

Comparison guide

Cambridge IGCSE[™] Malay 0546 Cambridge IGCSE First Language Malay 0696

(for examination in 2022)

Summary

Native speakers of Malay will find that syllabus 0696 offers them a more relevant and stimulating course than one aimed at foreign language learners, such as syllabus 0546.

Cambridge IGCSE

Malay 0546

First Language Malay 0696

Target candidature

The purpose of both qualifications is to assess candidates' proficiency in Malay. However, they are aimed at different candidate groups, who will have had different levels, and types, of exposure to the language.

The term foreign language refers to a language learned as a beginner, primarily, and possibly exclusively, in a classroom situation with very little input outside of lessons.

In terms of the Cambridge IGCSE syllabuses, the first language syllabus is designed for candidates with a near-native command of the language for their age, or who have followed a secondary school curriculum in the language tested.

Prior learning

The syllabus recommends that learners who are embarking on a course of preparation for this qualification should have previously achieved a level in the language corresponding to the requirements of the Key Stage 3 programme of study for Modern Foreign Languages within the National Curriculum for England. As a complete beginner, candidate would have three years with contact time of 2-4 hours per week**.

The syllabus recommends that learners starting this course should have studied a Malay language curriculum such as the Cambridge Lower Secondary programme or equivalent national educational framework.

Progression

Candidates are awarded grades A* to C in Cambridge IGCSE Malay and are well prepared to follow courses leading to Level 3 (AS or A Level equivalent) qualifications in the same language.

Candidates who achieve grades A* to C in Cambridge IGCSE First Language Malay are well prepared to follow a wide range of courses. Such an examination performance in this qualification would normally indicate the ability to use Malay as a vehicle for further study in other subject areas.

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