

Cambridge Checkpoint

Information for teachers and parents

Cambridge
Checkpoint



Cambridge Secondary 1



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Excellence in education

Cambridge Checkpoint has been designed by University of Cambridge International Examinations, the world's largest provider of international qualifications for 5–19 year olds. We have brought our expertise in assessment to help learners at this stage in their education understand their abilities in the core subject areas of English, Mathematics and Science.

Cambridge Checkpoint tests are available in English, Mathematics and Science. The results – which are given in detailed feedback reports – help learners understand more about their strengths and weaknesses in these subjects.

Teachers and schools can use this information effectively to help learners achieve better results in the future and make the most of their educational opportunities. The tests are marked by us in Cambridge.

Cambridge Checkpoint is part of the Cambridge Secondary 1 stage which includes a curriculum with optional assessment. The tests provide an assessment at the end of a lower secondary education based on the learning objectives within the Cambridge Secondary 1 curriculum frameworks. Cambridge Checkpoint tests skills and knowledge from stages 7–9.

Through Cambridge Checkpoint, learners experience a test held under external examination conditions and gain early preparation for Cambridge IGCSE or Cambridge O Level examinations.

In addition to the detailed feedback reports, all learners taking Cambridge Checkpoint tests receive a statement of achievement.

What information do learners receive?

Each learner receives two documents:

- a statement of achievement which gives the learner's overall results
- a report which provides further detail on the learner's performance

Results are given as Cambridge Checkpoint scores. These scores are between 0.0 and 6.0, from the weakest performance to the best performance.

The report provides a Cambridge Checkpoint score for the subject as a whole and for the main strands within each subject (a strand relates to a particular topic or skill area). This helps teachers, parents and learners identify any strengths and weaknesses.

The report also shows the types of questions that best illustrate the learner's strengths and weaknesses in comparison to other learners. The 'strengths' highlight the questions the learner answered correctly, but which most other learners of similar ability answered incorrectly. The 'weaknesses' highlight the questions that the learner answered incorrectly but which most other learners of similar ability answered correctly.

English as a Second Language

Our sister organisation University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (Cambridge ESOL) provides externally certificated assessment for schools that are following the Cambridge Secondary 1 English as a Second Language curriculum framework.

The Cambridge ESOL test for learners at Cambridge Secondary 1 stage is:

Cambridge English: Preliminary for Schools (PET for Schools)

Further information on this test is available from the Cambridge ESOL website www.CambridgeESOL.org



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
ESOL Examinations




How does Cambridge Checkpoint help the classroom teacher and the school?

In addition to the reports which are provided for each learner, we also give feedback reports to each school. These reports give detailed information about the strengths and weaknesses of each class or teaching group in the tests and of the school as a whole. Teachers can then focus their teaching on the particular needs of each class and consider areas to concentrate on for future classes.

In addition, there is also a report for the school at the end of the test series. This gives the results of all learners from schools which took the Cambridge Checkpoint tests. These are broken down by age and whether English is a first language for the learner, so that schools may compare their own results with those of similar learners around the world. The report also gives the examiner's comments on how learners performed in the tests.

Overall result for the subject	Results in each major strand	Brief explanation of what Cambridge Checkpoint scores mean	Your strengths – questions where you did better than other students of the same overall ability as you	Your weaknesses – questions where you didn't do as well as other students of the same overall ability as you
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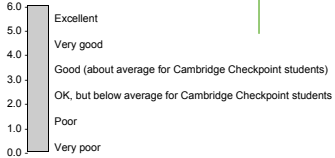
REPORT TO STUDENT
To be given to the student with the Statement of Achievement

Student Name: Mariyam Khaleel	Centre: Desert International School	Subject: Science
Student Number: 0906	Centre Number: XX123	Date: October 2012

Your overall results are as follows:

Science (overall)	Cambridge Checkpoint score = 3.5
Biology	Cambridge Checkpoint score = 3.0
Chemistry	Cambridge Checkpoint score = 3.6
Physics	Cambridge Checkpoint score = 4.5
Scientific Enquiry	Cambridge Checkpoint score = 3.5

This is what the scores mean:





What you got right and what you got wrong

Most of your answers were as expected for a student with your Cambridge Checkpoint score. However, some of your answers were surprising; the most surprising ones are listed below. They may give you information about what parts of the subject you are good at and what parts you need to work harder at.

Question and part	Strand	Sub-strand
7bii	Physics	Light
8c	Physics	Electricity
10ai	Physics	Forces and motion
11b	Physics	Light

Questions you answered incorrectly that we expected you to find easy

Question and part	Strand	Sub-strand
2b	Biology	Plants
3aiii	Chemistry	Materials
5c	Biology	Variation and Classification
6ai	Chemistry	Chemical change
8c	Scientific Enquiry	Planning from ideas and evidence

STATEMENT OF ACHIEVEMENT

MARIYAM KHALEEL

Student Number: 0906 **Centre name:** Desert International School **Centre number:** XX123

<p>Overall Result</p> <p>Subject: Science</p> <p>Checkpoint Score: 3.5</p> <p>Date: October 2012</p>	<p>Strand Results</p> <p>Biology: 3.0</p> <p>Chemistry: 3.6</p> <p>Physics: 4.5</p> <p>Scientific Enquiry: 3.0</p>
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Explanatory Notes
The results are given using the Cambridge Checkpoint scale. Scores on the Cambridge Checkpoint scale are from 0.0 (the lowest level of achievement) to 6.0 (the highest level of achievement). This document is a Statement of Achievement in a Cambridge Checkpoint test. Examination certificates are not issued for Cambridge Checkpoint tests.





How do Cambridge Checkpoint tests work?

Cambridge Checkpoint tests have two question papers for each subject. Each paper takes approximately one hour to complete, although this varies from subject to subject. Schools hold the tests at any time during a specified period to fit within the school timetable – during April and October each year.

Learners from many countries around the world take Cambridge Checkpoint tests so the questions are suitable for an international audience and can be answered by learners from different cultural and language backgrounds.

Questions are written for learners aged approximately 14 years old. To ensure suitability, test questions are trialled before being used in question papers.

After the tests are completed they are sent to us in Cambridge for marking. Marks are carefully analysed and a report is produced on each learner's work. The marking process and preparation of the reports takes approximately six to eight weeks from receipt of scripts. There is a single date for release of results.

Learn more! For more information on Cambridge Checkpoint please visit www.cie.org.uk/cambridgesecondary1 or contact Customer Services on **+44 (0)1223 553554** or email international@cie.org.uk

