Welcome to our TY subject Choice Evening





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Overview

- 1. Transition to Senior Cycle
- 2. Subject Choice: Aspiration, Attitude and Aptitude
- 3. My Future Choices:
 Understanding the resources
 and results
- 4. Subjects and Choice Process
- 5. Resources
- 6. Questions

Senior Cycle

Two year course of study

Traditional Leaving Certificate Examination in June 2026

Study 7 subjects

Two levels – Higher (H) and Ordinary (O)

Final Examination in June 2026 (some subjects have an assessment component prior to the terminal exam)

Grading in Leaving Cert

NEW GRADES	% MARKS	
H1/01	90-100	
H2 / O2	80<90	
H3/03	70<80	
H4/04	60<70	
H5 / O5	50<60	
H6/06	40<50	
H7/07	30<40	
H8/08	0<30	

The Class of 2026

3 Core subjects: Irish, English and Maths

1 language: French/Spanish/Chinese

3 Elective subjects from the following list Accounting

Art

Biology

Chemistry

Classical Studies

Economics

Geography

History

Home Economics

Music

Physics

Preparing for Subject Choice

Experience of subjects: Subject Rotations

Classroom Input: November – January

Teacher Presentations on each of the 11 subjects on offer, completed worksheets on each subject: In TY Portfolio

Online research

www.curriculumonline.com

www.examinations.ie www.qualifax.ie

www.careersportal.ie In TY Portfolio

LC Students lunchtime Q&A

Myfuturechoices and Myaptitude testing

A Framework to help use all this information

- Aspiration for your career Entry requirements
- Attitude to the subject Enjoyment/Motivation
- Aptitude in the subject –
 Aptitude/Results

Aspiration



Educational Pathways after the Leaving Certificate within Ireland

Higher Education
Universities, Institutes of Technology
Level 8, Level 7
Honours Degree, Ordinary Degree

Further Education
Post Leaving Certificate (PLCs)
Level 5, Level 6

Apprenticeship
'Earn as you learn'
Possible to go from level 5 to level 10

Aspiration



For the purposes of subject choice, the educational pathway we are focussing on is

Higher Education

Access to Level 8 and Level 7 Qualifications

Universities and Technological Universities

Educational institutions accessed by the CAO.

Because the subjects taken at leaving certificate can impact on student access to the Level 8 and Level 7 courses within these institutions.

Aspiration

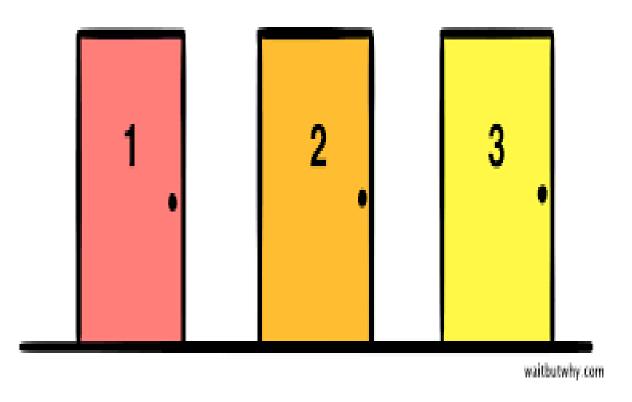


Do I need to study this subject at Leaving Certificate in order to study a particular course at University?

Or

If I don't do a subject, will it prevent me from applying to a course of study I am interested in?

Going to third Level

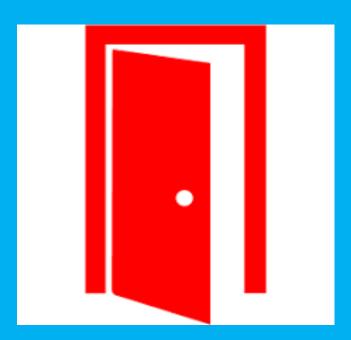


Matriculation Requirements

Subject Specific Requirements

Points Requirements

What are matriculation requirements?



The basic requirements that you must have in order to go to third level.

Usually relate to Maths, English and Irish

Most unlikely would not meet the requirements.

What are subject specific requirements?



Certain courses require students to have taken a specific subject in the Leaving Certificate and to have achieved a certain grade in it.

Some Examples:

Veterinary: Chemistry H5

Nursing UCD: 06/H7 in a Science

Primary Teaching: H4 in Irish

Medicine in UCD, Trinity, RCSI and UCC have all different requirements (1 science subject/2 science etc)

What Are Points?



Points are used to rank applicants in order of merit in order to allocate places.

Maximum is 625

What determines points?

