

# Russian



## Exam Board

Edexcel

## Qualification

GCSE

## Aims and Objectives

To enable students to develop:

- an understanding of Russian in a variety of contexts;
- a knowledge of Russian vocabulary and structures;
- transferable language learning skills;
- the ability to communicate effectively in Russian;
- awareness and understanding of countries and communities where Russian is spoken.

## Content (Outline of Course)

The Edexcel GCSE in Russian consists of four units based on the following skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students cover four main themes: Out and About; Customer Services and Transactions; Personal Information; and Future Plans, Work and Education. These provide students with the tools to develop language and key skills that are required in higher level studies.

## Assessment

The GCSE is divided between the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Each of these four skills make up the final mark: 23% each for listening and reading; 27% each for speaking and writing.

All four skills are externally set and marked by Edexcel.

Students are prepared for all four areas of the examination and regularly tested in all four skills throughout the course. All assessments are formal, use past examination papers and begin as early as the end of the first term.

Homework is set on a regular basis and may take the form of written exercises, learning, listening work, speaking practice or a combination of these. It is also monitored through marking and recording of the work completed.

## Careers Guidance

A GCSE in a language such as Russian makes students stand out as it is very rare, particularly for a non-native speaker. Moreover, a GCSE in at least one modern foreign language is one of the desired and facilitating subjects for university entry. It also improves employability prospects. UK businesses need people who know languages from basic to native speaker ability to be able to function and compete in a global setting. Many employers, especially some of the biggest employers, prefer language students because, in addition to their linguistic skills, they tend to have better oral and written communication skills. Furthermore, research shows that speaking another language helps to raise a person's potential earnings.