ARABIC 3180, BENGALI 3204, FRENCH 3015, GERMAN 3025, HINDI 3195, NEPALI 3202, SETSWANA 3158, SINHALA 3205, SPANISH 3035, SWAHILI 3162, TAMIL 3206
GCE O Level
FOR EXAMINATION IN 2008

Exclusions

Syllabus **3015** must not be offered in the same session with any of the following syllabuses:

0501 First Language French
0520 French

Syllabus **3180** must not be offered in the same session with the following syllabus:

3183 Arabic (Brunei)

Syllabus **3205** must not be offered in the same session with the following syllabus:

3206 Tamil

Syllabus **3206** must not be offered in the same session with the following syllabus:

3205 Sinhala

You can find syllabuses and information about CIE teacher training events on the CIE Website (www.cie.org.uk).

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GCE ORDINARY LEVEL LANGUAGES

(For examination 2008)

Syllabus Codes:

Arabic	**3180**	**Setswana**	**3158**
Bengali	**3204**	**Sinhala**	**3205**
French	**3015**	**Spanish**	**3035**
German	**3025**	**Swahili**	**3162**
Hindi	**3195**	**Tamil**	**3206**
Nepali	**3202**		

CONTENTS

	Page
BENGALI	1
HINDI	1
NEPALI	2
ARABIC	3
TAMIL	3
SINHALA	3
SETSWANA	4
SWAHILI	7
FRENCH	8
GERMAN	8
SPANISH	8

NOTE

Copies of syllabuses, past papers and Examiners' reports are available on CD-ROM and can be ordered using the Publications Catalogue, which is available at www.cie.org.uk under ‘Qualifications & Diplomas’ – ‘Order Publications’.

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GCE Ordinary Level

3204 Bengali
3195 Hindi

ASSESSMENT

AVAILABILITY

3204 Bengali is available in June only. ***3195 Hindi*** is available in November only.

RULES OF COMBINATION

Candidates will take Papers 1 and 2.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Paper 1		**Paper 2**	
duration	weighting	duration	weighting
2 h	45%	1 h 30 mins	55%

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

Two papers containing the following sections will be set in each language:

Note: Centres and candidates should note that the use of dictionaries is not permitted in any assessment.

PAPER 1: Composition (2 hours) (90 marks)

Section A – Letter, Report, Dialogue or Speech (30 marks)

- From a choice of two topics, one letter, report, dialogue or speech of about 120 words is to be written in the language.

Section B – Essay (60 marks)

- From a choice of three topics, one essay of about 200 words is to be written in the language.

PAPER 2: Language Usage and Comprehension (1 hour 30 mins) (110 marks)

Section A – Language Usage (50 marks)

- Questions set will include Combination or Separation of Words, Idioms, Proverbs and Words in Pairs, Sentence Transformation and Cloze Passage.

Section B – Comprehension (multiple-choice questions) (14 marks)

- Seven questions based upon a prose passage of about 280 words will be set.

Section C – **Comprehension (open-ended questions) and Vocabulary** (46 marks)

- Six questions based upon a prose passage of about 270 words will be set. A Vocabulary question will follow the Comprehension questions in this section.

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GCE Ordinary Level
3202 Nepali

ASSESSMENT

AVAILABILITY

3202 Nepali is available in June only.

RULES OF COMBINATION

Candidates will take Paper 1 only.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Paper 1	
duration	weighting
3 h	100%

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

One paper containing the following sections will be set in each language:

PAPER 1: (3 hours) (100 marks)

Section A – Composition (50 marks)

From a choice of five topics, two compositions – each of about 150 words – are to be written in the language. The choice of topics will allow candidates to demonstrate ability in using the written language to:

- express an opinion
- communicate by letter
- narrate a story or series of events
- describe a scene or occasion
- compose or report a dialogue.

Section B – Translation (30 marks)

Candidates will be required to:

- translate a passage from the language into English (10 marks)
- translate a passage from English into the language (20 marks).