- (a) Number of Applicants
- (b) Number of Places
- (c) Performance of Applicants

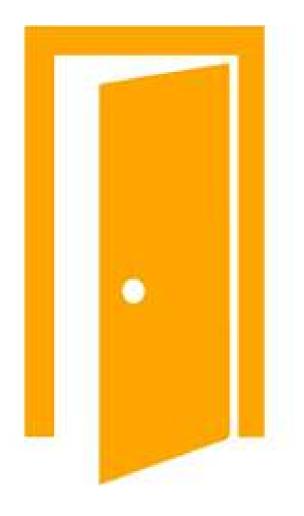
University courses are allocated a points value based on the number of places available and the demand for those places

Points are calculated by giving a set number of points for each grade and then adding the six best subjects to get the points total

Students achieving H6 or above ir Higher Level Maths are awarded 25 bonus points

	Higher Level Ordinary Level			_evel		
	New Grades	% Marks	New Points Awarded	New Grades	% Marks	New Points Awarded
	H1	90 - 100	100			
	H2	80 < 90	88	8		
	НЗ	70 < 80	77			
	H4	60 < 70	66			
	H5	50 < 60	56	01	90 - 100	56
t	H6	40 < 50	46	O2	80 < 90	46
1	H7	30 < 40	37	O3	70 < 80	37
	H8	0 < 30	0	O4	60 < 70	28
		8		O5	50 < 60	20
				O6	40 < 50	12
				07	30 < 40	0
				O8	0 < 30	0

How do I know if a subject is a requirement?



Subject Specific Requirements

Go to www.qualifax.ie
Scroll to the bottom of the page to useful tools

Select CAO subject requirements

From the dropdown menu select whichever subject you wish to explore to discover if it is definitely required, may be required or is not required for a third level course through the CAO application system

Careers Portal

Go to www.careersportal.ie

Put course choice in the search bar e.g. Nursing

Use filters to narrow your search

Select the course you are interested in

Select Entry Requirements

Useful V Required?

Subject Specific Requirements



Your responsibility to check subject specific requirements

www.careersportal.ie www.qualifax.ie











But

Non-scientific students unlikely to want a place on science related course



Doing a subject you enjoy and can do well means you have a greater change of getting through the Points door

Check Myths around subject requirements

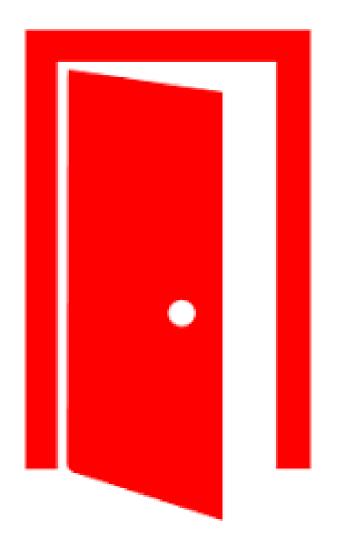
Play to your strengths and passions







Points and Option Subjects



Points and Option Subjects

There is not a hierarchy of subjects. No subject is inherently 'better' than another.

A H1 in Art has the same points value as a H1 in Economics A H1 in Music has the same points value as a H1 in Biology.

Unless there is a subject specific requirement for a course you are interested in, the best advice is to do the subject you enjoy

Attitude



Do I enjoy this subject?

Am I interested in finding out more and developing my skill?

Am I motivated to work independently?

If I meet a challenge am I prepared to see that as a necessary part of learning?

If I have never done it before how can I figure out if I like it?

www.careersportal.ie www.examinations.ie www.curriculumonline.ie

Avoid



Choosing a subject because a friend is taking it

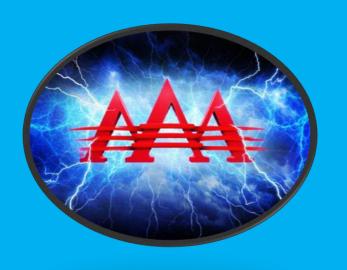
Choosing a subject because you like or dislike the teacher

Choosing a subject because you think it will be easy

Choosing a subject because 'somebody said....'

Choosing a new subject without researching it

Act



Talk to the subject experts = Teachers

Talk to your parents/guardians

Talk to 5th years and 6th years and people who have done the subjects

Go on to <u>www.examinations.ie</u> and ask yourself would you like to know the answers to the questions

Look at how the subject is assessed

Look at www.curriculumonline.ie and highlight how much of the course you are interested in and how much you are not

Think about why you are choosing the subject – Know yourself

Aptitudes and Interests

An Aptitude describes a particular strength that you have in a specific area

An interest describes a curiosity intellectual or emotional that you have about a specific area

My Future Choices

Interests

My Eirquest: 200 questions: Your answers generate a Personal Interest Profile

Aptitudes

My Aptitude: a set of aptitude tests which measure your aptitudes across a range of areas against those of students of a similar age and academic background

Why?

To map out the relationship between your interests and aptitudes across a range of areas in order to suggest career areas that may interest you.

To suggest subject areas that may suit your profile and support your interests and aptitudes.

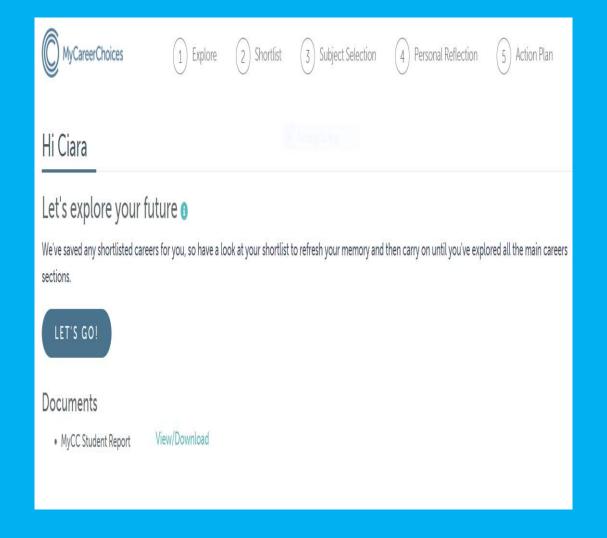
The results are accessed through an online portal myfuturechoices

