

Edexcel Mathematics 9MA0

Command Word Guide & Grade Boundary Tracker

Grade Boundaries

Session	A*	A	B	C	D	E
Jun 2025	258	214	178	142	106	71

Out of 300 (overall qualification — Papers 1, 2, 3). Source: Pearson Edexcel published grade boundary table, June 2025. Always verify current boundaries at [qualifications.pearson.com](https://www.pearson.com/qualifications).

Command Word Mastery

Mark schemes for Edexcel 9MA0 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
Show that	Work forwards from the question to the given answer, every step justified — working backwards is not credited	Starting from the given answer and working backwards to "prove" it	Anatomy phase: forwards vs backwards solutions compared against the mark scheme
Hence	Use the result from the previous part — a fresh independent method scores zero even if valid	Solving a "Hence" part with a different (correct) method, not credited by Edexcel mark schemes	Drill phase: "Hence" chaining exercises across Paper 1 and 2 past questions
Hence or otherwise	Any complete, valid method is acceptable — including the "Hence" route or an independent one	Assuming "or otherwise" still requires the "Hence" method, missing a faster approach	Close phase: peer comparison reveals multiple valid "or otherwise" methods
Given that	Treat the stated condition as fact and use it directly — do not prove or re-derive it	Spending time verifying a "Given that" condition instead of using it, wasting exam time	Open Forum: rapid drills distinguishing "Given that" (use it) from "Show that" (prove it)