

Year 9 Examination Topics – 3-7 November 2025

Year 9 Science

Content students will be tested on is listed in the learning outcomes at the beginning of every unit.

A graphing question will be included. Bring a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator.

There are three sections to the examination.

Unit 4: Deforestation (Plants)

1. 25 Multiple choice questions (25 marks)
2. Two written response questions (15 marks) – literacy, public science issue or investigative approach-based questions.

Unit 5: Over-fishing (Ecology)

1. 25 Multiple choice questions (25 marks)
2. Two written response questions (15 marks) – literacy, public science issue or investigative approach-based questions.

Unit 6: Electricity Production (Energy)

1. 25 Multiple choice questions (25 marks)
2. Two written response questions (15 marks) – literacy, public science issue or investigative approach-based questions.

Examination Total: 120 Marks

Year 9 English

There are three sections to the examination:

Written Text Study - 30%

- Writing an introduction and one extended paragraph on a text they have studied in class this year. All questions for this task begin with “Describe....and Explain...”.
- This section is marked on the ideas presented by the student’s depth and accuracy of supporting examples and their relevance to the question.
- Students should expect to spend around 35 minutes planning and writing this section.

Unfamiliar Text – Fiction - 50%

- Two texts to read and answer questions about.
- Students will be tested on their reading comprehension.
- Question types include short answer, identification of language features, and sentence types.
- Students should spend approximately 1 hour on this section.

Sentences - 20%

- Same format as mid-year exam (Identification and application).
- Skills include parts of speech, capital letters, full stops, commas, conjunctions, adverbial phrases, tenses, point of view and simple/compound/complex sentences.
- Students should spend approximately 25 minutes on this section

Year 9 Mathematics

The examination is out of 120 marks, or one mark per minute.

Students are expected to have a ruler, calculator and pens. Your son will be at a huge disadvantage without a calculator.

Examination Content is outline below:

Short Answer Section:

- This section remains similar year to year.

Measurement:

Knowledge and skills covered in homework and end of topic test.

- Identifying appropriate units of measurement
- Reading scales
- Unit conversions
- Reading timetables and time calculations
- Calculating perimeter of shapes, including circumference of circles
- Calculating area of squares, rectangles, triangles, trapeziums, parallelograms and circles. (Formula will be provided)
- Calculating area and perimeter of composite shapes
- Application of area and volume skills
- Calculating volume of prisms (formula will be provided)

Number:

Order of operations (GEMA/BEDMAS).

- Place value knowledge and how to write numbers from thousandths up to billions
- Prime numbers to 50
- Ordering whole numbers (including integers) and decimal numbers
- Rounding numbers to 1dp, 2dp or 3dp
- Understanding the meaning of sum, product, difference, factors, multiples, exponents (powers), square numbers and roots.
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division word problems involving whole integers, decimal numbers and fractions.
- Percentages (increases, decreases, % of quantities)
- Rates and Ratios

Geometry:

Knowledge and skills covered in homework and end of topic test.

- Basic angles (straight line, 360° , vertically opposite angles, right angles, acute, obtuse and reflex)
- Parallel line rules
- Triangle angle rules
- Parts of a circle
- Transformations (line/rotational symmetry, translation, rotation and reflection)
- Location/Navigation (knowledge of compass points)

Algebra:

Knowledge and skills covered in homework and end of topic test.

- Writing expressions for a word problem
- Simplifying like terms (addition and subtraction)
- Simplifying multiplication
- Simplifying division
- Expanding single brackets
- Factorising expressions
- Solving equations
- Linear patterns

Statistics and Probability:

Knowledge and skills covered in homework and end of topic test.

- Mean, median, mode and range
- Reading bar graphs, pie charts and line graphs
- Calculating probability, including two-way tables

The Mathematics Department runs tutorials at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students are encouraged to attend if they want to ask questions arising from revision of old examination papers or homework sheets.

End of topic tests, weekly homework sheets and past exam papers are all useful for revision. Examination papers are available on Stratus. Students will need to login to gain access. Please Note: Recent past examinations do not cover all the topics listed below. Students are advised to revise sections from past examinations that match the list below.

Year 9 Social Studies

There are four sections in this examination. This examination is worth 90% of the end-of-year report grade.

The sections are:

1. Resource Interpretation (30%)
2. Written Paragraph (25%)
3. Data Skills (25%)
4. Current Events (10%)
5. Common Assessment (10%) * this has already been completed in class

Section 1: Resource Interpretation (30%)

Students will be assessed on their ability to make sense of written texts and interpret sources, including those with different perspectives and views, and provide evidence-based conclusions.

The resources for this section will be based on learning intentions from the “Mana whenua of Manawatū unit from Term 3.

- Success and difficulties of early Māori society
- Mana whenua

Students will be provided with resources based on this, from which they are to demonstrate their reading comprehension, ability to explain perspectives, synthesise ideas and draw conclusions that are supported with evidence. In this section, are assessing their skill application rather than their ability to memorise and rote learn.

Section 2: Written Paragraph (25%)

Students will be assessed on their ability to write one PEEL paragraph. This means writing meaningful text for the purpose of formal writing.

Students will be asked generic questions on the following contexts. This means they can use a case study from their classroom as their response.

1. Reasons for migration to New Zealand
2. Impacts of a migrant group on New Zealand

Section 3: Data Skills (25%)

Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate information using social science practises. Specifically, this means their ability to:

- create bar graphs
- read and interpret data from bar graphs and tables (e.g. recognise basic patterns, relationships and/or trends)
- provide evidence-based conclusions

Section Four: Current Events (10%)

This section will involve students answering multichoice-style questions, showing cartoon interpretation, and short-answer questions. The purpose is to measure student awareness of important current events. The current events will be from mid-2025 to now.