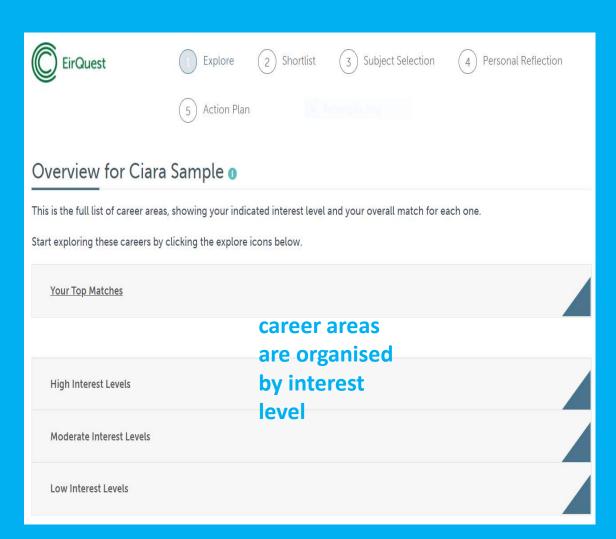
Log in



Email / Username *		
Password *		
	FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD?	LOGIN

Eirquest – The Results





Your Top Matches

Are all the top careers areas realistic options for me?

Not all strong career interests are realistic or wise as career foundations. Some may be best kept as hobbies or pastimes. Others may be ruled out through lack of adequate ability in essential subjects; or by health factors; because they would not provide your required lifestyle; possibly due to severe competition for jobs/places or also a lack of relevant employment opportunities.

CAREER AREAS	INTEREST LEVEL	OVERALL MATCH	EXPLORE	VIDEO
Commercial	95%	85%	@	
Financial ()	90%	91%	•	
Commercial Dealing	90%	90%	•	
Managerial ()	90%	88%	•	
Administrative	90%	85%	•	
Politics Related	90%	79%	•	
Hotel/Catering	85%	M 90%	•	

These are the areas where you have shown an interest level of between 30% and 69%. Only explore once you have taken a look at your top levels.

CAREER AREAS	INTEREST LEVEL	Rectang OVERALL MATCH	EXPLORE	VIDEO
Law	65%	64%	•	
Surveying (General)	65%	58%	•	
Publishing	55%	M 80%	•	
Social Work	50%	82%	•	
Landscape Design/Surveying	50%	73%	•	
Industrial Production	50%	46%	•	
Commercial Art/Antiques	45%	75%	•	
Journalism/PR	40%	73%	•	
Computing	35%	65%	•	
Structural Design	35%	46%	@	

Overall match for Ciara Sample

SUBJECT AREA	INTEREST LEVEL	MORE INFORMATION
Commercial	95%	Your very high interest score for Commercial has been added to the five supporting interests below.
Numerical Work	90%	Dealing with large amounts of data and calculating quantities and costs would call for excellent numerical competence.
Written Communication	50%	The ability to express your ideas and instructions clearly in writing would be essential.
Persuading	95%	Could you persuade customers that your products or services meet their needs and are competitively priced?
Administrative	90%	You would need to handle paperwork efficiently, record order details, prices, delivery dates and contact names.
Economics	90%	A grasp of economics would be helpful in understanding these careers.
Overall match	85%	The six interest above have been averaged to calculate your high Overall match score of 85%.

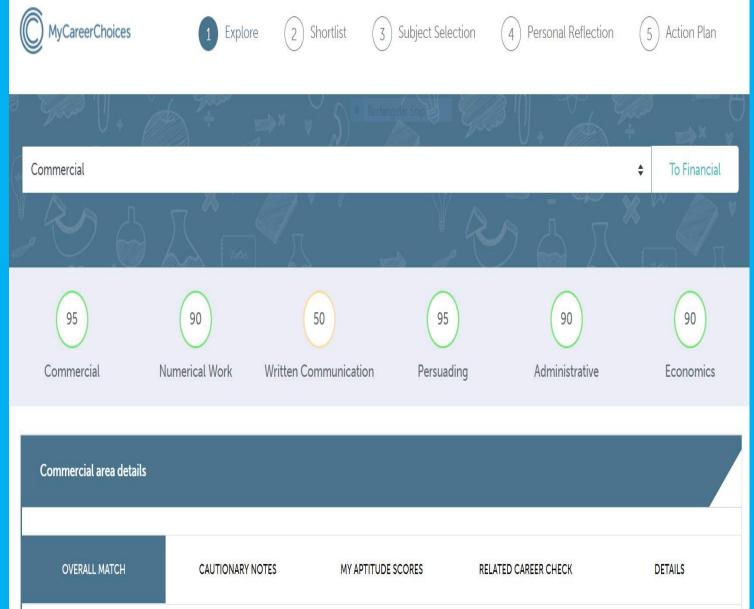
Overall match for Ciara Sample

SUBJECT AREA	INTEREST LEVEL	MORE INFORMATION
Law	65%	Your interest score for Law has been added to the five supporting interests below.
Administrative	90%	You should be good at administration especially in handling paperwork efficiently.
Literary	30%	These careers are literary in nature and will call for excellent essay writing, reading and interpretation.
Politics	90%	Lawyers carry out the legislation enacted by politicians, so an interest in politics could enhance your interest in law.
History	15%	An awareness of the history of law and constitutional law, of legal precedent and of legal case history can be valuable.
Persuading	95%	Lawyers need to persuade judges and juries, and to hold their own against other lawyers.
Overall match	64%	The six interest above have been averaged to calculate your moderate Overall match score of 64%.

