

The British School (TBS) Summary of IB Diploma Provisional Results: May 2010

Summary of results

The IB results for May 2010 were very good overall. This year saw our biggest year-on-year increase yet, in both the average total points score per student and the average score per subject, as well as the highest average points score the school has achieved in its four years of IB results. We received some excellent results with close to 90% once again achieving the IB Diploma and our grade forecasts were very accurate. This is very important in our discussions on behalf of the students with universities and colleges world-wide.

	TBS 2007	TBS 2008	TBS 2009	TBS 2010	World 2009
Average Total Points per student	30.0	31.0	31.1	33.0	29.51
Average Points per subject	4.92	5.01	5.01	5.28	4.66
% of the IB Diploma students awarded the Diploma	64.8	79.01	90.0	87	78.71

These upward trends are very promising and we can see that the increase this year is clearly more pronounced than those of previous years. However, we are mindful that cohorts of students differ annually. Whilst, year-on-year comparisons may be valuable, we are also careful to analyse the grades awarded in relation to our judgement and the assessment of each student's capability

This year also marked some victories for the core elements of the programme. Last year we excelled in Extended Essays (EE) but not the Theory of Knowledge (TOK). This average bonus points per student were lower than global averages. This year showed an upward trend in this regard. Our TOK grades, a point of focus throughout the year, go way up, in particular with the extremely high number of students gaining a B and the extremely low number awarded Ds. The Extended Essay, on the other hand, received results very much in line with global averages. We are now in line with world averages for the students with 2 and 3 bonus points, but well above average for students gaining 1 bonus point and well below the global average for students who fail to gain a bonus point.

TOK GRADES	A	B	C	D	E
TBS %	0.0	56.7	40.0	3.3	0.0
Global 2009 %	5.5	29.3	45.7	18.3	1.2

EE Grades	A	B	C	D	E
TBS %	9.7	25.9	35.5	25.9	3.3
Global 2009 %	14.6	23.7	35.2	23.2	3.2

BONUS POINTS	3 (the maximum)	2	1	0
TBS %	9.7	16.1	51.7	22.6
Global 2009 %	9.5	17.0	44.9	28.6

Subjects where we excelled

Once again Group 3 subjects were very strong for us with almost all above global averages. Most notable was that Economics Higher Level (HL) in a class of 18 students averaged 6.22 points. This is a remarkable achievement for what was a key subject for many students.

Also notable was the increase in Mathematics (HL), now more than half a point above global averages, and English HL and Standard Level (SL) were both about half a point above global averages. Success in key subjects such as these is pivotal to success in university applications.

Areas to strengthen

Of the 5 students who were not awarded the Diploma, only one of them failed to score 24 points, the qualifying total points score. Three students did not achieve 12 Higher Level Points, the requirement, all achieving 11 points. This suggests that we have to be more prudent in advising students on course selection so that students are choosing HL subjects in which they are likely to be successful. Fortunately, we have made great strides in this area with each Year 11 student or student joining us in Year 12 benefiting from an individual meeting with the IB Coordinator and the University/College Guidance Counsellor to finalise their course selection.

We were successful in counselling many students who may have used internet sources in their essays inappropriately. We know we will not be able to locate every case of malpractice, and we continue to strive to equal 2009's mark of zero 'N' grades amongst our students.

Subjects that scored low, in absolute terms or relative to the global subject average, were each of the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) subjects except English B and Hindi B, Environmental Systems & Society (EVSS), Geography, Chemistry (HL), Maths Studies and Mathematics SL. It should be noted that EVSS scores low globally: the subject was just below the respective global subject average. In MFL, we will continue to need to work harder to compete globally. Delhi is at a disadvantage to countries such as the United States and many European nations in regard to studying European languages. With Maths Studies and SL, we do expect some discord with global averages as many of our students, who should be placed as strong candidates in Maths Studies, need to take the more demanding Maths SL due to

ambitious university applications. This means those who would normally be the high scorers in Maths Studies, find themselves being lower scorers in Maths SL. These explanations are intended to contextualize the problem, not excuse them. We strive to have all subjects above global averages, no matter what challenges are presented.

Finally, we were strong in our predictions. The IBO evaluates the school in terms of accuracy of the predicted grades we make about our students to them as an examining body (known as the IBIS grades) and the students' actual grades. We have traditionally been strong here and, with few exceptions, were very accurate once again. 30/39 students were predicted within 3 points of their actual total grades. This figure holds true for both IBIS and University Predicted Grades. The accuracy of our predicted grades was noted by the IB in our 5-year review, published in the spring of 2010.

N.B. (1). World % achieving the IB Diploma is for 2009 as 2010 data are not available until November. Statistics show that these percentages vary very little year on year.

N.B. (2). Results are provisional since individual appeals against grades may yet be made by the school on behalf of students, which may lead to changes.

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