Section C – Reading Comprehension (20 marks)

One passage in the language will be set with questions to test the candidates' general understanding of the gist of the passage as well as their understanding of specific information given. The passage may be drawn from fiction, non-fiction, newspapers, magazines, etc. Answers are to be written in the language.

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GCE Ordinary Level

3180 Arabic
3205 Sinhala
3206 Tamil

ASSESSMENT

AVAILABILITY

3205 Sinhala and ***3206 Tamil*** are available in June only.
3180 Arabic is available in November only.

RULES OF COMBINATION

Candidates will take Papers 1 and 2.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Paper 1		Paper 2	
duration	weighting	duration	weighting
1 h 30 mins	45%	1 h 30 mins	55%

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

Two papers containing the following sections will be set in each language:

PAPER 1: Composition (1 hour 30 mins) (45 marks)

Section A – Letter, Report or Speech, Dialogue (15 marks)

From a choice of three titles, one composition, of about 120 words, is to be written in the language. The choice of genres will allow candidates to demonstrate ability in using the written language to:

- communicate by letter
- compose a report or speech
- compose a dialogue.

Section B – Essay (30 marks)

From a choice of four titles (narrative, descriptive or argumentative), one essay of about 200 words is to be written in the language.

PAPER 2: Translation and Reading Comprehension (1 hour 30 mins) (55 marks)

Section A – Translation (30 marks)

Candidates will be required to:

- translate a passage from the language into English (10 marks)
- translate a passage from English into the language (20 marks).

Section B – Reading Comprehension (25 marks)

Candidates will be required to answer a variety of questions testing understanding of the passage.

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GCE Ordinary Level

3158 Setswana

AIMS

The aims are to:

1 enable students to develop the ability to use Setswana effectively for the purpose of practical communication in a variety of situations;

2 enable students to develop an awareness of the nature and structure of the Setswana language;

3 enable students to understand and respond appropriately to what they hear, read and experience;

4 encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the variety of language;

5 encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the reading of the literature;

6 complement the students' other areas of study by developing skills of a more general application (analysis, synthesis, drawing of inferences);

7 promote the students' personal development, understanding and appreciation of their culture;

8 form a sound base for the skills required for further study or employment using Setswana as a medium;

9 equip students with knowledge and appreciation of their cultural practices;

10 equip students with study skills, including reference and research skills.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The four assessment objectives are:

A Continuous Writing
B Writing for a Specific Purpose
C Usage/Reading Comprehension
D Literature

A description of each assessment objective follows:

A Continuous Writing

Students should be able to:

1 articulate experience and express what is felt and what is imagined;
2 order and present facts, ideas and opinions;
3 communicate effectively and appropriately;
4 demonstrate an awareness of the conventions of paragraphing, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling;
5 express thoughts, feelings and opinions in order to interest, inform or convince;
6 demonstrate adequate control of vocabulary, syntax and grammar, punctuation and spelling.

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B Writing for a Specific Purpose

Students should be able to:

1 understand and adequately convey information;
2 understand, order and present facts, ideas and opinions;
3 evaluate information and select what is relevant to specific purposes;
4 articulate experience and express what is felt and what is imagined;
5 communicate effectively and appropriately;
6 show a sense of audience and an awareness of register and style in both formal and informal situations.

C Usage/Reading Comprehension

Students should be able to:

1 exercise control of appropriate structures;
2 understand and employ a range of apt vocabulary;
3 recognise implicit meaning and attitude;
4 evaluate information and express it in their own words.

D Literature

Students should be able to:

1 recognise implicit meaning and attitudes;
2 recognise and appreciate ways in which writers use language and how they achieve their effects;
3 communicate a sensitive and informed personal response to what is read;
4 recognise and appreciate literary aspects such as conflicts, theme, setting, climax, characterisation and plot;
5 differentiate between modern and traditional poetry.

ASSESSMENT

AVAILABILITY

This syllabus is available in November only.