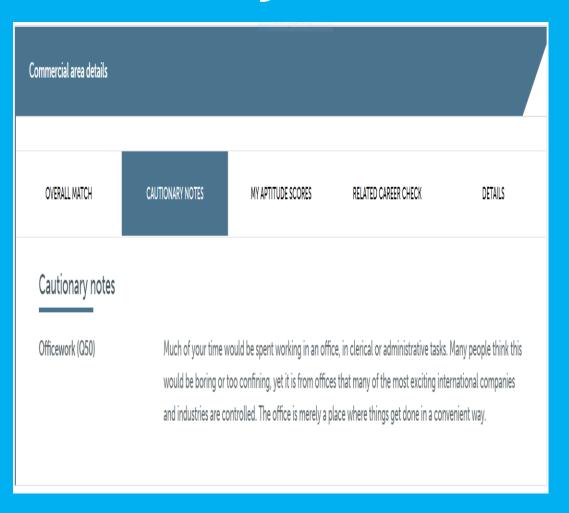
High Match Moderate Match

There is a very high interest in commercial work. This is supported by high interest scores in related areas in numerical work, persuading, admin and economics. It also tells us that the student has a moderate interest in written communication.

The match between career and relevant aptitude scores can be explored also.



Cautionary Notes



Career Check

OVERALL MATCH	CAUTIONARY NOTES	MY APTITUDE SCORES	RELATED CAREER CHECK	DETAILS	
Please check this list of i	important qualities which are like	Rectangular Snip ely to be required in these career	s		
By answering these ques	stions you'll get a better idea of h	now well you match these career	'S		
Motivated to get a part	t-time job in shop	Observe and	react to competition and market	trends	
Desire to find new out	lets for your products/services	Enthusiasm f	or your product or service		
Interest in internationa	al trade and export	Interest in es	timating costs of products or serv	ices	
☐ Interest in modern IT systems ☐ Having a good memory for names					
Being tolerant and tactful with difficult people Skill at writing reports regularly					
Having a good memory for prices Ability to accept criticism or rebuffs without stress					
Willingness to travel ar	nd be away from home	☐ Wish to estab	olish good relationships with clien	ts	
Ability to explain your	products or services clearly	☐ Wish to meet	t the needs of clients		
Possess an analytical, p	problem-solving mind	Ability to spe	ak convincingly		
Ability to think clearly i	in mental arithmetic	Enjoy selling	and bargaining over prices		

WORKBRIEF Career Research



The Student Journey

Use the 'Heart' button to add careers to your shortlist

MyCareerChoices	1 Explore	2 Shortlist	3 Subject Selection	4 Personal Reflection	(5) Action Plan
Refine Shortlist •					FINISH SHORTLIST
Commercial					
🗓 Estate Agent					****
				h	SAVE
🗓 Advertising Executiv	e				**** 4 <u>†</u>
🗓 Sales Executive					**** 4 <u>0</u>
REFINE COMMERCIA				SEI	LECT SUBJECTS

Personal Reflection

Action Plan

MyCareerChoices	1 Explore	2 Shortlist	3 Subject Selection	4 Personal Reflection	5 Action Plan
Personal Reflection					
Looking forwards at my career					
I am interested in the following job / ca	areer areas		III Pertengalie Stilp		
					h)
Why do these appeal					

MyCareerChoices	1 Explore	2 Shortlist	3 Subject Selection	4 Personal Reflection	5 Action Plan
Action Plan					
Looking forwards at my career					
Who am I going to contact(companies	/ people etc)?		* Beckingular Snip		
					6
What extracurricular activities are you	going to participate i	n?			

Subject Selection

Subjects that may be useful for certain career areas are highlighted.

Remember:

In the Irish System, for CAO applications, you must always check if a subject is a specific requirement for a course of study.

You are more likely to achieve a higher grade in a subject you enjoy. The higher the grade, the higher the points.



MyAptitude



 Psychometrically validated by the BPS

 On the official Irish Government list for use by schools

Norm referenced for Ireland

Timing – 1¾ hours

A pointer to numeracy and literacy skills

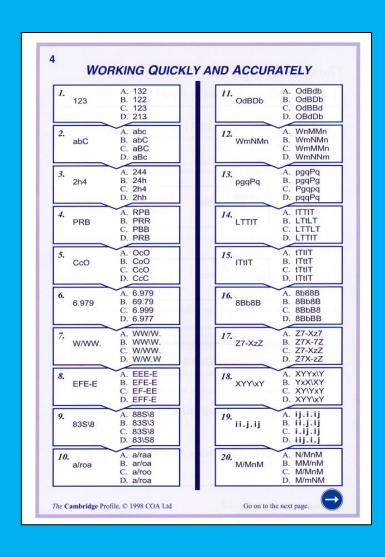
MyAptitude



Aptitude tests

- Verbal reasoning
- Numerical reasoning
- Abstract reasoning
- Spatial reasoning (2D & 3D)
- Arithmetic calculation
- Spelling
- Working quickly and accurately

Working Quickly and Accurately



- Tests candidates speed and accuracy in matching symbols
- The first test is repeated as the last test but time reduced

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Example 1.

