



**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2026
EXAMINATION FORMAT AND TOPICS
SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS AND 5 NORMAL
ACADEMIC**

SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS AND 5 NORMAL ACADEMIC PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION					
Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4E31, 4E32, 4E33, 4E36, 4E37, 4E38, 5N1	English Language (1184)	Writing	Paper 1: Editing, Situational Writing, Continuous Writing	70m (35%)	1 h 50 min
		Comprehension	Paper 2: Comprehension Texts and Summary Task	50m (35%)	1 h 50 min
		Listening	Paper 3: Listening	30m (10%)	45 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 4: Planned Response, Spoken Interaction	30m (20%)	20 min (includes 10 min of prep time)
4CL2, 4CL3, 4CL4, 4CL5	Chinese Language (1160)	Email Essay Grammar	Paper 1: informal & formal email, Composition - narrative, expository, descriptive argumentative	60m (30%)	2 h
		Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended)	70m (35%)	1 h 30 min
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (10%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	50m (25%)	10 min



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4CL1	Higher Chinese (1116)	Email Essay Grammar	Paper 1: informal & formal email, Composition - narrative, expository, descriptive	80m (40%)	2 h
		Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended)	80m (40%)	1 h 45 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	40m (20%)	10 min
4CL10	Chinese B (1153)	Email Essay Grammar	Paper 1: informal email and picture composition	20m (20%)	50 min
		Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: language application and comprehension (MCQ)	30m (30%)	1 h
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (20%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	30m (30%)	10 min
4ML2, 4ML3	Malay Language (1148)	Functional Writing Essay Grammar	Paper 1: Written Interaction, Respond writing and formal email. Composition - narrative, expository, descriptive	60m (30%)	2 h
		Vocab, Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended)	70m (35%)	1 h 30 min
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (10%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	50m (25%)	10 min
4ML10	Malay B (1151)	Email Essay Grammar	Paper 1: informal email and picture composition	20m (20%)	50 min
		Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: language application and comprehension (MCQ)	30m (30%)	1 h
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (20%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	30m (30%)	10 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4TL2, 4TL3	Tamil Language (1157)	Email Essay	Paper 1: Informal, formal email, and Composition - Narrative, expository, story writing	60m (30%)	2 h
		Grammar Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: Idioms, Editing, cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended)	70m (35%)	1 h 30 min
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (10%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	50m (25%)	10 min
4TL1	Higher Tamil (1147)	Email Forum writing Essay	Paper 1: Informal/Formal/Forum and Essay - Narrative, Speech, Argumentative	80 (40%)	2h
		Vocab Grammar Comprehension	Paper 2 Cloze passage, Editing, Grammar, Comprehension, Summary writing	80 (40%)	1h 45 mins
		Oral Communication	Paper 3 Oral	40 (20%)	15 mins



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4PB1	Biology (6093)	All chapters	Paper 1 40 MCQ	40m (30%)	1 h
			Paper 2 Section A Structured questions & Section B 2 long questions students choose 1 out of 2	70m + 10m (50%)	1 h 45 min
			Paper 3 Practical	40m (20%)	1 h 50 min
4PC1	Chemistry (6092)	All chapters	Paper 1 40 MCQ	40m (30%)	1 h
			Paper 2 Section A Structured questions Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2	70m + 10m (50%)	1 h 45 min
			Paper 3 Practical	40m (20%)	1 h 50 min
4PP1	Physics (6091)	All chapters	Paper 1 40 MCQ	40m (30%)	1 h
			Paper 2 Section A Structured questions Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2	70m + 10m (50%)	1 h 45 min
			Paper 3 Practical	40m (20%)	1 h 50 min



