



**Cambridge Assessment  
International Education**

Syllabus

**Cambridge O Level  
Setswana 3158**

For examination in November 2023.

**Setswana**

Version 1

Please check the syllabus page at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/olevel](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/olevel) to see if this syllabus is available in your administrative zone.

**Cambridge  
Pathway** 

### Changes to the syllabus for 2023

The latest syllabus is version 1, published September 2020.

There are no significant changes which affect teaching.

**You are strongly advised to read the whole syllabus before planning your teaching programme.**

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# 1. Introduction

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## 1.1 Why choose Cambridge International?

Cambridge International prepares school students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. We are part of the University of Cambridge.

Our Cambridge Pathway gives students a clear path for educational success from age 5 to 19. Schools can shape the curriculum around how they want students to learn – with a wide range of subjects and flexible ways to offer them. It helps students discover new abilities and a wider world, and gives them the skills they need for life, so they can achieve at school, university and work.

Our programmes and qualifications set the global standard for international education. They are created by subject experts, rooted in academic rigour and reflect the latest educational research. They provide a strong platform for students to progress from one stage to the next, and are well supported by teaching and learning resources.

Every year, nearly a million Cambridge learners from 10 000 schools in 160 countries prepare for their future with the Cambridge Pathway.

### Cambridge learners

Our mission is to provide educational benefit through provision of international programmes and qualifications for school education and to be the world leader in this field. Together with schools, we develop Cambridge learners who are:

- **confident** in working with information and ideas – their own and those of others
- **responsible** for themselves, responsive to and respectful of others
- **reflective** as learners, developing their ability to learn
- **innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **engaged** intellectually and socially, ready to make a difference.

### Recognition

Our expertise in curriculum, teaching and learning, and assessment is the basis for the recognition of our programmes and qualifications around the world.

Cambridge O Level is internationally recognised by schools, universities and employers as equivalent in demand to Cambridge IGCSE™ (International General Certificate of Secondary Education). There are over 600 000 entries a year in over 50 countries. Learn more at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognition](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognition)



Cambridge Assessment International Education is an education organisation and politically neutral. The contents of this syllabus, examination papers and associated materials do not endorse any political view. We endeavour to treat all aspects of the exam process neutrally.

## Support for teachers

A wide range of materials and resources is available to support teachers and learners in Cambridge schools. Resources suit a variety of teaching methods in different international contexts. Through subject discussion forums and training, teachers can access the expert advice they need for teaching our qualifications. More details can be found in Section 2 of this syllabus and at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/teachers](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/teachers)

## Support for exams officers

Exams officers can trust in reliable, efficient administration of exams entries and excellent personal support from our customer services. Learn more at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/eoguide](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/eoguide)

## Quality management

Cambridge International is committed to providing exceptional quality. In line with this commitment, our quality management system for the provision of international qualifications and education programmes for students aged 5 to 19 is independently certified as meeting the internationally recognised standard, ISO 9001:2015. Learn more at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/ISO9001](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/ISO9001)

## 1.2 Why choose Cambridge O Level?

Cambridge O Level is typically for 14 to 16 year olds and is an internationally recognised qualification. It has been designed especially for an international market and is sensitive to the needs of different countries. Cambridge O Level is designed for learners whose first language may not be English, and this is acknowledged throughout the examination process.

Our aim is to balance knowledge, understanding and skills in our programmes and qualifications to enable students to become effective learners and to provide a solid foundation for their continuing educational journey.

Through our professional development courses and our support materials for Cambridge O Levels, we provide the tools to enable teachers to prepare students to the best of their ability and work with us in the pursuit of excellence in education.

Cambridge O Levels are considered to be an excellent preparation for Cambridge International AS & A Levels, the Cambridge AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) Diploma, Cambridge Pre-U, and other education programmes, such as the US Advanced Placement program and the International Baccalaureate Diploma programme. Learn more about Cambridge O Levels at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/olevel](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/olevel)

## Guided learning hours

Cambridge O Level syllabuses are designed on the assumption that learners have about 130 guided learning hours per subject over the duration of the course, but this is for guidance only. The number of hours required to gain the qualification may vary according to local curricular practice and the students' prior experience of the subject.

## 1.3 Why choose Cambridge O Level Setswana?

Cambridge O Levels are established qualifications that keep pace with educational developments and trends. The Cambridge O Level curriculum places emphasis on broad and balanced study across a wide range of subject areas. The curriculum is structured so that candidates attain both practical skills and theoretical knowledge.

Cambridge O Level Setswana is accepted by universities and employers as proof of knowledge and understanding of the language. Successful candidates gain lifelong skills including:

- the ability to communicate clearly, accurately and effectively in writing
- the ability to use a wide range of vocabulary, and correct grammar, spelling and punctuation
- a personal style and an awareness of the audience being addressed.