4hb

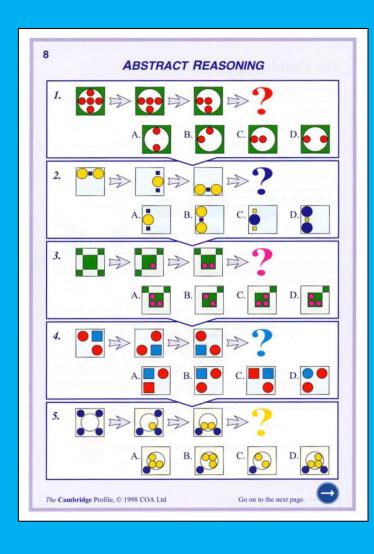
B. h4b

C. 4hb

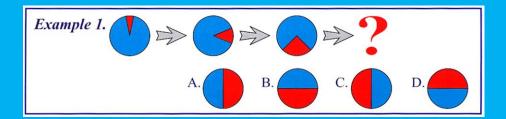
D. 4hh
```

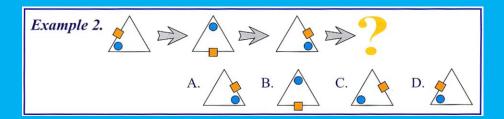
Example 2.	pgg3	A. B.	pqg3 gpg8
		C.	pqg3
		D.	pgg3

Abstract Reasoning

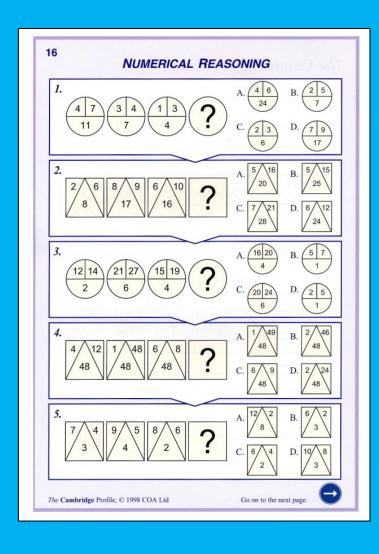


 Tests the ability to discern abstract trends

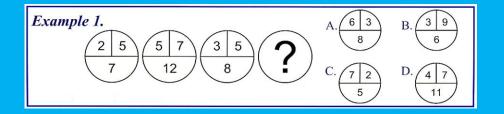


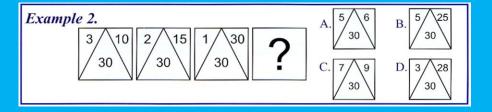


Numerical Reasoning

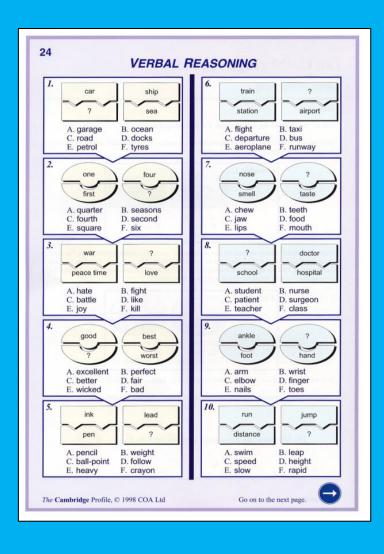


 Tests the ability to recognise numerical relationships

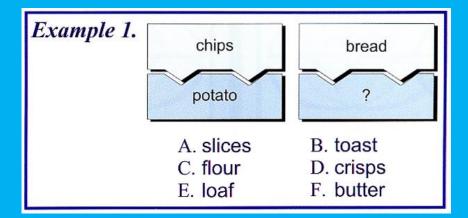




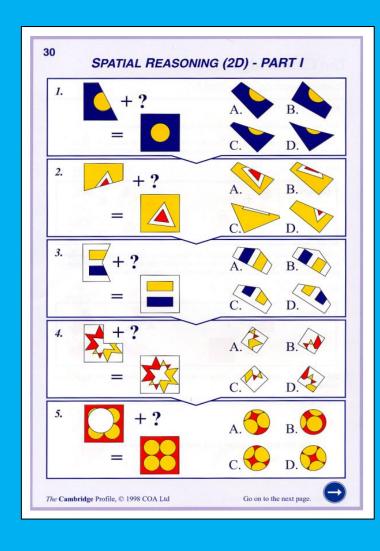
Verbal Reasoning



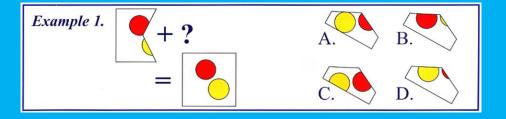
 Tests the candidates' ability to use verbal concepts logically



2D Spatial Reasoning

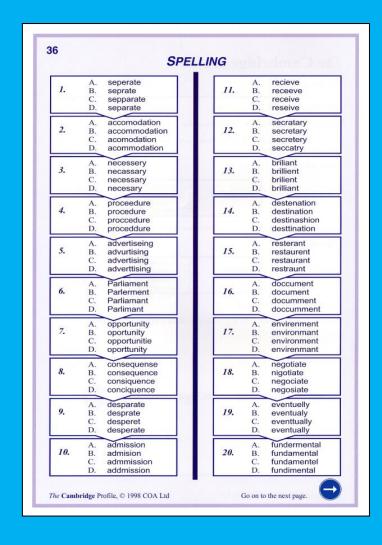


 Assesses the ability to think in 2-dimensional terms





Spelling

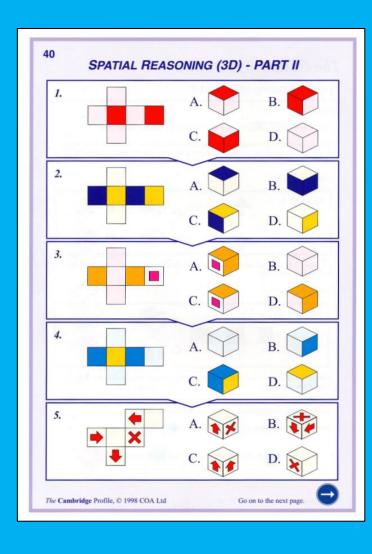


 Measures an ability to detect their own and other people's spelling errors

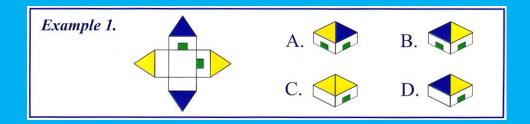
A. artical
B. article
C. artacle
D. articel

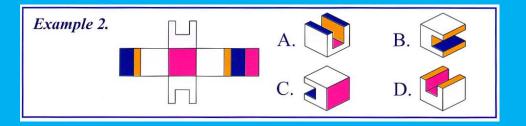
Example 2. A. commersial B. commercial C. commercial D. comercial

3D Spatial Reasoning

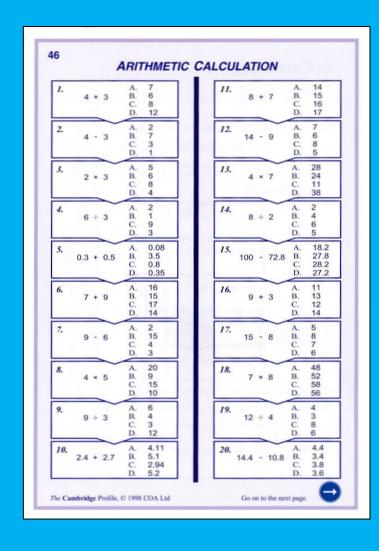


 Assesses the ability to think in 3-dimensional terms





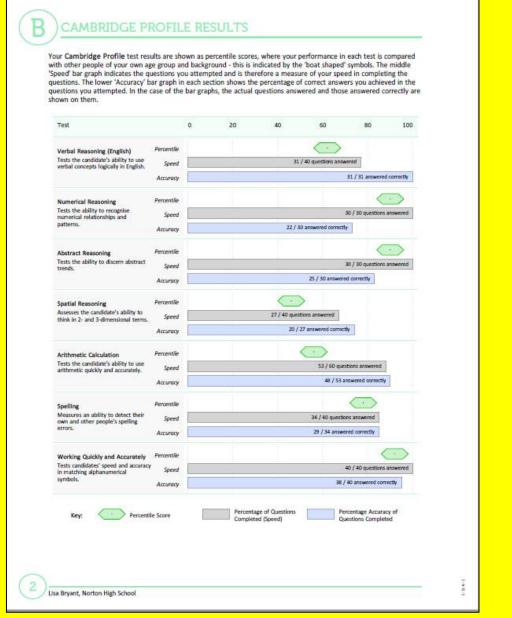
Arithmetic Calculation



 Tests the candidates' ability to use arithmetic quickly and accurately

Results and Analysis

- Percentile
 - A student's performance relative to other students of a similar age and academic background
 Very High, High, Medium, May find difficult
- Speed
 - The percentage of answers attempted
- Accuracy
 - The percentage 'accuracy' of the answers attempted



Within the MyFuturechoices programme

- •Strong aptitudes are linked to subject areas where that aptitude may be particularly useful.
- •Strong aptitudes are linked to career areas where that aptitude may be particularly useful
- Subjects or career areas that may prove challenging are highlighted

Relevant my Aptitude Scores

In this example, where the student is interested in the commercial area, the relevant aptitude tests are numerical reasoning, verbal reasoning, spelling and arithmetic calculation. It is possible to see if these aptitudes present particular strengths or challenges.

