AS and A levels in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Common features across countries

- A to E for AS levels
- A* to E for A levels
- Non-exam assessment is the minimum necessary in each subject, and the amount required may differ by each regulator
- Assessment objectives and their weightings are similar in most subjects
- Content requirements are broadly similar for most subjects
- Content in AS levels is approximately half that of the A level

Key differences between countries

- AS levels will not contribute to A level results
- All exams taken at the end of the course (linear qualifications)
- Students must retake all of their exams when retaking the qualification; non-exam assessment marks can be reused
- AS levels contribute 40% of the total marks of the full A level
- Individual AS and A level units can be retaken by students only once
- AS exams can be taken at the end of the AS course or alongside A2
In general, students may take GCSEs graded A* to G (including a new grade C*) and those graded 9 to 1.

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GCSEs will be of approximately the same size and accessible to the same range of students as those they have replaced.

Non-exam assessment is the minimum necessary in each subject, and the amount required may differ by each regulator.

Key differences between countries:

- Ofqual:
  - 9 to 1 grading (9 being highest grade)
  - All exams taken at the end of the course (linear qualifications)
  - Students must retake all of their exams when retaking the qualification; non-exam assessment marks can be reused.

- In general, students will receive grades A* to G, but may take some GCSEs used in England (graded 9 to 1):
  - Some GCSEs will be linear with all exams taken at the end of the course; some will be modular.
  - Students must retake all of their exams when retaking a linear GCSE; non-exam assessment marks can be reused.
  - Students can only retake each unit once in modular GCSEs.

- Common features across countries:
  - Assessment objectives and their weightings differ in some subjects.
  - Content requirements are different in most subjects.

GCSEs in England, Wales and Northern Ireland