RULES OF COMBINATION

Candidates for ***Setswana*** will take Papers 1 and 2.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Paper 1		**Paper 2**	
duration	weighting	duration	weighting
2 h 30 mins	approx 60%	1 h 30 mins	approx 40%

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DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

PAPER 1: Language (2 hours 30 mins) (100 marks)

Section A – Composition (25 marks)
A selection of four titles will be provided requiring an imaginative, narrative or argumentative response in an appropriate style. Candidates will be required to choose one title and will be expected to write 250-300 words.

Section B – Writing for a Specific Purpose (25 marks)
One task will be set, requiring candidates to write 200-250 words for a specific purpose (such as an article, a letter, report or speech) related to a given situation.

Section C – Usage/Reading Comprehension (25 marks)
A passage will be provided, followed by a series of comprehension questions. Candidates will be tested on their understanding of both specific details (language structure, figurative language), general themes and arguments in the passage.

Section D – Translation (25 marks)
Two alternative passages will be set: one in English to be translated into Setswana, and one in Setswana to be translated into English. Candidates must translate **one** of the passages only.

Resource materials for Paper 1 are:

- Thutapuo ya Setswana – K. Mogapi (Grammar)
- Tshekatsheko ya Tlhamo – A. Molosiwa (Composition)
- Diteko- Tlhaloganyo – N. Mokgachane (Comprehension)
- Diane le Maele – M. Seboni (Proverbs/Idioms)
- Sedibeng 4 and 5 – N. Ratsoma and A. Molosiwa

PAPER 2: Literature (1 hour 30 mins) (75 marks)

This paper will be divided into three sections. Candidates will be required to answer four questions, one from Section A on a set text, one from Section B on a set text, and two from Section C, one on a set text and one on an unseen poem.

The set texts for 2008, and the mark allocations for the sections are as follows:

Section A – Novel (25 marks)
- *Mareledi a sa le pele* – M. O. Mothei

or
- *Mosekela mpeng* – T. Mbuya

Section B – Drama (25 marks)
- *Motho ntsi* – L. M. Mphale

or
- *Ngwanaka, o tla nkgopola* – M. Lempadi

Section C – Poetry (25 marks)
- *Mahura a poko* – L. Magopane*

or
- *Masalela a puo* – M. Kitchin* (15 marks)

and
- An unseen poem (10 marks)

*For 2008 the following poems have been selected from each of the two texts:

Mahura a poko: Losiela; Tautona Q. K. J. Masire; AIDS; Maitshwaro a baša; Kgosi Molefi Pilane

or

Masalela a puo: Legano o moloi; Leina lebe seromo; Motsemogolo Gaborone; Mosimane momtsalwaesi; Maikuelo a dimumu

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GCE Ordinary Level

3162 Swahili

ASSESSMENT

AVAILABILITY

3162 Swahili is available in June only.

RULES OF COMBINATION

Candidates for ***Swahili*** take Paper 1 only.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Paper 1	
duration	weighting
2 h 30 mins	100%

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

One paper containing three questions will be set:

Question 1	**(a)**	(20 marks)	Translation from Swahili into English.
	and		
	(b)	(25 marks)	Translation from Swahili into English.
Question 2		(30 marks)	Translation from English into Swahili.
Question 3		(25 marks)	A short composition of about 120 words in Swahili. A choice of subjects will be given.

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GCE Ordinary Level

3015 French
3025 German
3035 Spanish

ASSESSMENT

AVAILABILITY

3015 French is available in June only. ***3025 German*** and ***3035 Spanish*** are available in November only. The optional Oral examination is available in November only.

RULES OF COMBINATION

Candidates for ***French***, ***German*** and ***Spanish*** take Papers 1 and 2. In the November session, candidates for German and Spanish may also be entered for Paper 3, an optional Oral examination.

SCHEME OF ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Paper 1		Paper 2		Paper 3 (optional)	
duration	weighting	duration	weighting	duration	weighting
1 h 30 mins	50%	1 h 30 mins	50%	approx 10 mins	none

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

PAPER 1: Translation and Composition (1 hour 30 mins) (60 marks)

Candidates must attempt 2 questions only.