Commercial area details

OVERALL MATCH CAUTIONARY NOTES MY APTITUDE SCORES RELATED CAREER CHECK DETAILS

Relevant My Aptitude Test Scores

SECTIONS	SPEED	ACCURACY	PERCENTILE
Numerical Reasoning	100.00%	100.00%	99.00
Verbal Reasoning (English)	82.50%	90.91%	50.00
Spelling (English)	100.00%	77.50%	80.00
Arithmetic Calculation	93.33%	87.50%	40.00

Surprising results

- May discover an aptitude in an area you had not realised
- May discover an area of improvement that you had not realised
- How can you best use this information?

Interpreting Results: Things to remember

 The tests provide information which may or may not prove useful to you.

 Many factors can influence your performance in aptitude tests including levels of self-esteem, health, fatigue, interest and motivation.

 Your potential for growth and change cannot and should not be reduced down to a series of test scores.

Tests can never measure or define the 'You' factor

Aptitude Tests are useful in terms of highlighting certain strengths, but they do not measure many other important qualities which are vital in order thrive in life (school life, personal life, professional life)

Things that aptitude tests do not measure

- Determination to try and to keep trying.
- Enthusiasm and confidence.
- Energy to work hard.
- Integrity, loyalty, honesty.
- Being able to spot opportunities (street smarts)
- Initiative, creativity and inventiveness.
- Desire to understand, persuade and motivate others.
- Ability to work as part of a team.

- Willingness to help others
- Awareness of the exceptional skills of others
- Empathy
- Forward planning
- Sense of humour
- Being prepared to accept constructive criticism from others
- Being prepared to ask others for help
- Having fun in your chosen career or work
- Good communication with others
- Growth mindset YET
- Your Attitude
- And many more.....

A word of caution

Access open from this evening

 Not a good idea to compare results, meaningless and pointless

Confidential to you

Focus on strengths

Areas of improvement can be improved





A whistle-stop tour of the subjects



