

CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

Information and Communication Technology 0417

Assessment Overview

Examinations 2026, 2027 and 2028

How the qualification is assessed

The table shows the papers and components described for this syllabus. All candidates take the required components described below. A component's raw mark is the total available on that assessment; its weighting is the share of the qualification result, which may differ from its share of raw marks.

Paper or component	Duration	Raw marks	Weighting	Question or task structure
1: Theory	1 h 30 min	80	40%	Compulsory questions across syllabus sections 1-21
2: Document Production, Databases and Presentations	2 h 15 min	70	30%	Computer-based practical tasks and evidence
3: Spreadsheets and Website Authoring	2 h 15 min	70	30%	Computer-based practical tasks and evidence

Read the weighting against your qualification route. A longer paper or a larger raw-mark total does not automatically mean a greater final weighting. Prepare for every component that applies to you, including practical, oral or coursework requirements where specified.

What each component requires

All candidates take three compulsory papers.

Paper 1 is a ninety-minute theory examination worth eighty marks and forty per cent of the qualification. It contains multiple-choice, short-answer and structured questions covering all twenty-one syllabus sections. You must recall ICT concepts, apply them to everyday situations and evaluate possible solutions.

Paper 2, Document Production, Databases and Presentations, is a two-hour-and-fifteen-minute practical test worth seventy marks and thirty per cent. You complete a series of compulsory tasks using electronic source files. You must also capture evidence of your work through screenshots and produce the required files or printouts.

Paper 3, Spreadsheets and Website Authoring, has the same duration, marks and weighting. It assesses spreadsheet modelling, formulas, functions, data presentation and the creation or editing of web pages and stylesheets.

Internet and email access are prohibited during both practical tests. Any suitable operating system and application software may be used, provided it allows you to demonstrate all the specified skills. Website tasks may be completed

with a web editor, but you must be able to understand and edit the underlying HTML and CSS. No scripting language is required.

The two practical papers together contribute sixty per cent of the qualification, so successful preparation requires regular hands-on practice as well as theoretical understanding.

The qualification is graded from A star to G.

Preparing the right kind of response

Use the scenario to decide which facts or techniques are relevant. Explain why a design choice meets a requirement. Where a practical component applies, develop fluency in the permitted environment, save work correctly and produce the requested evidence. For written algorithms, use the conventions required by the syllabus.

The assessment objectives are visible in the response itself: relevant knowledge, appropriate use of the stimulus or task, a clear method or explanation, and a conclusion where requested. The command word and mark allocation help show the depth required. An answer should respond to the actual question, not reproduce a memorised passage that only partly fits.

Timing and examination arrangements

Begin preparation with accurate, untimed work, then move towards the duration and conditions of your required component. Use mark allocations to guide pacing while allowing time to read instructions and check the response. Any practice pacing advice is study guidance, not a new Cambridge time rule.

Examinations are available in June and November, with an additional March series in India. Private candidates may enter, but they need a centre equipped to administer both practical computer-based papers.

An approved examination centre confirms entries, available component options, deadlines and any practical or speaking arrangements. Preparation-course access does not itself constitute an examination entry.

Key pointers: Know your required components, follow question choices precisely and practise the relevant response formats. **Next:** Open **Learning Resources** to see which materials support this preparation.