Candidates are also encouraged to read widely, both for their own enjoyment and to further their awareness of the ways in which Setswana can be used. Cambridge O Level Setswana also develops more general analysis and communication skills such as synthesis, inference, and the ability to order facts and present opinions effectively.

### Prior learning

We recommend that candidates who are beginning one of these courses should have previously achieved a level corresponding to the requirements of the Key Stage 3 programme of study for Modern Foreign Languages within the National Curriculum for England.

### Progression

Cambridge O Level Certificates are general qualifications that enable candidates to progress either directly to employment, or to proceed to further qualifications.

Candidates who are awarded grades C to A\* in a Cambridge O Level language syllabus are well prepared to follow courses leading to Cambridge International AS and A Level, or the equivalent, in the same language.

## 1.4 How can I find out more?

### If you are already a Cambridge school

You can make entries for this qualification through your usual channels. If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@cambridgeinternational.org](mailto:info@cambridgeinternational.org)

### If you are not yet a Cambridge school

Learn about the benefits of becoming a Cambridge school at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/startcambridge](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/startcambridge)

Email us at [info@cambridgeinternational.org](mailto:info@cambridgeinternational.org) to find out how your organisation can register to become a Cambridge school.

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## 2. Teacher support

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### 2.1 Support materials

You can go to our public website at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/olevel](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/olevel) to download current and future syllabuses together with specimen papers or past question papers, examiner reports and grade threshold tables from one series.

For teachers at registered Cambridge schools a range of additional support materials for specific syllabuses is available online from the School Support Hub. Go to [www.cambridgeinternational.org/support](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/support) (username and password required). If you do not have access, speak to the School Support coordinator at your school.

### 2.2 Endorsed resources

We work with publishers who provide a range of resources for our syllabuses including print and digital materials. Resources endorsed by Cambridge International go through a detailed quality assurance process to make sure they provide a high level of support for teachers and learners.

You can find resources to support this syllabus by clicking the Published resources link on the syllabus page [www.cambridgeinternational.org/3158](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/3158)

### 2.3 Training

We offer a range of support activities for teachers to ensure they have the relevant knowledge and skills to deliver our qualifications. See [www.cambridgeinternational.org/events](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/events) for further information.

## 3. Setswana

### 3.1 Scheme of assessment summary

All candidates take Papers 1 and 2.

Paper 1: Language	(2½ hours)
<p><b>Section A – 25 marks</b> One composition of 250–300 words from a choice of four topics.</p> <p><b>Section B – 25 marks</b> One piece of writing for a specific purpose of 200–250 words.</p> <p><b>Section C – 25 marks</b> Open-ended comprehension questions on one set passage.</p> <p><b>Section D – 25 marks</b> One translation, <b>either</b> from English into Setswana <b>or</b> from Setswana into English.</p> <p>Weighting: approx. 60% of total marks</p>	
Paper 2: Literature	(1½ hours)
<p><b>Section A – 25 marks</b> One question from a choice of two, each on a set text.</p> <p><b>Section B – 25 marks</b> One question from a choice of two, each on a set play.</p> <p><b>Section C – 25 marks</b> One question from a choice of two, each on a set poem, and one question on an unseen poem.</p> <p>Weighting: approx. 40% of total marks</p>	

### 3.2 Availability

This syllabus is examined in the November examination series.

This syllabus is available to private candidates.

Cambridge O Levels are available to centres in administrative zones 3, 4 and 5.

Detailed timetables are available from [www.cambridgeinternational.org/examsOfficers](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/examsOfficers)



### 3.3 Combining this with other syllabuses

Candidates can combine this syllabus in an examination series with any other Cambridge syllabus, except:

- syllabuses with the same title at the same level.

Please note that Cambridge O Level, Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International Level 1/Level 2 Certificate syllabuses are at the same level.

### 3.4 Aims

The aims of the syllabus are the same for all candidates. The aims are set out below and describe the educational purposes of a course in a language other than English for the Cambridge O Level examination. They are not listed in order of priority.

The aims are to:

- enable students to communicate accurately, appropriately and effectively in writing
- enable students to understand and respond appropriately to what they read
- encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the variety of language
- complement the students' other areas of study by developing skills of a more general application (e.g. analysis, synthesis, drawing of inferences)
- promote the students' personal development and an understanding of themselves and others
- encourage students to enjoy and appreciate the reading of Setswana literature.

### 3.5 Assessment objectives

There are four assessment objectives:

#### A Continuous Writing

Candidates will be assessed on their ability 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.