Accounting

100% Terminal Examination

Critical thinking while working quickly and accurately

Economics

20% research study

80% Written Examination

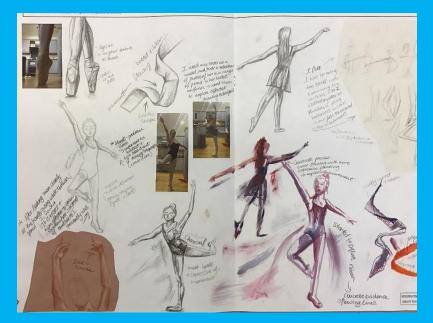
Good grounding in maths helpful, interest in current affairs, news etc.

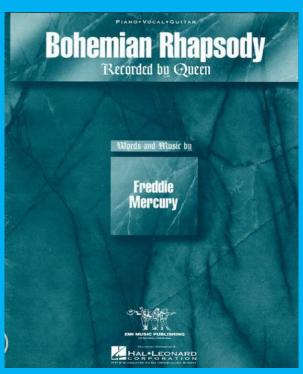
Geography

20% Geographical Investigation

80% Terminal Examination

Non-Lab Science can be used to meet science requirement for some courses. Your responsibility to check





Art

Coursework: 50%

Practical Exam:20 %

Visual Studies: (Art history and

Appreciation) 30%

2/3 of subject completed before June.

Music

50% - Practical Exam (private performance exam will take place before/after Easter usually March or April)

25% - Composition (written paper – June)

25% - Listening (written paper - June)



Humanities







History

80% Terminal exam

20% marks for the RSR (Special Topic) which is completed over the course of 5th and 6th Year

Classical Studies

Research Study: 20%

Terminal Exam: 80%

Section A: Stimulus Driven Response

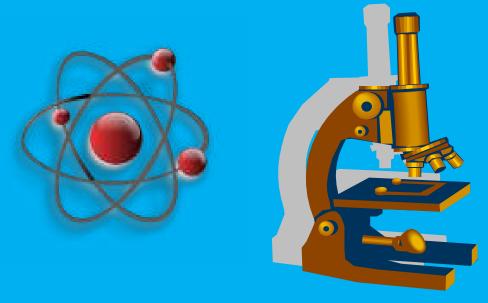
Section B: Extended Answer

Home Economics

Practical Element: 20% completed in 5th Year

80% Terminal Exam

Sciences





Physics

The study of matter and its motion and how it interacts with forces

100% Terminal Exam Must keep a record of 24 mandatory experiments

Chemistry

The study of the various forms of matter, their composition, structure, properties and how they combine with each other

Terminal Exam 100 %

70% pure Chemistry 30% social aspect of Chemistry.

Biology

The study of life, the diversity of live and the relationship between living things and the environment

100% Terminal Examination

What next?

Rank your top 6 preferred subject choices in GENUINE order of preference (online)

Subjects are groups based on student preferences

Groups/lines are printed and given to students

Students choose one subject from each line

Return signed sheet (student and guardian) within timeframe

What next?

Every effort is made to accommodate your choices

Not always possible

Put as much thought into your fifth and sixth choice as you do into your first and second

Rank your subjects in GENUINE ORDER OF PREFERENCE

