

Physics

2014 Senior External Examination — Subject notice 1

Information about the 2014 examination

The examination will be based on the *Physics Senior External Syllabus 2000*. It will consist of two papers.

Paper	Perusal/planning time	Working time
One	10 minutes	2 hours 30 minutes
Two	10 minutes	2 hours

It is recommended that candidates complete practical work based on each of the seven topics in the syllabus. Questions in either paper may refer to practical work undertaken during the year. Refer to pages 12–28 of the syllabus for details of topics and recommended practical work.

Paper One

Paper One will:

- contain questions assessing candidates' knowledge of subject matter (approximately 60%)
- contain questions assessing candidates' scientific processes (approximately 40%)
- consist of multiple-choice and short-response questions
- be a closed-book examination.

Paper Two

Paper Two will:

- consist of six extended-response questions that assess each candidate's ability to use complex reasoning processes (candidates should respond to all six questions)
- be an open-book examination. Candidates are permitted to bring any relevant paper-based written or printed material to the examination room.

Other information

- Candidates will be provided with a resource book for each paper containing a list of formulas from the Physics syllabus, a list of physical constants and the periodic classification of the elements.
- Significant figures are important. Responses should contain the correct number of significant figures.
- SI units are important and are used exclusively in the examination. Responses should use correct SI units. Some texts use units which are not acceptable.

- Candidates are expected to correctly name graphs, label axes and state the units being used.
- The value for gravitational field strength at the Earth's surface will be taken as $g = 9.80 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$. Taking $g = 10.0 \text{ N kg}^{-1}$, as used in some texts, will be assessed as incorrect.

Level of achievement

Each candidate's level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses across both Paper One and Paper Two.

Enquiries

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