



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

SECONDARY 4 NORMAL ACADEMIC PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION					
Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4E21, 4E22, 4E26	English Language (1190)	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)
4CL7	Chinese Language (1196)	Email Essay Grammar	Paper 1: informal & formal email, Composition - narrative, expository, argumentative	60m (30%)	2 h
		Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended)	60m (30%)	1 h 30 min
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (10%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	60m (30%)	10 min



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4ML7	Malay Language (1197)	Functional Writing Essay	Paper 1: Written Interaction. Respond writing and Formal Email Composition - narrative, expository, descriptive	60m (30%)	2 h
		Grammar Vocab, Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended)	60m (30%)	1 h 30 min
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (10%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 4: Oral	60m (30%)	10 min
4TL7	Tamil Language (1198)	Email Essay	Paper 1: informal & formal email, Composition - narrative, expository, story	60m (30%)	2 h
		Grammar Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, idioms, Comprehension (MCQ & open-ended) Editing	60m (30%)	1 h 30 min
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20m (10%)	30 min
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	60m (30%)	15 mins



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4P21, 4P26, 4C21, 4C22, 4C26	Science (Physics / Chemistry) (5105)	Science Physics All Chapters Science Chemistry All chapters	Physics Paper 1 & Chemistry Paper 3 20 MCQ	20m per paper (20%)	1 h 15 min each for Paper 1 & 2 and Paper 3 & 4
			Physics Paper 2 & Chemistry Paper 4 Section A Short, structured questions & Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2	30m per paper (30%)	
4B21, 4B22, 4B26, 4C21, 4C22, 4C26	Science (Chemistry / Biology) (5107)	Science Chemistry All chapters Science Biology All chapters	Chemistry Paper 3 & Biology Paper 5 20 MCQ	20 m per paper (20%)	1h 15 min each for Paper 3 & 4 and Paper 5 & 6
			Chemistry Paper 4 & Biology Paper 6 Section A Short, structured questions & Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2	30 m per paper (30%)	
4M21, 4M22, 4M26	Mathematics Syllabus A (4045)	All topics from Sec 1 to 4	Paper 1 There will be about 23 short answer questions.	70m (50%)	2 h
			Paper 2 Section A: There will be 9 -10 questions with varying lengths, the last question focuses specifically on applying mathematics to a real-world scenario.	70m (50%)	2 h
			Section B: Do 1 question from the 2 long structured questions.		



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4A26	Additional Mathematics (4051)	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10,11, 12, 14.1 to 14.3, 14.7 and 15.	Paper 1 There will be 13-15 questions with varying marks and lengths. Some questions may integrate ideas from more than 1 topic of the syllabus.	70m (50%)	1 h 45 min
			Paper 2 There will be 8 -10 questions with varying marks and lengths. Some questions may integrate ideas from more than 1 topic of the syllabus.	70m (50%)	1 h 45 min
4O21, 4O22, 4O26	Social Studies (2175/01) (2176/01)	All Chapters from Sec 3 - 4	Section A: Source Based Questions Section B: Structured Response Questions	35 m 15 m 50m (50%)	1 h 45 min
4G21, 4G22, 4G26	Elective Geography (2125/02)	Geography in Everyday Life Tectonics	Candidates answer Question 1 in Section A, and <u>either</u> Question 2 <u>or</u> 3 in Section B. <u>Section A</u> Question 1: Cluster 1 - Geography in Everyday Life (25 marks) <u>Section B</u> <i>Either</i> Question 2: Cluster2 - Climate (25 marks) <i>Or</i> Question 3: Cluster 3 - Tectonics (25 marks) Candidates will be required to answer <u>one</u> 6-mark question testing AO3 in Question 2/Question 3. An approved calculator may be used in this paper.	50 m (50%)	1 h 45 min



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4H21, 4H26	Elective History (2126/02)	All Chapters from Sec 3 - 4	Section A: Source Based Question Section B: Structured Essay Question	30 m 20 m 50m (50%)	1 h 50 min
4T26	Principles of Accounts (7086)	All Chapters from Sec 3 - 4	Paper 1 3 to 4 compulsory structured questions. 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 (5m) will be part of one of the 3 remaining questions.	40m (40%) 60m (60%)	1 h 2 h



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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4D21	Design & Technology (7055)	Paper 1 questions will be design-centric. • Question 1 requires knowledge application of Section 1 Design. • Question 2 to Question 3 require knowledge application of Section 2 Technology; specifically structures, mechanisms and electronics.	Paper 1: short answer type questions and proposed sketches by candidates.	60m (40%) Question 1: 24m out of 60m Question 2 to 3: 36m out of 60m	1 h 30 min
		Paper 2 will assess a design and prototyping project.	Paper 2: Coursework (refer to subject syllabus document for details)	60m (60%)	20 weeks
4F21	Nutrition & Food Science (6073)	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 (16m) Section B: Short answer and data response (40m) Section C: Open ended questions (24m)	80m (40%)	1 h 30 min
		Paper 2	Coursework consists of the following aspects: • Research • Dm • Exploratory studies • Planning • Execution • Evaluation (refer to subject syllabus document for details)	60m (60%)	25 curriculum hours



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Out of Stream (OOS subjects)

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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4E31, 4E32, 4E33, 4E36, 4E37, 4E38	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
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	Paper 1: Written Interaction, respond writing formal email, Composition - narrative, expository, descriptive	60m (30%)	2 h
		Grammar 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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Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4TL10	Tamil Language (B) (1152)	Email Essay	Paper 1: informal email /Composition - narrative	20 (20%)	50 mins
		Grammar Vocab Comprehension	Paper 2: cloze passage, Comprehension (MCQ)	30 (30%)	1 hr
		Listening Comprehension (LC)	Paper 3: LC (MCQ)	20 (20%)	30 mins
		Oral Communication	Paper 3: Oral	30 (30%)	15 mins
4P31, 4P36, 4P37, 4C31, 4C32, 4C36, 4C37, 4C38	Science (Physics / Chemistry) (5086)	Science Physics All chapters Science Chemistry All chapters	Paper 1: 40 MCQ	40m (20%)	1 h
			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		
4B31, 4B36, 4B37, 4C31, 4C32, 4C36, 4C37, 4C38	Science (Chemistry/ Biology) (5088)	Science Chemistry All chapters Science Biology All chapters	Paper 5 Practical	30m (15%)	1 h 30 min
			Paper 1: 40 MCQ	40m (20%)	1 h
			Paper 3 (Chemistry) & Paper 4 (Biology) Section A Short, structured questions &	55m + 10 m (32.5% per paper)	1 h 15 min per paper
			Section B Long questions, students choose 1 out of 2		
4M31, 4M32, 4M36, 4M37, 4M38	Mathematics (4052)	All topics from Sec 1 to 4	Paper 5 Practical	30m (15%)	1 h 30 min
			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



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SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS AND 5 NORMAL ACADEMIC PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION					
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> <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



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SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS AND 5 NORMAL ACADEMIC PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION					
Teaching Groups	Subject & Code	Chapter/ Area of Focus	Format	Marks / % Overall	Duration
4H31, 4H36	Elective History (2261/02)	All Chapters from Sec 3 - 4	Section A: Source Based Questions Section B: Structured Essay Question	30m 20m 50m (50%)	1 h 50 min
4O31, 4O32, 4O36, 4O37	Social Studies (2272/01) (2273/01) (2289/01)	All Chapters from Sec 3 - 4	Section A: Source Based Questions Section B: Structured Response Questions	35 m 15m 50m (50 %)	1 h 45 min