Question 1: A composition in the foreign language of approximately 140 words based on a series of pictures.

Question 2: A composition in the foreign language of approximately 140 words based on a choice of topics set in the foreign language in the form of a letter, dialogue or narrative.

Question 3: A translation from English into the foreign language.

PAPER 2: Reading Comprehension (1 hour 30 mins) (60 marks)

The test will be in three sections:

Sections 1 and 2 (40 marks)

All questions requiring written answers are to be answered in the foreign language. Marks will be awarded according to the comprehension shown.

- Signs, notices, advertisements etc. tested – multiple-choice questions.
- Brochures, guides, short texts etc. – objective questions testing specific detail; questions to test scanning for required information.
- Two or three longer texts. Questions will be set to test general and specific understanding. Candidates may also be asked to identify attitudes, emotions and ideas, the main points or themes, and to draw conclusions and make inferences.

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Section 3 (20 marks)

- Cloze text with 20 gaps, mainly testing knowledge of structure.

In addition, in November only, candidates for German and Spanish may be entered for **Paper 3**: an optional Oral examination. This consists of reading and conversation conducted by an external examiner. Candidates will be required to read aloud a piece of prose which they will be allowed to look through before reading and to hold a short conversation. A pass in the Oral examination will be indicated on the result slip and certificate, provided that the candidate reaches grade C6 in the subject. The examination will be held at some time before the beginning of the written examination to be fixed locally. The financial arrangements are made locally and no liability is incurred by Cambridge. Full instructions for the conduct and assessment of the Oral examination and a copy of the working mark sheet (to be photocopied by teacher/examiners as required) may be found on the following pages.

ORAL INSTRUCTIONS AND MARK SCHEME

The oral examination for ***3025 German*** and ***3035 Spanish*** is an optional test and can be taken only by candidates who are taking the written papers. Failure in the oral test will not prejudice the result in the written papers.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

The oral test is available in November only and will normally take place between 15 October and 15 November on a date to be arranged locally.

1 Standards

The numerical standards to be adopted are shown on the marking scheme.

2 The Oral Examination

Candidates will be required:

(a) to read a passage of prose which they will be allowed to prepare beforehand;

(b) to hold a short conversation in the language.

Approximately ten minutes should be allowed for each candidate. Each candidate should be allowed about ten minutes in which to prepare the reading passage (while the previous candidate is being examined). Please remember to allow ten minutes' preparation time for the first candidate to be examined.

3 No communication should normally be allowed between candidates who have been examined and those who are awaiting examination. It is not expected that this rule can be observed rigidly during breaks for meals or at large schools where the oral examination takes more than one day, but in such cases the examiner should observe due precautions after a break by varying the topics for conversation.

4 The use of English should be avoided throughout the examination.

5 Reading Test

Sets of printed passages are supplied for the reading test. These passages are intended to be used as alternatives, and no candidate should prepare or read more than one of them. The examiner may caution candidates not to read too fast but should avoid comment or correction during the reading.

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6 Conversation Test

Questions which test comprehension of the reading passage should not be asked. Suitable subjects might be school (subjects, number of periods, times, games, etc.), home, town, journey to and from school, free time (evenings, weekends), holidays, hobbies. Candidates should not be expected to use complete sentences, particularly if an answer in another form is equally appropriate and correct. Some questions which require an answer in the form of a complete sentence may of course be asked. The examiner should take care to avoid questions which might cause embarrassment to those, e.g. orphans and adopted children, whose circumstances may be different from those of other children.

7 Completion of Mark Sheets

(a) For each candidate's oral test the examiner must enter marks on the appropriate working mark sheet bearing candidates' names and index numbers, which must be despatched to reach CIE by no later than 1 December. **A copy of the working mark sheet is provided in this syllabus and teachers/examiners should photocopy this as required.**

(b) Candidates who do not attend for the examination must be shown on the mark sheets as 'absent'. If the examiner is informed that they have withdrawn from the examination s/he should indicate this on the mark sheets. If, on the other hand, a candidate is absent because of illness, and the examiner makes arrangements to test him/her later at another Centre, this should be noted. Care must be taken to ensure that the marks for candidates who are transferred and examined at a Centre other than their own are entered on one of the working mark sheets provided, the candidate's full name and index number and the name of the school being quoted.

