

exam [ɪg'zæm] *n* *паэзэ*.

ЭКЗАМЕН

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

exam**exam** [exam exams] *BrE* [ɪg'zæm] ¹ *NAmE* [ɪg'zæm] ² (*also formal*)**exam-in-ation**) *noun*

1. a formal written, spoken or practical test, especially at school or college, to see how much you know about a subject, or what you can do

- to **take an exam**
- to **pass/fail an exam**
- an **exam paper**
- I got my **exam results** today.
- A lot of students suffer from **exam nerves** .
- (*BrE*) I hate **doing exams** .
- (*BrE, formal*) to **sit an exam**
- (*BrE*) to **mark an exam**
- (*NAmE*) to **grade an exam**
- (*BrE*) She did well **in her exams** .
- (*NAmE*) She did well **on her exams** .

2. (*NAmE*) a medical test of a particular part of the body

- an eye exam

See also: ↑[examination](#)

Culture:**exams**

Greater emphasis is placed on examination results in Britain than in many other countries. Most universities and employers still rely mainly on exam results for evidence of a person's academic ability.

Children in England complete **National Curriculum Tests** (still often called by their former name, **standard assessment tasks** or **SATs**) at ages 7 and 11 as part of the **National Curriculum**. These tests are set **nationally** and results can be compared across the country. In a very few areas children take an ↑**eleven-plus** exam to decide where they will go for their secondary education.

In secondary schools exams are usually held at the end of each school year to assess students' progress. The most important exams are the national ↑**GCSE** exams that children take at 16. Schools are free to choose which of several **examination boards** they use to set and mark GCSE exams. Exams are marked on a seven-point scale, A to G, with an additional grade, A*, being awarded to those who reach the highest standard and U for 'unclassified'. Final grades may also be based on **continuous assessment**, i.e. marks gained for essays and project work during the course, as well as on a student's performance in the exam. Many students take GCSE exams in seven or eight subjects, sometimes more. **Diploma** exams offer an alternative to GCSE and A level exams and are based on more practical work as preparation for particular jobs.

Students who do well in their GCSEs usually go on to take ↑**A level** exams two years later. Exams are marked on a five-point scale, A to E, with an additional grade, A*, and U for 'unclassified', as at GCSE. Most study four or five subjects at AS level in the first year and then three at A2 level in the second year. They must achieve reasonably high grades in order to be offered a place at university.

In Scotland students sit **Scottish Qualification Certificate** exams which, at **Standard Grade**, are the equivalent of GCSEs. The highest grade is A. A year later students take the higher grade, **Highers**. After a further year some students take **Advanced Highers**.

Students from other countries who wish to study at university in Britain must show a knowledge of English and the most common test for this purpose is an ↑**IELTS** test.

At university students work towards a **degree**, and most courses end in a series of exams called **finals**. Many take an **honours degree** which is awarded in one of several **classes**. The highest class is a first. The second class is often split between upper second and lower second (a 2:1 and a 2:2), and below that is the third class. If a student does not meet the standard for an honours degree, he or she may be awarded a **pass degree**.

In the US there are no national exams like those in Britain. Students at school and university usually take one or more exams as part of their **grade assessment** (= a mark from A to E or F showing how well they have done) for each class. At colleges and universities these exams are often called **midterms** or **finals**, and during the year students have exams in all or most of their classes.

People who wish to study at a US university usually have to take one of several **standardized tests**. Students going to university for the first time may take the ↑**SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test)** or the ↑**ACT (American College Test)**. People who want to do a higher degree may take the ↑**GRE (Graduate Record Examination)**, ↑**LSAT (Law School Admission Test)** or ↑**MCAT (Medical College Admission Test)**, depending on what they want to study. Students from other countries must usually show a knowledge of English and the most common test for this purpose is the **TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)**.

Standardized tests often do not test how much people know about a subject, but how strong their skills are in areas like reading and solving problems. People do not pass or fail but instead each college or university decides on the lowest score it will accept. Test scores are never the only factor to be considered in deciding whether to offer a place to a student.

Some professions require people to pass special exams before they are qualified to practise. Lawyers in the US, for example, must pass the **bar exam** in the state in which they wish to work, to show that they know the laws of that state.