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4B31, 4B36, 4B37, 5B26, 4C31, 4C32, 4C36, 4C37, 4C38, 4C39, 5C26	Science (Chemistry/ Biology) (5088)	Science Chemistry All chapters	Paper 1: 40 MCQ	40m (20%)	1 h
		Science Biology All chapters	Paper 3 (Chemistry) & Paper 4 (Biology)	55m + 10 m (32.5% per paper)	1 h 15 min per paper
			Section A Short, structured questions & Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2		
			Paper 5 Practical	30m (15%)	1 h 30 min
4P31, 4P36, 4P37, 5P26, 4C31, 4C32, 4C36, 4C37, 4C38, 4C39, 5C26	Science (Physics / Chemistry) (5086)	Science Physics All chapters	Paper 1: 40 MCQ	40m (20%)	1 h
		Science Chemistry All chapters	Paper 2 (Physics) & Paper 3 (Chemistry)	55m + 10 m (32.5% per paper)	1 h 15 min per paper
			Section A Short, structured questions & Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2		
			Paper 5 Practical	30m (15%)	1 h 30 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4M31, 4M32, 4M36, 4M37, 4M38	Mathematics (4052)	All topics from Sec 1 to 4	Paper 1 There will be about 26 short answer questions	90m (50%)	2 h 15 min
			Paper 2 Questions with varying lengths, the last question focuses specifically on applying mathematics to a real-world scenario.	90m (50%)	2 h 15 min
4A31, 4A32, 4A36, 4A37	Additional Mathematics (4049)	Chapters 1 to 17	Paper 1 There will be 12-14 questions with varying marks and lengths, up to 10 marks per question . Some questions may integrate ideas from more than 1 topic of the syllabus.	90m (50%)	2 h 15 min
			Paper 2 There will be 9 -11 questions with varying marks and lengths, up to 12 marks per question . Some questions may integrate ideas from more than 1 topic of the syllabus.	90m (50%)	2 h 15 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4PG1	Geography (2279/01) (2279/02)	Paper 1 Geography in Everyday Life (Topic 1.3) Tourism Climate	Candidates answer <u>three</u> compulsory structured questions. Paper 1 Question 1*: Geography in Everyday Life (Topic 1.3) (20m) Question 2: Tourism (15m) Question 3: Climate (15m) Each structured question will consist of no more than 9 sub-parts. Candidates will be required to answer one 9-mark question testing AO3 in either Question 2 or Question 3. This question will be marked using generic level descriptors. All other questions in this paper will be point-marked. *Question 1 is on fieldwork. The fieldwork context may or may not be based on any of the clusters in the syllabus.	50m (50%)	1 h 45 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4PG1	Geography (2279/01) (2279/02)	Paper 2 Geography in Everyday Life (Topics 1.1 and 1.2) Tectonics Singapore	Paper 2 Candidates answer <u>three</u> compulsory structured questions. Question 1: Geography in Everyday Life (Topics 1.1 - 1.2) (15m) Question 2: Tectonics (15m) Question 3: Singapore(20m) Each structured question will consist of no more than 9 sub-parts. Candidates will be required to answer one 9-mark question testing AO3 in either Question 2 or Question 3. This question will be marked using generic level descriptors. All other questions in this paper will be point-marked. An approved calculator may be used in this paper.	50m (50%)	1 h 45 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4G31, 4G32, 4G36, 4G37, 4G38	Elective Geography (2260/02)	Geography in Everyday Life Tourism Tectonics	Candidates answer Questions 1 and 2 in Section A, and <u>either</u> Question 3 <u>or</u> 4 in Section B. <u>Section A</u> Question 1: Cluster 1 - Geography in Everyday Life (14m) Question 2: Cluster 2 - Tourism (18m) <u>Section B</u> <i>Either</i> Question 3: Cluster 3 - Climate (18m) <i>Or</i> Question 4: Cluster 4 - Tectonics (18m) Each structured question will consist of no more than 8 sub-parts. Candidates will be required to answer one 9-mark question testing AO3 in either Question 2 or Question 3/Question 4. This question will be marked using generic level descriptors. All other questions in this paper will be point-marked. An approved calculator may be used in this paper	50m (50%)	1 h 45 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4PH1	History (2174/01) (2174/02)	Paper 1 Unit 1 All Chapters Paper 2 Unit 2 All Chapters	Paper 1 (e-examination format) Section A: Source Based Questions (30m) Section B: Structured Essay Question (20m)	50m (50%)	1 h 50 min
			Paper 2 (e-examination format) Section A: Source Based Questions (30m) Section B: Structured Essay Question (20m)	50m (50 %)	1 h 50 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4H31, 4H36	Elective History (2261/02)	All Chapters Sec 3 – 4	Section A: Source Based Questions	30m	1 h 50 min
			Section B: Structured Essay Question	20m 50m (50%)	
4O31, 4O32, 4O36, 4O37	Social Studies (2272/01) (2273/01) (2289/01)	All Chapters Sec 3 – 4	Section A Source Based Questions	35 m	1 h 45 min
			Section B Structured Response Questions	15m 50m (50 %)	



