

Urdu

Urdu is the official language of Pakistan, and it is spoken widely in western India. The closest relation of Urdu is Hindi. Spoken Urdu and Hindi are almost identical at the functional level, apart from certain words.

After learning Urdu, you'll find it much easier to speak and understand Hindi but written Hindi will remain a mystery as it's written in a different script. Other languages written in the same script as Urdu include Pashto, Kashmiri and Panjabi, although Panjabi is also written in a script called Gurumukhi. The Urdu script is over 90% similar to the Persian and Arabic scripts and borrows about 40% from Arabic and Persian.



Qualification: GCSE
Examination Board: AQA
Specification Code: 8648

Topics Covered

GCSE Urdu is only open to students who have studied it in Years 8 & 9, or who speak and write Urdu regularly.

You will develop 4 skills – Listening, Speaking, Reading & Writing.

Themes

- Identity & culture
- Local, national & international areas of interest
- Current & future study and employment

Assessment

100 % - Exam at the end of Year 11

- **25% Listening:** Higher or Foundation tier
- **25% Reading:** Higher or Foundation tier
- **25% Speaking:** 7 - 12 minutes speaking test. Higher or Foundation tier
- **25% Writing:** Written paper - Higher or Foundation tier

Course Progression

All universities see languages as a useful subject for any degree course and many universities are now starting to make first year students take a language module as part of their studies.

Speaking a second language makes you stand out - don't ever lose it!

Career Opportunities

With the renewed focus on the English Baccalaureate and Progress 8 subjects, people are realising the importance of having a foreign language at GCSE level. Although employers always knew how important it was!

Having a language improves your communication skills, makes you more culturally aware and provides you with opportunities your fellow employees may never get!