



Guide to Online Corrections for

Students

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Why we are giving schools the option to have their JC mock papers marked online?

We are delighted to be offering online corrections for Junior Cycle students for the upcoming mocks. We believe it is the only way that we can consistently deliver to students the level of service expected, which includes a better marking consistency and a faster turnaround of corrected scripts.

This means you will no longer get your script back but will view your marked script online, meaning you can view your script anytime, anywhere and print it if you'd like to.

2

What online correction means for students

BEFORE YOUR EXAMS

In advance of your exams, your teacher will give you an ID number. Before starting each mock exam, you will be asked to put this number on the front of each of your exam papers.

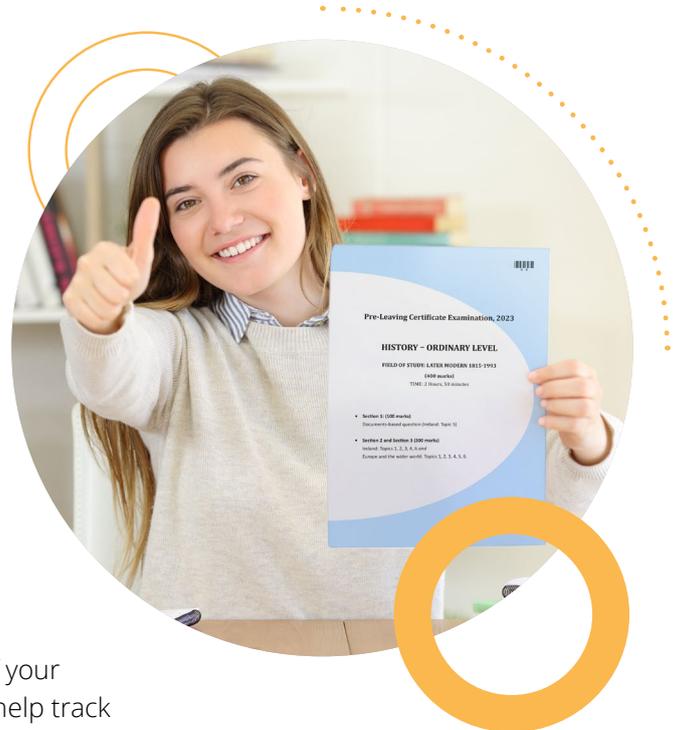
DURING YOUR EXAMS

On the days of your exams, you will be asked to do the following:

1. Write your **ID number** on the front cover of your exam paper. This is very important as it will help track your script and ensure it returns to you safely.
2. Write your name clearly on the front cover of your mock exam papers.
3. Your mock exam paper will be placed in a correction envelope and returned to Examcraft for correction.

AFTER YOUR EXAMS

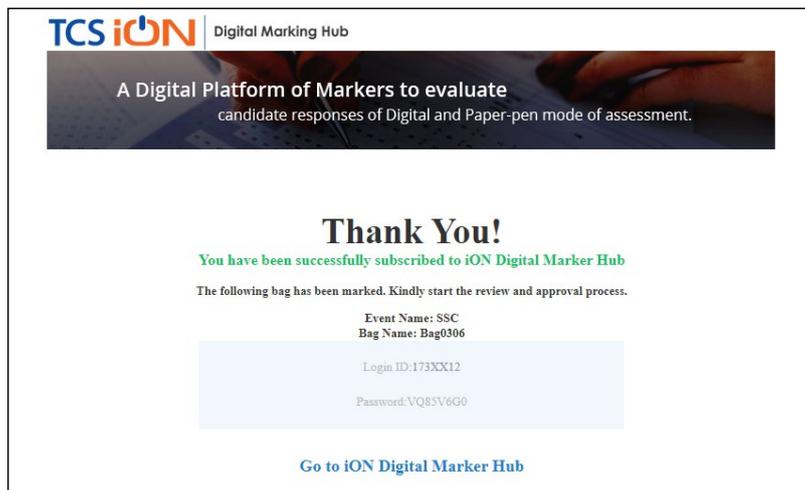
1. Your school sends the correction envelopes to be corrected.
2. Correction envelopes and all scripts in the envelope are scanned and uploaded for online marking.
3. Once all of the scripts from a particular envelope are corrected, an email will be sent to your subject teacher allowing them to view the scripts.



