculators are **not** allowed for paper 1. A four-function calculator (plus, minus, multiply, divide), scientific calculator or GDC is required for SL/HL paper 2 and HL paper 3 examinations.

Subjects	Calculators

Mathematics: analysis and approaches
Mathematics: applications and interpretation
	Calculators are **not** allowed for *Mathematics: analysis and approaches* paper 1.
	On *Mathematics: analysis and approaches* paper 2 and paper 3 and *Mathematics: applications and interpretation* paper 1, paper 2 and paper 3, a GDC with the following minimum functionalities is required:
	• plot graphs with any viewing window and identify key features
	• solve equations, graphically and numerically (real and complex solutions)
	• solve systems of equations, graphically and numerically (real and complex solutions)
	• find a numerical derivative at a point
	• find a numerical definite integral
	• financial (TVM) solver
	• add and multiply matrices, find determinant and inverse matrices
	• convert between Cartesian and modulus-argument (polar) form
	• operations with complex numbers
	• probability distribution functionality:
	  – normal distribution
	  – binomial distribution
	  – Poisson distribution
	  – t-distribution
	  – confidence intervals (for normal and t-distributions)
	• find statistical values including:
	  – binomial coefficient ${}^{n}C_{r}$, ${}^{n}P_{r}$
	  – 1 and 2 variable statistical values
	  – Pearson's product-moment correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination
	  – regression equations (linear, quadratic, cubic, exponential, power and sinusoidal)
	  – X^2 test for independence (X^2 values and p values)
	  – X^2 goodness of fit test (X^2 values and p values), varying the degree of freedom
	  – t-test (t values and p values)
	• spreadsheets or recursion tools to find approximate solutions using Euler's method
	• plot phase portraits for two numeric sequences

Different courses have different requirements, but the minimum requirements listed above are for all the mathematics courses. Some of these may not be relevant to every course. Statistical tables are not allowed in mathematics subject examinations. Candidates must have access to calculators that are able to find relevant statistical values.

3.0 General restrictions applying to all calculators used in examinations

Restrictions on the use of certain technology are in place to discourage malpractice and maintain fair and reasonable access to technology that is generally required in the good practice of teaching and assessment.

- Telephones, smart phones, smart watches, tablets, calculator watches, personal computers (PCs) and any other device that enables internet access are not allowed in any subject examinations.
- Only the manufacturer's operating system may be used.
- Computer algebra systems (CAS)-equipped calculators (symbolic manipulation, whether in-built or programmed) are not allowed in any subject examinations.
- Calculators with wireless/infrared communication are not allowed in any subject examinations.
- Examination questions must not be stored in, or recorded into, the memory of a calculator.
- Peripheral hardware must not be taken into the examination room (for example, keyboards, link cables and so on).
- Calculators must not be shared or exchanged during examinations.
- Calculator manuals must not be taken into the examination room.
- More than one calculator per candidate may be brought into the examination room. However, a spare set of batteries is a preferable alternative to several calculators.

4.0 Responsibilities

4.1 Coordinators and invigilators

The coordinator must ensure that these requirements are understood and are being followed by all candidates, teachers and invigilators. Schools are responsible for monitoring the use of calculators by candidates on a continuous basis.

During the examination, if a coordinator/invigilator finds that a candidate has used unauthorized material or technology, the matter should be reported in the same way as any other breach of examination regulations. During any inspection, the coordinator should expect to show visiting IB representatives that this checking procedure is being followed.

4.2 Teachers and candidates

Teachers of all Diploma Programme (DP) subjects that permit or require the use of calculators in examinations should make candidates aware of both the requirements and restrictions of use before the relevant examinations take place. The potential consequences of breaches of these requirements by candidates would be similar to consequences of any other breaches of examination regulations.

Teachers are responsible for monitoring the use of calculators by candidates throughout the course by informal conversation and by spot-checking calculators. Methods of monitoring individual calculators include manually checking, transferring memory to a PC or using tools provided by the calculator manufacturer.