

Edexcel Further Mathematics 9FM0

Command Word Guide & Grade Boundary Tracker

Grade Boundaries

Session	A*	A	B	C	D	E
Jun 2025 (01/02/3A/3B)	251	222	189	156	124	92

Out of 300 (Core Pure 1 & 2 plus Further Statistics 1 & Further Mechanics 1 combination). Source: Pearson Edexcel published grade boundary table, June 2025. Boundaries vary by optional combination — verify at [qualifications.pearson.com](https://www.pearson.com/qualifications/edexcel).

Command Word Mastery

Mark schemes for Edexcel 9FM0 attach specific meaning to each command word below. Misreading one of these costs marks a student's working had already earned.

Command Word	What It Demands	Common Student Error	Workshop Fix
Describe	Use precise transformation vocabulary — for matrices, name the type, scale factor, and centre/axis/angle	Giving a vague description instead of the specific terms the mark scheme requires	Drill phase: matrix transformation questions drilled against the exact accepted vocabulary
Prove	A complete, structurally correct argument — for induction, explicit base case, hypothesis, step and conclusion	Compressing or omitting structural steps under time pressure, even when the maths is correct	Anatomy phase: induction proofs deconstructed against what CP1/CP2 mark schemes require
Find the exact value	Present the answer in exact form (surds, fractions, multiples of pi) — a decimal does not earn the mark	Giving a correct decimal value when an exact form was required, under time pressure	Close phase: peer comparison shows which students convert to exact form automatically
Interpret	Relate a numerical/statistical result back to the context of the question in plain language	Giving a correct result without relating it back to what it means for the scenario	Open Forum: rapid "interpret" drills on hypothesis test conclusions and correlation