Thesaurus:

exam *noun* **C**

- The geography exam is on Thursday.

test • **assessment** • **oral** • |BrE **paper** • • **practical** • |especially AmE **quiz** • |formal **examination** •

a/an exam/test/quiz/examination **on** sth

a **chemistry/geography, etc.** exam/test/paper/practical/quiz/examination

take/pass/fail a/an exam/test/assessment/oral/paper/practical/quiz/examination

Exam or test? An **exam** is an important test at school or college, usually at the end of a year, semester or course of study; a **test** is sth that students might be given at any point, covering only part of the material. **Test** is also usually used for tests of practical skill or physical or mental ability rather than academic knowledge

- an IQ test
- (BrE) a driving test
- (AmE) a driver's test

Collocations:

Education

Learning

acquire/get/lack (an) education/training/(BrE) (some) qualifications

receive/provide sb with training/tuition

develop/design/plan a curriculum/(especially BrE) course/(NAme) program/syllabus

give/go to/attend a class/lesson/lecture/seminar

hold/run/conduct a class/seminar/workshop

sign up for/take a course/classes/lessons

School

go to/start preschool/kindergarten/nursery school

be in the first, second, etc. (NAme) grade/(especially BrE) year (at school)

study/take/drop history/chemistry/German, etc.

(BrE) **leave/finish/drop out of/** (NAme) **quit** school

(NAme) **graduate** high school/college

Problems at school

be the victim/target of bullying

(BrE) **play truant from/** (both BrE, informal) **bunk off/skive off** school (= not go to school when you should)

(both especially NAme) **skip/cut** class/school

(BrE) **cheat in/** (NAme) **cheat on** an exam/a test

get/be given a detention (for doing sth)

be expelled from/be suspended from school

Work and exams

do your homework/(BrE) **revision/a** project on sth

work on/write/do/submit an essay/a dissertation/a thesis/an assignment/(NAme) a paper

finish/complete your dissertation/thesis/studies/coursework

hand in/ (NAme) **turn in** your homework/essay/assignment/paper

study/prepare/ (BrE) **revise/** (NAme) **review/** (NAme, informal) **cram** for a test/an exam

take/ (both BrE) **do/sit** a test/an exam

(especially BrE) **mark/** (especially NAme) **grade** homework/a test

(BrE) **do well in/** (NAme) **do well on/** (informal, especially NAme) **ace** a test/an exam

pass/fail/ (informal, especially NAme) **flunk** a test/an exam/a class/a course/a subject

University

apply to/get into/go to/start college/(BrE) university

leave/graduate from law school/college/(BrE) university (with a degree in computer science)

study for/take/ (BrE) **do/complete** a law degree/a degree in physics

(both NAme) **major/minor** in biology/philosophy

earn/receive/be awarded/get/have/hold a master's degree/a bachelor's degree/a PhD in economics

More About:

exams

Exam is the usual word for a written, spoken or practical test at school or college, especially an important one that you need to do in order to get a qualification. Examination is a very formal word. A test is something that students might be given in addition to, or sometimes instead of, regular exams, to see how much they have learned. A very short informal test is called a quiz in NAme.

Quiz in both NAme and BrE also means a contest in which people try to answer questions: ▪ a trivia quiz ◊▪ a quiz show.

Example Bank:

- As soon as the exams are over I'm going on holiday.
- Candidates found cheating in any exam will be disqualified from all their exams.
- Candidates found cheating in/on any exam will be disqualified.
- Girls are doing better than boys in every school exam.
- He did badly in his history exam.
- I can't go out because I'm revising for end of year exams.
- I did badly in the mock exam but passed the real thing.
- I had an eye exam.
- I just finished my last law school exam.
- I want to do well in my exams.

- I wrote two awful essays and was lucky to scrape through the exam.
- In spite of her worries, she passed the exam with flying colours.
- Most students suffer from exam nerves to some extent.
- She performed a thorough exam and didn't find anything unusual.
- The doctor will then perform a physical exam on the child.
- The exam format has been changed to include multiple choice questions.
- The final exam is set by a board of professors.
- The follow-up exams showed the baby was healthy.
- The midterm exams are coming up.
- The regional exam boards all get together regularly to ensure equal standards.
- The regional exam boards try to ensure equal standards.
- There is a subdued atmosphere in the school at exam time.
- We had an English exam on this play.
- We had to study to do well on the exam.
- When do you sit your final exams?
- You should have a clinical breast exam every year.
- a Master's program's comprehensive exam
- an exam for nurses
- an exam for school leavers
- an exam in chemistry
- an ultrasound exam of the baby
- students who passed the national teacher certification exam
- the California high-school exit exam
- the New York state bar exam
- A lot of students suffer from exam nerves.
- He's practising hard for his piano exam.
- I got my exam grades/scores today.
- She did well in her exams.
- to grade an exam

exam

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

ex [ɪˈæm **S1** /ɪgˈzæm/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ *noun* [countable]

[**Word Family:** *noun:* ↑exam, ↑examination, cross-examination, ↑examiner; *verb:* ↑examine, ↑cross-examine]

[**Date:** 1800-1900; **Origin:** examination]

1. a spoken or written test of knowledge, especially an important one:

ˈ At the end of each level, there's an exam.