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4PL1, 4PL2	Literature in English (2065/01) (2065/02)	Paper 1 Set Text: Lord of the Flies by <i>William Golding</i> Unseen Poetry	Section A: Essay or Passage-based Question Section B: Unseen Poetry	25m 25m 50m (50 %)	1 h 40 min
		Paper 2 Set Text: Everything but the Brain by <i>Jean Tay</i>	Section A: Essay Questions Section B: Compulsory Passage-based Question	25m 25m 50m (50 %)	1 h 30 min
4R36	Art (6114)	Paper 1: Coursework Gathering and Investigation of Information Exploration and Development of Ideas/Concepts Aesthetic Qualities Selection and Control of Materials and Technical Processes Personal Response	Paper 1: Coursework	100m (60%)	22 weeks
		Paper 2: Drawing & Painting Investigation and Interpretation of Theme Exploration and Development of Theme Aesthetic Qualities Control of Materials and Technical Processes Personal Response	Paper 2: Drawing & Painting 5 Pages of A3 sized Preparatory Studies and a Final Artwork	100m (40%)	3 h



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4D36	Design & Technology (7059)	Paper 1 questions will be design-centric. - Question 1 requires knowledge application of Section 1 Design. - Question 2 to Question 4 require knowledge application of Section 2 Technology; specifically structures, mechanisms and electronics.	Paper 1 short answer type questions and proposed sketches by candidates.	80m (40%) Question 1: 26m out of 80m Question 2 to 4: 54m out of 80m	2 h
		Paper 2 will assess a design and prototyping project.	Paper 2 Coursework (refer to subject syllabus document for details)	60m (60%)	22 weeks
4F36	Nutrition & Food Science (6097)	Paper 1 - Written Paper Topics tested : Chapter 1 to 16. This will test the candidates' knowledge of theory and practice in response to the assessment objectives.	Section A: MCQ (15m) Section B: Short answer and data response (55m) Section C: Open ended questions (30m)	100m (40%)	2 h
		Paper 2 Coursework	Coursework consists of the following aspects: - Research - Dm - Investigation - Planning - Execution - Evaluation (refer to subject syllabus document for details)	80m (60%)	28 hours curriculum time



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5N1 (4T36)	Principles of Account (7087)	Chapters 1 – 16	Paper 1 3 to 4 compulsory structured questions.	40m (40%)	1 h
			Paper 2 4 compulsory structured questions. - One question requires the preparation of financial statements for a business for one financial year (20m). - A scenario-based question (7m) will be part of one of the 3 remaining questions.	60m (60%)	2 h
4X36	Exercise and Sports Science (6081)	1. Motor and Learning Development 2. Sports Physiology 3. Sports Psychology 4. Sports Sociology 5. Biomechanics	Paper 1:	80m (40%)	2 h
			Section A: MCQs, Fill in the Blanks, Matching Section B: Short Answer Questions Section C: Short Answer Questions based on video Paper 2: Coursework	20m 40m 20m 100m (60%)	22 weeks



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5N1	Elective Geography (2260/02)	1. Geography in Everyday Life 2. Tourism 3. Climate	Candidates answer Questions 1 and 2 in Section A, and <u>either</u> Question 3 <u>or</u> 4 in Section B. <u>Section A</u> - Question 1: Cluster 1 - Geography in Everyday Life (14m) - Question 2: Cluster 2 - Tourism (18m) <u>Section B</u> <u>Either</u> - Question 3: Cluster 3 - Climate (18m) <u>Or</u> - Question 4: Cluster 4 - Tectonics (18m) Each structured question will consist of no more than 8 sub-parts. Candidates will be required to answer one 9-mark question testing AO3 in either Question 2 or Question 3/Question 4. This question will be marked using generic level descriptors. All other questions in this paper will be point-marked. An approved calculator may be used in this paper	50m (50%)	1 h 45 min