

Assessment outline

SL assessment specifications

First examinations 2009

Component	Overall weighting (%)	Approximate weighting of objectives (%)		Duration (hours)	Format and syllabus coverage
		1+2	3		
Paper 1	20	20		$\frac{3}{4}$	30 multiple-choice questions on the core
Paper 2	32	16	16	$1\frac{1}{4}$	Section A: one data-based question and several short-answer questions on the core (all compulsory) Section B: one extended-response question on the core (from a choice of three)
Paper 3	24	12	12	1	Several short-answer questions in each of the two options studied (all compulsory)

HL assessment specifications

First examinations 2009

Component	Overall weighting (%)	Approximate weighting of objectives (%)		Duration (hours)	Format and syllabus coverage
		1+2	3		
Paper 1	20	20		1	40 multiple-choice questions (± 15 common to SL plus about five more on the core and about 20 more on the AHL)
Paper 2	36	18	18	2¼	Section A: one data-based question and several short-answer questions on the core and the AHL (all compulsory) Section B: two extended-response questions on the core and the AHL (from a choice of four)
Paper 3	20	10	10	1¼	Several short-answer questions and one extended-response question in each of the two options studied (all compulsory)

In addition to addressing objectives 1, 2 and 3, the internal assessment scheme for both SL and HL addresses objective 4 (personal skills) using the personal skills criterion to assess the group 4 project, and objective 5 (manipulative skills) using the manipulative skills criterion to assess practical work. For both SL and HL, calculators are not permitted in paper 1 but are required in papers 2 and 3.