

Scheme of work for GCSE Bengali

The new GCSE specification is a linear two-year course. This scheme of work is designed to be a flexible plan for teaching the themes and topics that will be assessed.

This scheme of work is not exhaustive, it is important to:

- plan revision and recaps (thematic and linguistic)
- make logical and seamless links between thematic progression and linguistic progression.

Themes and topics

There are three broad themes:

1. Identity and culture
2. Local, national, international and global areas of interest
3. Current and future study and employment

Each theme contains a number of topics. To avoid you needing to pinpoint how each individual lesson relates to the scheme of work, you can think of each topic as a unit of teaching and learning that covers:

- a sequence of lessons
- a range of resources and activities that cover the full range of skills (including opportunities for revision and consolidation, and stretch and challenge)
- the appropriate lexical and grammatical content.

In the scheme of work below, the themes (column two) and the topics within them (column three) straddle both years, rather than taking the conventional approach of teaching each theme one by one in full. This means the grammar is transferrable: each unit builds on the previous one, and the structures and grammar that a student learns (column four) can be constantly reused and recycled by transferring them to other topics.

This approach also promotes effective learning. Students are better prepared for multi-topic listening and reading exams, and multiple themes get underway from the start – which means there's less risk students will forget early themes.

It's important to think and plan holistically to find the most logical series of links between themes, language and skills.

Year 1

Month	Theme	Topic	Grammar
September	Identity and culture	Me, my family and friends Relationships with family and friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• আছে/নেই and present tense• possessive adjectives• adjective agreement rules• reflexive verbs• তর্ক করা/রাগ করা/মানিয়ে চলা• comparatives plus ওটা, সেটা/ওটার /ওর চেয়ে কম• adverbs of frequency• regular verbs in present tense• direct object pronouns
October	Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Home, town, neighbourhood and region	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• আছে• আমাদের আছে• এটা, এই• prepositions• plural partitive article and থেকে after negative• শক্তি, ক্ষমতা + infinitive• irregular verbs করা/যাওয়া• যারা + verb• উৎসাহী/আগ্রহী হয়ে

Month	Theme	Topic	Grammar
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhancing descriptions using <i>যেটা/যে/যা/যাকে/যেটার চেয়ে/বা</i> demonstrative adjectives <i>টা, এটা/এগুলো, এগুলি</i>
November	Current and future study and employment	My studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>করতে হবে</i> + infinitive <i>করা উচিত/অবশ্যই করতে হবে</i> + infinitive (compulsory subjects) <i>কারণ/কেননা</i> to express reasons perfect tense regular verbs <i>বাছাই/পছন্দ করা /স্থির করা/সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়া/রেখে দেওয়া/না নেওয়া</i> two verbs together eg <i>ভালো লাগতে লাগতে/পছন্দ/বাছাই করতে করতে</i> comparative and superlative in expressing opinions about subjects <i>চেয়ে/সবচেয়ে</i> use of <i>তুমি</i> and <i>আপনি</i> in informal/formal exchanges
December	Identity and culture	Free-time activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> music cinema and tv food and eating out sport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consolidation of present tense including irregular verbs <i>বের করা/নেওয়া, রাখা, চাওয়া</i> extend range of two verbs together future tense introduced for eg weekend plans <i>আগামী/পরের শনি-রবিবারে...</i> adverbs such as <i>সাধারণত/সচরাচর/স্বভাবত/স্বাভাবিকভাবে/নিয়মমাফিক</i>

Month	Theme	Topic	Grammar
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> clauses introduced by যখন/যে সময় and যদি
January	Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Social issues Healthy/unhealthy living	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> partitive articles with food items recap on উচিত/অবশ্যই and introduce conditional forms – affirmative and negative এটা আরও ভালো/অপেক্ষাকৃত ভালো/আরও ভালো হতো/হয়/হবে negative না/নয় ... কখনে না/নয় previous health habits using imperfect tense
February	Current and future study and employment	Life at school/college	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> transfer কর্তব্য/করণীয়/ক্ষমতা/উচিত/চাওয়া to school rules context যদি-তাহলে clauses using imperfect and conditional quantity words অনেক/ও/যথেষ্ট+ যথেষ্ট নয় (including with plurals) perfect tense with থাকা using regular and common irregular verbs (আমি হোমওয়ার্কের যা করেছি)
March	Identity and culture	Customs and festivals in Bengali-speaking countries/communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> perfect of verbs with হওয়া + agreement rules reflexive verbs in perfect; perfect and imperfect tenses together describing a past event/festival; actions and opinions
April	Local, national, international, and global areas of		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consolidation of perfect and imperfect tenses sequencing words, expressions, and phrases

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	interest		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • আগে, পূর্বে/পরে, পরবর্তীতে etc/যখন/থেকে, হতে developing greater complexity in spoken and written accounts of past events or experiences • weather expressions with তৈরি/নির্মাণ
May	Current and future study and employment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • যেটা/যেটা নাকি ... sentence pattern • building on যদি clauses with present and future • more complex two verb structures (অভিশ্য, ইচ্ছা/চাওয়া/অধিকার থাকা)
June		Year-end assessments	
June, July	Identity and culture	Transition to Year 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • me, my family and friends • marriage/partnership. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revisiting adjectives to describe and use of যে, যা, যা থেকে, to describe ideal partner and enhance descriptions • মধ্যে, ভেতরে, ভিতরে + present participle • revision of future tense to outline future plans • direct and indirect object pronouns

Year 2

Month	Theme	Topic	Grammar
September	Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Global issues The environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> modal verbs linked to ব্যবহার, আচরণ (must do/can do/should do/could do etc) past tense for effects of ব্যবহার, আচরণ on environment যদি sentences revised for outlining consequences of actions pluperfect tense perspective
October	Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Social issues Charity/voluntary work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> অভাব, কমতি+ infinitive পাওয়া যাচ্ছে না এমন, দুর্লভ + subjunctive যদি সম্ভব হয়/সম্ভব হলে + subjunctive
November	Current and future study and employment	Jobs, career choices and ambitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhanced statements of possibility including অনুমতি/সম্মতি দেওয়া
December, January	Identity and culture	Technology in everyday life: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> social media mobile technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> revision of past tenses to recount how social media have been used; or life before technology ধন্যবাদ/কৃতজ্ঞতা জানানো/সঙ্গে/ছাড়া enhanced statements of possibility including অনুমতি/সম্মতি দেওয়া

Month	Theme	Topic	Grammar
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> এটা সম্ভব যে + subjunctive
December, January		Mock examination/assessment	
February	Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Global issues Poverty/homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> এটা যদি হতো ... এর পরিবর্তে/জায়গায় ... with conditional completions এটা জরুরী + infinitive and এটা জরুরী যে + subjunctive
March, April, May		Revision and preparation for assessment	
May, June		Assessment	

Differentiation

The grammar progression above might be over-demanding for some students. For each language point and grammar area, you'll need to decide the appropriate scope for your students. This scheme of work is not prescriptive: it's a programme that you can use to find the level that's right for your students.