

ICSE Class 10 Exam Pattern (English Translation)

Highlights

Particulars	Details
Exam Name	Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) Class 10 Examination
Conducting Body	Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE)
Frequency	Annually
Mode	Pen-and-paper (offline)
Exam Duration	2 or 3 hours depending on the subject
Total Marks per Subject	100 (80 theory + 20 internal assessment)
Passing Criterion	33% in each subject (theory + internal)

Subject-wise Marking Scheme / Pattern

Subject	Theory	Internal	Total	Key Components / Sections
English – Paper I (Language)	80	20	100	Composition, Letter, Unseen Passage, Grammar
English – Paper II (Literature)	80	20	100	Compulsory + Optional sections
Second Language	80	20	100	Writing, Comprehension, Grammar
History & Civics	80	20	100	MCQs + Long Answers
Geography	80	20	100	Topography, Map, Short & Long answers
Physics / Chemistry / Biology	80	20	100	Theory + Practical
Mathematics	80	20	100	Chapters + Word problems

Groups of Subjects & Internal / External Weightage

Group	Subjects	Weightage – External vs Internal
Group I (Compulsory)	English, 2nd Language, History & Civics, Geography, Environmental Education	80% + 20%
Group II (Choose any two)	Science, Mathematics, etc.	80% + 20%
Group III (Vocational/Optional)	Computer Applications, Economic Applications, etc.	50% + 50%

Additional Notes

- The exam includes Multiple Choice, Short Answer, and Long Answer questions.
- Internal assessments include projects, practicals, assignments, speaking & listening tasks.
- Students get 15 minutes reading time before writing starts.
- Certain subject combinations are restricted.
- Exams are held between mid-February and late March annually.