

The Physics Paper Layout

The 2024 Leaving Cert Physics paper is broken into 2 parts. Section A questions relate to the mandatory experiments only. Section B will ask questions from the rest of the course. Section A is worth 120 marks (approx. 33%) with Section B worth 280 marks (approx. 66%)

Section A

Questions on Mandatory Experiments

Answer 3 questions from a choice of 5. Each question is based upon one of the mandatory experiments.

Section B

Answer 5 questions from a choice of 9

The first question in Section B is Q6 and this question has 12 short questions and you have to answer 8 of these. This questions should be always one of your choices for Section B as it offers choice.

Q14 also offers choice – do 2 parts from a choice of 4 – and should also be completed if possible.

Q6 – Answer 8 from 12 short questions

Timing for questions

Start of exam

Allow yourself 5 mins to read the questions carefully, make an initial choice on what questions you will attempt. Start with the questions you are most comfortable with not the question nearest the start of the paper. You can attempt the questions in any order you like. You have 3 hours for the exam.

Section A

Each question is worth 40 marks and should be given a max of 17 mins

Section B

Each question is worth 56 marks and should be given a max of 24 mins

$5 + (3 \times 17) + (5 \times 24) = 176$ mins. That gives you a bit of wriggle room during the exam as it difficult to hit those times exactly.

DO's and Don'ts in the Exam

Definitely DO:

- Read the questions twice to three times before choosing what ones you want to do
- Leave a question once you have used up your time for that question. If you have time at the end come back and finish it...this is so so important to maximise your marks.
- Bring a 30cm transparent ruler and a sharp pencil with you as well as your pen.
- Start each question on a new page
- If you can bring a spare calculator. Yes..it can happen that your trusty calculator will die on the big day so its good to have a backup of the same model

Don't

- Panic...easy to say but if things are going pear shaped stop for a moment, close your eyes and breath for 30 seconds. This should help...
- Use a pen to draw graphs.