3 How to access your corrected scripts

Step 1

Once your teacher has approved your marked script, you will receive an email to log in to the TCSION Student Dashboard.



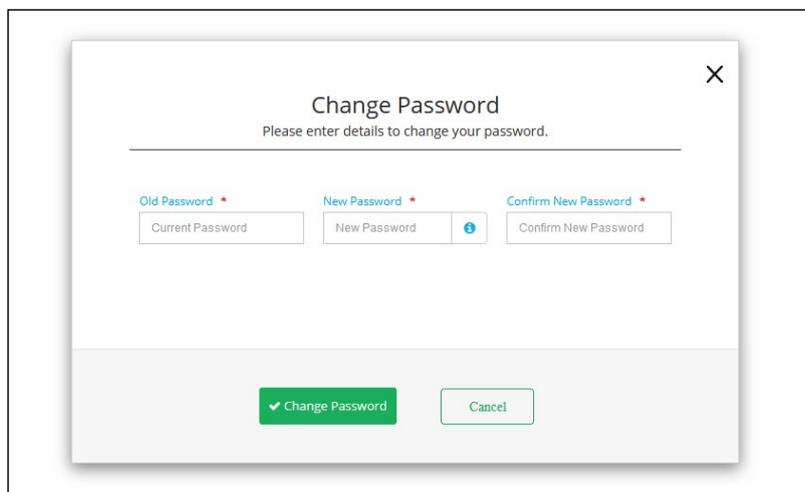
Link to the student dashboard



<https://g61.tcsion.co.uk:443//EForms/configuredHtml/32428/79925/login.html>

Step 2

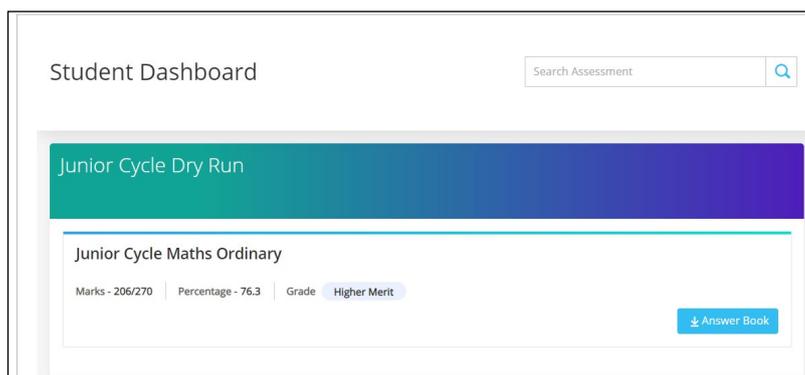
If this is your first time to log in to the system, you will be asked to create a new password.



Step 3

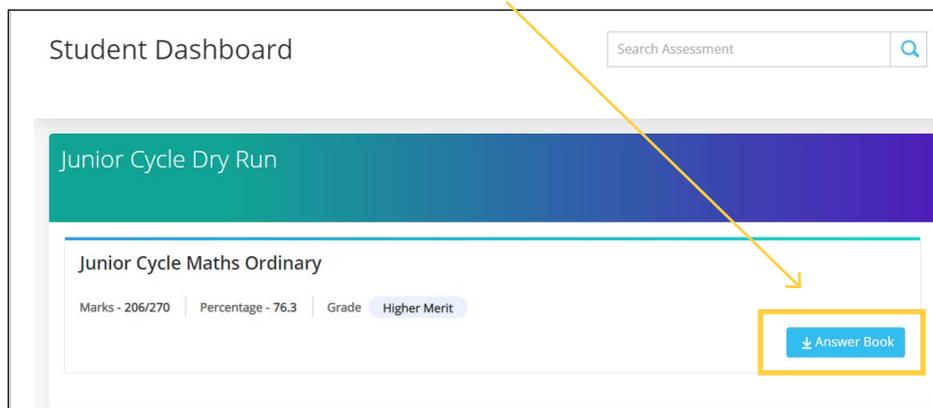
As your teachers approve your scripts, they will be released and visible on your TCSION Student Dashboard.