Please communicate any queries or issues

Remember

- Aspiration for your career Entry requirements
- Attitude to the subject Enjoyment/Motivation
- Aptitude in the subject Aptitude/Results



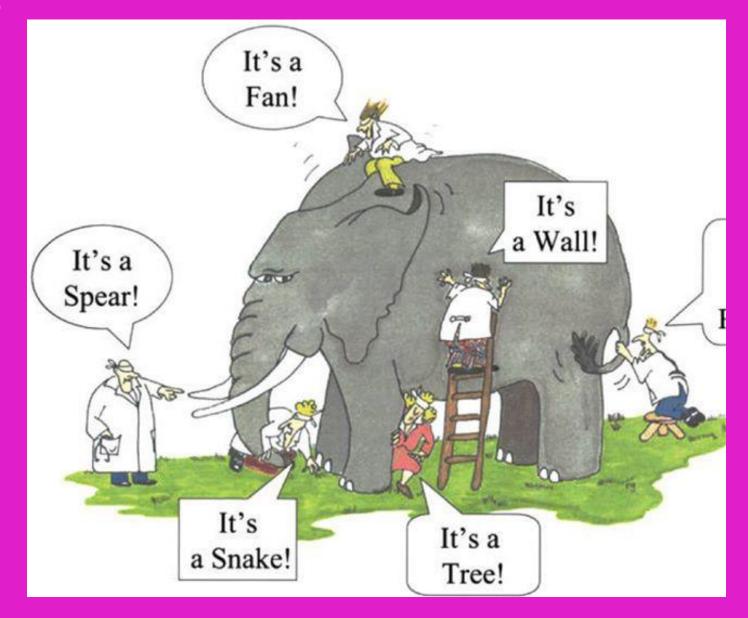
The blind men and the Elephant

Aptitude tests are one part of the picture.

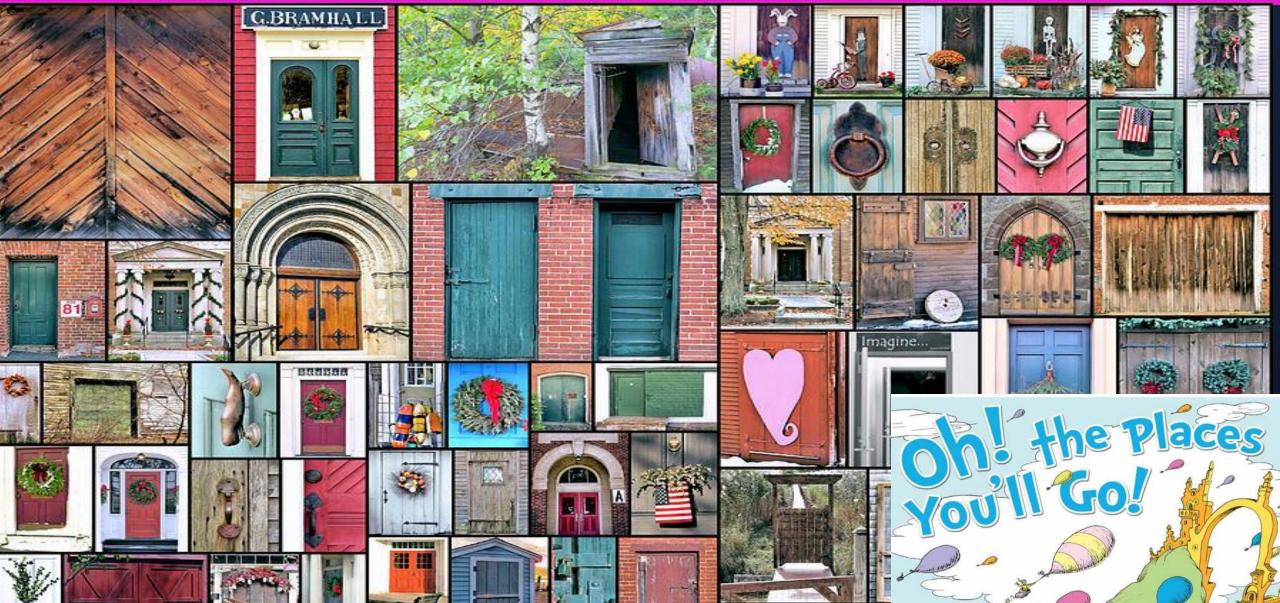
If you only focus on them you do yourself an injustice.

Use them as information that may usefully contribute to your understanding of yourself

but that do not in any way define or limit you.



There are multiple pathways and entry points to wherever you want to go....



www.qualifax.ie

www.careersportal.ie

Resources

www.cao.ie

www.examinations.ie

www.curriculumonline.ie

Questions?

Questions?

Room 2

Accounting Economics

Room 3

Music Art Home Economics

Room 4

History Classics Geography

Room 5

Physics Chemistry Biology

Room 6

Chinese French/Spanish

Subjects through the aptitude lens

Verbal reasoning:

- Languages
- History
- Classical Studies
- Biology
- Music

Numerical Reasoning/ Arithmetic Calculation:

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Accounting
- Music

	63	$\frac{1}{12}$	
+	5	.29	
	68	3,41	

Spelling Words

Spelling:

Language

Working quickly and accura

- Accounting
- Geography
- Music

Abstract Reasoning:

- History
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- •Economics









Spatial Reasoning:

- Art
- Physics
- •Home Economics
- Music



ASPIRATION

Specific Subject Subject Requirement

Go to www.qualifax.ie
Choose Students on the top bar

On the left hand side scroll down to useful tools

Select useful tools

Select minimum subject requirements Select Leaving Certificate subjects

Select the subject e.g. Chemistry

Results: DEFINITELY require Chemistry
Courses that MAY require Chemistry
Courses that DO NOT require Chemistry

ASPIRATION

Specific Subject Requirement

Go to www.careersportal.ie

Put a course choice in the search bar e.g. Nursing

Use the filters on the left hand search to refine your search

Select the course you are interested in

On the left hand side select entry requirements

All students have created an account with Careers Portal.