#### B Writing for a specific purpose

Candidates will be assessed on their ability 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 Language Usage/Reading Comprehension

Candidates will be assessed on their ability 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

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to

- 1 recognise implicit meaning and attitudes
- 2 recognise and appreciate ways in which writers use language and how they achieve 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.

## 3.6 Description of papers

Dictionaries may **not** be used in the examination.

### 3.6.1 Paper 1: Language

**2½ hours, 100 marks**

#### **Section A: Composition (25 marks)**

Candidates must choose one topic from a selection of four and must write an imaginative, narrative or argumentative response of 250–300 words in an appropriate style.

#### **Section B: Writing for a specific purpose (25 marks)**

One task requiring candidates to write 200–250 words for a specific purpose (such as an article, letter, report or speech) related to a given situation.

#### **Section C: Language Usage/Reading Comprehension (25 marks)**

A series of comprehension questions on a reading passage. Candidates will be tested on their understanding of specific details (e.g. reading language structure, figurative language), general themes and arguments in the passage.

#### **Section D: Translation (25 marks)**

There are two alternative passages: 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

### 3.6.2 Paper 2: Literature

**1½ hours, 75 marks**

This paper is divided into three sections. Candidates must answer four questions:

- one from Section A on a set text
- one from Section B on a set play
- two from Section C: one on a set poem and one on an unseen poem.

**The set texts for 2023, and the mark allocations for the sections are as follows:**

<p><b>Section A: Novel (25 marks)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Papetlana</i> – M M Tselaesele</li> </ul> <p><b>or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Setlhoa sa thaba</i> – O M Gaborone</li> </ul>
<p><b>Section B: Drama (25 marks)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Leapeetswe</i> – Obakeng Otladisang</li> </ul> <p><b>or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tiro ga se lefela</i> – N K H Moncho</li> </ul>
<p><b>Section C: Poetry (25 marks)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sefalana sa menate</i> – L D Raditladi * (15 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Lookana</i> – R F Mokobi * (15 marks)</li> </ul> <p><b>and</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an unseen poem (10 marks)</li> </ul>

\*For 2023 the following poems have been selected from each of the two texts:

- *Sefalana sa menate*: Selelo sa tonki; Lentswe la moledi; Aferika; Lewatle; Pula
- or**
- *Lookana*: Sefofane sa Botswana; Jwaneng; Terena ya Botswana; Ngwedi; Letlhabula

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## 4. Other information

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### Equality and inclusion

We have taken great care in the preparation of this syllabus and assessment materials to avoid bias of any kind. In our effort to comply with the UK Equality Act (2010), we have taken all reasonable steps to avoid direct and indirect discrimination.

The standard assessment arrangements may present barriers for candidates with impairments. Where a candidate is eligible, we may be able to make arrangements to enable that candidate to access assessments and receive recognition of their attainment. We do not agree access arrangements if they give candidates an unfair advantage over others or if they compromise the standards being assessed.

Candidates who are unable to access the assessment of any component may be eligible to receive an award based on the parts of the assessment they have taken.

Information on access arrangements is in the *Cambridge Handbook* at [www.cambridgeinternational.org/eoguide](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/eoguide)

### Language

This syllabus and the associated assessment materials are available in English only.

### Making entries

Exams officers are responsible for submitting entries to Cambridge International. We encourage them to work closely with you to make sure they enter the right number of candidates for the right combination of syllabus components. Entry option codes and instructions for submitting entries are in the *Cambridge Guide to Making Entries*. Your exams officer has a copy of this guide.

### Exam administration

To keep our exams secure, we produce question papers for different areas of the world, known as 'administrative zones'. We allocate all Cambridge schools to one administrative zone determined by their location. Each zone has a specific timetable. Some of our syllabuses offer candidates different assessment options. An entry option code is used to identify the components the candidate will take relevant to the administrative zone and the available assessment options.

### Retakes

Candidates can retake the whole qualification as many times as they want to. This is a linear qualification so candidates cannot re-sit individual components.

### Grading and reporting

Cambridge O Level results are shown by one of the grades A\*, A, B, C, D or E, indicating the standard achieved, A\* being the highest and E the lowest. 'Ungraded' indicates that the candidate's performance fell short of the standard required for grade E. 'Ungraded' will be reported on the statement of results but not on the certificate. The letters Q (pending) and X (no result) may also appear on the statement of results but not on the certificate.

## How students and teachers can use the grades

Assessment at Cambridge O Level has two purposes:

- to measure learning and achievement

The assessment:

- confirms achievement and performance in relation to the knowledge, understanding and skills specified in the syllabus, to the levels described in the grade descriptions.

- to show likely future success

The outcomes:

- help predict which students are well prepared for a particular course or career and/or which students are more likely to be successful
- help students choose the most suitable course or career.

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