ˈ How did you do in your exams?

2. *American English* the paper on which the questions for an exam are written:

ˈ Do not open your exams until I tell you.

3. *American English* a set of medical tests:

ˈ an eye exam

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COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **take/do an exam** (also **sit an exam** *British English*) We have to take exams at the end of each year.
- **pass an exam** (=succeed in it) Did you pass your final exam?
- **fail an exam** If you fail the exam, you can retake it.
- **do well/badly in an exam** *British English*, **do well/badly on an exam** *AmE* □ Maria always did well in her exams at school.
- **study for an exam** (also **revise for an exam** *British English*) She has to study for her exams.
- **sail through an exam** (=pass it easily) Don't worry - I'm sure you'll sail through all your exams.
- **scrape through an exam** (=only just pass it) He managed to scrape through the exam and stay on the course.
- **flunk an exam** *American English informal* (=fail it) I flunked all my first year exams.
- **cheat in an exam** *British English*, **cheat on an exam** *AmE*: She was caught cheating in the exam.
- **retake an exam** (also **resit an exam** *British English*) (=take it again because you did not do well the first time) If you don't do well, you'll have to resit the exam in January.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + exam

- **a chemistry/French etc exam** I knew I wouldn't pass the German exam.
- **a written exam** There is a written exam at the end of the course.
- **an oral exam** (=in which you answer questions by speaking) I have my French oral exams next week.
- **a mock exam** *British English* (=one that you do to practise for the real exams) He did well in the mock exams.
- **a practical exam** (=in which you have to make or do things) There's a practical exam as well as a written one.
- **a final exam** (=at the end of a course) The students take their final exams in June.
- **the end of year/term exam** *BrE*: I knew I had to do well in the end of year exams.
- **high school exams** Greg got good grades in all of his high school exams.
- **an entrance exam** (=in order to enter a school or university) Jane passed the entrance exam but decided not to go.
- **a professional exam** (=to qualify in a profession, for example to be an accountant) Once you've passed your professional exams, you can start to build up your experience.
- **the bar exam** (=in order to become a lawyer) He is studying for the bar exam.
- **board exams** *American English* (=in order to become a nurse or doctor) He failed his board exams in psychiatry.

■ exam + NOUN

- **exam results** The school achieves consistently good exam results.
- **an exam paper** I've still got dozens of exam papers to mark.
- **an exam question** Read the exam questions carefully before writing your answers.
- **exam revision** *BrE*: I have to do my exam revision this weekend.
- **exam practice** Schools say they have to spend too much time doing exam practice.
- **an exam essay/script** (=that someone has written during an exam) I've brought in some old exam scripts for us to look at.
- **exam technique** (=good ways to succeed in exams) Mr Frasier gave us some useful tips on exam technique.
- **exam marks** Pupils were divided into classes with a similar range of ability, based on their previous exam marks.

■ COMMON ERRORS

- ▶ Do not say '*make an exam*'. Say **take an exam** or **do an exam**.

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THESAURUS

- **test** a set of questions or practical activities, which are intended to find out how much someone knows about a subject or skill: I have a chemistry test tomorrow. | Did Lauren pass her driving test?
- **exam** (also **examination** *formal*) an important test that you do at the end of a course of study or class or at the end of the school year: He's upstairs, revising for an exam. | When do you get your exam results? | There's a written examination at the end of the course.
- **quiz** *American English* a quick test that a teacher gives to a class, usually to check that students are learning the things they should be learning: We have a math quiz every Monday. | a **pop quiz** (=a quiz given by a teacher without any warning)
- **finals** *British English* the last exams that you take at the end of a British university course: During my finals I was revising till 3 o'clock in the morning most days.
- **final** *American English* an important test that you take at the end of a particular class in high school or college: The English final was pretty hard.
- **midterm** *American English* an important test that you take in the middle of a term, covering what you have learned in a particular class in high school or college: He did badly in the midterm.
- **oral exam** (also **oral** *British English*) an exam in which you answer questions by speaking, instead of writing, for example to test how good you are at speaking a foreign language: Nicky got an A in her Spanish oral. | You can either take an oral exam or do a 25 page essay.
- **practical** *British English* an exam that tests your ability to do or make things, rather than your ability to write about them: The chemistry practical is on Monday.
- **mocks/mock exams** *British English informal* tests that you take as practice before the official examinations: She did well in the mocks.
- **paper** *British English* a set of printed questions used as an examination in a particular subject, or the answers people write: The history paper was really difficult. | The papers are marked by the other teachers.

exam

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