

# FAQ's about IB Exams

**Dates: May 1–19 2017**



# Q. How do I know when my exams are?

A. You will receive a personalized exam schedule through your IB English or another of your IB classes, along with information about the exams. You can also check [IB-BCC.com](http://IB-BCC.com) for the exam schedule. Let Mrs. Dean or Ms. Trimble know if you did not receive an exam schedule.



# Q. Where do I go for my IB Exams?

A. All IB exams will be held in the B-CC auditorium, except for IB Math HL & IB SEHS which will be in A311 and IB Music which will be in the Media Center



**Q. What time do I  
need to be there?**

**A. Morning exams: arrive NO  
LATER THAN 7:40**

**Afternoon exams: arrive NO LATER  
THAN 11:40**



# Q. Where do I wait?

A. Wait outside the auditorium or exam room until the proctor invites you in. Once you enter the room, you must be quiet and go straight to your assigned seat.



# Q. What should I bring for exams?

A. You should bring:

- Blue or black ink pens
- # 2 Pencils ONLY for writing graphs and diagrams and for Paper 1 of science exams
- A ruler could be helpful
- IB Music students should bring earbuds or headphones
- Calculators on selected science and math exams.
- You can bring water in a clear bottle, and your pens/pencils in a clear plastic bag like a zip lock bag.



# Q. How long do these exams take?

A. You will see how long each exam is on your individual exam schedule. On days that Paper 1 and Paper 2 are right after one another, you will get a 10 minute break.

Please note that these exams will go past the regular school day and may not end until 3:30.

- IB Bio HL (paper 1 and 2)– May 1 (ends ~3:30)
- IB History (paper 1 and 2)– May 9 (ends ~2:45)
- IB Physics HL (paper 1 and 2)– May 15 (ends ~3:30)



# Q. What shouldn't I bring for exams?

A. Don't bring:

- food or any drinks but water
- Mechanical pencils
- Scratch paper
- White-out or correcting tape
- Cell phones, cameras, or other electronic devices.
- Books or notes

Having any of those on you during the exam will invalidate your score. You'll be able to leave them with the proctor if you do bring them into the room.



# Q. What happens once I am in the exam room?

A. If you bring in a bag, phone, or any other prohibited item, you must leave it with the proctor, then find your assigned seat. There will be a cover sheet on each desk that has your name and session number on it. That is where you should sit.



Q. What happens after that?

A. Your proctor will pass out materials you will need for the exam. You should maintain silence during this time.



Q. Ok, I'm sitting down  
at my spot and  
maintaining silence.  
Now what?

A. A proctor will read instructions,  
open the sealed test papers and  
distribute them. Don't look in the test  
booklet until you're told to do so.



# Q. The proctor has read the instructions. Can I start the exam?

A. For all the exams except paper 1 in Biology, Chemistry, SEHS, and Physics, you have five minutes to look at the exam – without picking up a pen.

Your proctor will tell you when you can start writing. The five minutes don't count towards your time on the exam.

**Use this 5 minutes to think about which questions you'll answer and in what order.**



# Q. What happens during the exam?

A. You'll have a clock in view, as well as the start and end time posted on the board or screen in front of you. Your proctor will announce when there's a half hour left, and when five minutes are left.



# Q. What if I need to use the restroom?

A. PLEASE use the restroom before you enter the exam room (and limit how much water you drink).

A proctor MUST escort you (only one student in a rest room at a time) so please only ask to leave the room if it is a serious emergency. You cannot add extra time onto your exam time.



# Q. What if I need something during the exam?

A. Raise your hand and ask your proctor. Attempts to communicate with other test takers will invalidate your exam and may invalidate theirs.



**Q. What if I finish early?**

**A. Sit quietly and wait for time to be called. Check over your answers. No books, phones, or other electronic devices. If you leave without permission your score is invalidated.**



# Q. And when the exam is over?

A. You'll be asked to fill out some information on your preprinted cover sheet. If the test required you to select some questions from a larger group of questions, this lets the examiner know which ones you've picked. You'll also be asked to put your session number and question numbers in your answer book if your exam required one.



# Q. Now can I go?

A. Not quite – you will be asked to string your test paper and answer books together with a string tag (IB's answer to the paper clip). The proctors will pick up your testing material and once everything is collected from everyone, you may leave, maintaining silence. If you gave materials to the proctor – backpack, phone, etc – don't forget to get them back.



**Q. Can I run out of the room cheering and screaming because it's over?**

A. Sadly, no. Please keep quiet until you've completely left the room. In some cases, there will be multiple exams taking place in the auditorium and some are longer than others.



# Q. What if I'm in a math or science exam? Can I bring a calculator?

A. For the following exams, graphic display calculators are permissible:

- Math Studies (all)
- Math SL paper 2
- Math HL papers 2 and 3
- Bio/Chem/Physics/SEHS Papers 2 and 3
- Both Environmental Systems papers

We'll ask you to clear calculators before you start the exam.



**Q. What if I'm in a music exam? How will I hear the music?**

**A. You need to bring headphones: earbuds or any other kind of headphone that can be plugged into the headphone jack on a computer.**



# Q. Any other strange instructions?

A. The one exception to the blue/black ink pen rule is for paper 1 in Biology, Chemistry, SEHS, or Physics, as it's a kind of scantron card. You'll need a number 2 pencil for those.



# Q. What happens if...

A. If you oversleep or are late, get here as soon as you can. If you're within the first 30 minutes of the exam start, you can take the exam but you won't get any extra time at the end. After the first 30 minutes, sorry, but you can't take the exam. If it's just one paper of the exam, you can take the other sections.



# Q. What happens if....

A.

- You aren't feeling well: come take the exam anyways! We may be able to give you breaks during the exam, so if you can see and breathe, you should be present.
- You are seriously ill or there is a serious emergency: contact Mrs. Dean or Ms. Trimble right away. We can submit a report to IB about your absence and it will be up to IB's discretion if you can make up the exam in November 2017 or May 2018. You would have to submit documentation to even be considered for approval to make up the exam.



**Q. So I missed my exam or I was granted an exception to make it up. When can I make it up?**

A. There will be NO make ups this May. If you are a Diploma Senior, you can take the exam in November 2017. If you are Junior Diploma candidate, you'll take it next May 2018. You will have to pay again to register and take the exam.

No makeups for certificate students.



# Q. What about being excused from classes?

A. You can get a permission slips to excuse you from class on days you have exams. You may be excused from the rest of your classes on a day when you have exams but you have to turn in the permission slip before your first exam. You're still responsible for the work in class.



# Q. How do I find out my scores on IB exams?

A. You can get your scores on July 6th through [candidates.ibo.org](https://candidates.ibo.org). You will need your personal code and PIN.

It is VERY important that you keep this information somewhere you can access it, as Mrs. Dean will be on maternity leave and may not be able to give you your log-in information in July.



# Q. What if I have more questions?

A. Contact Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Barnhouse, or Ms. Trimble if you have additional questions.

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