(c) Examiners are asked to keep a duplicate record of the candidates and marks awarded as, after the detailed results have been communicated to schools, enquiries may be received about individual candidates.

8 Examiners are allowed, at their discretion, to discuss candidates' performance with the teachers in general terms, i.e. commenting on particularly weak or strong points, etc. but they should not discuss the marks they have awarded. These are confidential, and all results are liable to subsequent revision. Cambridge's Awarding Committee is authorised to scrutinise the marks awarded by oral examiners and to revise or interpret them as may seem necessary or desirable.

9 Return of Oral Mark Sheets

Immediately on completion of their work, examiners should hand their working mark sheets to the Local Secretary/Examinations Officer for transmission to Cambridge. These must be despatched to reach CIE by no later than 1 December.

MARKING SCHEME

This is a descriptive guide to the general aspects of the performance of candidates in various mark ranges and is to be used by examiners in their assessment.

Reading Test Marking Scheme

Examiners are urged to use the full range of marks, bearing in mind that it is not necessary for a candidate to be a native speaker in order to be given 9 or 10.

9-10	Outstanding pronunciation, intonation and fluency; an occasional slight mistake or hesitation. Not necessarily a native speaker.
7-8	Good pronunciation and fluency; makes a fair attempt at correct intonation and expression; some mistakes and/or hesitation.
5-6	A fair degree of fluency and accuracy in pronunciation; quite a number of errors; some attempt at intonation and expression.
3-4	Lacks fluency; very many errors; poor pronunciation.
1-2	Very poor; many gross errors; frequently incomprehensible.

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Conversation Marking Scheme

Each category has two sets of descriptors. The first covers comprehension/responsiveness and assesses the manner in which the candidate responds in terms of comprehension of the examiner, immediacy of reaction/response, fluency of response. The second assesses the linguistic content of the candidate's answers in terms of the complexity and range of structures, vocabulary and idiom.

Examiners must award one global mark out of 20.

Category		Mark
Outstanding	(a) Not necessarily a native speaker. (b) Performs at the highest level to be expected of candidates at O Level.	18-20
Very good	(a) Generally understands questions first time, but may require occasional rephrasing. Can respond satisfactorily to both stock and unexpected questions. (b) Wide range of structures, vocabulary and idiom.	15-17
Good	(a) Understands questions but has difficulty with some unexpected ones and needs some rephrasing. Fairly fluent, but some hesitation. (b) Good range of structures, varied vocabulary.	12-14
Satisfactory	(a) Has no difficulty with stock questions and responds fairly well to unexpected ones, particularly when they are repeated. (b) Adequate range of structures and vocabulary. Can convey past and future meaning, some ambiguity.	8-11
Weak	(a) Has difficulty even with stock questions, but still attempts an answer. (b) Shows elementary, limited vocabulary and faulty manipulation of structures.	4-7
Poor	(a) Frequently fails to understand the examiner and has great difficulty in replying. (b) Shows very limited range of structures and vocabulary.	0-3

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German (3025/03)
Spanish (3035/03)
WORKING MARKSHEET

SC/GCE O Level

Centre Number						Centre Name	
Syllabus Title						Syllabus Code	

This Oral examination is available in November only.
A separate form must be used for each Centre and for each language.

Candidate Number	Candidate Name Names should be listed in the same order as they will be written on the entry forms for the written papers. Surname, Initials	For the use of the Oral Examiner			Comments
		Reading (Max 10)	Conver-sation (Max 20)	Total Mark (Max 30)	

This sheet must be signed by the Examiner when all the results have been entered on it. **The addition of the marks must be checked**. It must then be sent to reach CIE by **no later than 1 December for the November examination** (unless some other instruction is given).

Signature of Examiner		Date	

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