Once you are logged in, this is the screen you will see with your marked scripts.



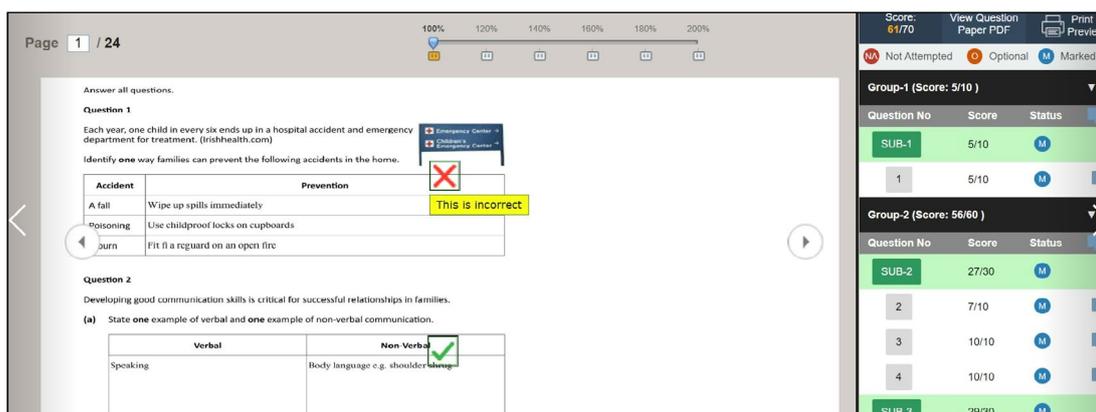
Step 4

To view your marked script, click on **Response Sheet**.



Step 5

You will see your overall grade and the marks you received for each question.



The following section gives you support and tips on how to prepare for your mock exams to help you get the most out of the experience ahead of the State exams.

The final page helps you reflect on what went well and what you will need to focus on to improve for your Sate exams. We highly recommend that you read all sections and implement the strategies suggested. It is very important to take as much learning from your mock exams as possible.

Finally, we wish you all the best in your mock exams.





Preparing for **Your Exams**



Deliberate Practice

It has been shown in a number of studies that 'deliberate practice' is the best predictor of exam performance.

What is deliberate practice? Well, if you want to play a musical instrument, deliberate practice is practising on that instrument the music you want to play. With enough practice, playing the instrument becomes second nature to you. Then, when you step up on stage to play before a large audience, you will play with confidence and poise as you have hardwired yourself for success.

Your mentor/teacher or coach has a particular function too – based on their experience and expertise, they will be able to see things that you can't see yourself and you will be able to modify your practice based on their feedback.

So, your personal reflection on each performance and the feedback from your mentor/teacher or coach will influence how you approach your next 'deliberate practice' music session, and indeed your next stage performance. And if you have enough practice, you will become the best you can be. Over time, this deliberate practice builds your confidence and competence and you become hardwired for success.

The above shows the purpose of practice in developing musical ability; it is exactly the same with exams, and the reason you do mock exams is so that you can do 'deliberate practice' in exam conditions, reflect on where you are at as a learner, get feedback from your teacher and correctors and then, based on that, put in place a plan to maximise your achievement in the State exams.

It is important in your preparation for the State exams that you do exams in a way that replicates those State exams as closely as possible.

For that reason, our preferred way for you to take these exams is that when you receive the paper, you print it out, staple it together and complete the exam in the Examination Script or Answer Booklet as is appropriate for that exam.

We would like you to mirror as far as possible the State exam conditions and to limit as far as possible the impact of technology on your performance, either positive or negative.



Treat it like the real deal

To get the most from the mock exam experience, you need to prepare for the mocks as if they are the real deal. What does this mean?

Well, you are probably studying for up to 7 — 10 subjects and you will probably have 10 individual exams.

This means that for each subject you should:

- 1. Have one-page summaries completed of all the key topics.**
- 2. Review the past papers** to look at the patterns and to ensure that you can competently answer questions on topics which are likely to come up. As well as looking at the past papers, it is also hugely beneficial to look at the marking schemes so that you see exactly what the examiners are looking for.
- 3. Know the structure and layout of each exam paper before you start the exam.** You will know the questions that you need to answer and have a time allocation for each question. In other words, you should have an individual strategy for each exam paper. The State exams follow a pattern and you should be familiar with the pattern of each paper for each subject.
- 4. Ideally, you will have a folder or a section of a folder for notes on each subject and you will store all your exam preparation material together for each subject.**

The Exam Plan

We would strongly recommend that you have an exam plan for each subject. If you have an exam plan that is based on your knowledge of past papers and your own subject strengths, you will definitely do better than if you just plod through the exam not knowing how long you intend to spend on each question, etc.

An exam plan should include:

1. What you are going to answer
2. How much time you need for each question
3. How many marks are given for individual questions

NOTE

The time allocation per question is the most important element of the plan; it is always a good idea to begin the exam answering the questions you are most comfortable with, but ensure you stick to your time allocation for the question.

Tips to maximise your performance on exam day



Get enough sleep

Have a good night's sleep before the exam. Staying up late to cram is never a good idea.



Calm your mind

If your mind goes blank during the exam (which is not uncommon), do a simple breathing exercise – breathe in through your nose and out through your mouth slowly, seven times.



Have everything you need

Ensure you have all your equipment for each particular exam – know the subjects you are allowed to use calculators in, have graph paper, pencils, paper, pens and all other equipment as required. If you don't have the equipment, you can't reach your potential in the exam.



Avoid distractions

Whether at home or in school doing the exam, avoid all distractions and focus on being the best you for the duration of the exam.



Attempt all questions

Students that perform best have good time-management skills and answer all questions on the paper. The mock exams are essentially about you testing your time-management skills and reflecting on them after the exam.

Write clearly

So, you have opened the paper. First, quickly scan the paper to confirm the layout and structure; this will be reassuring. Then read through the paper carefully, ticking those questions you are going to answer, and you're ready to get going.

Now you must get the examiner on side...

You can do this by making their job easy. Examiners get very frustrated when they read students' work, but don't know the question the student has answered, so make sure you label all of your answers clearly.

After the exam – reflect on the learnings

The most important thing about the mock exam is to extract a learning from it – most of that learning will come from you reflecting on your experience, how you managed your time, how you coped under pressure, etc. You will also get a grade or mark a few weeks after the exam, and while that will confirm your point on the learning journey, most of the learning and the confidence building will have come from being honest with yourself and doing the exam in exam-like conditions. This will probably be the first time you've done two-hour exams, so they are an important step in preparing you for your State exams in June.

We would suggest that you list your learnings from each exam and identify your top three priorities for that subject now that you have completed your mock exams.

You might use the grid below to reflect on your learnings. When completing the grid, ask yourself:

- * Was I adequately prepared to answer all questions?
- * Was I calm throughout the exam?
- * Did I implement my exam plan?
- * Did I answer all the questions asked?
- * How was my time management?

| SUBJECT | MATHS |
|--|---|
| Three things that went well for me in this exam | |
| Areas that I need to focus on | |
| Top priorities for the future | Watch my time – Answer all questions. Learn the theorems |