

IGCSE Cambridge CAIE IGCSE Additional Mathematics

Spec code: 0606 · Command Word Guide & Grade Boundary Tracker

Grade Thresholds

Session	Max	A*	A	B	C	D	E
Jun 2025 (AX)	160	135	110	80	51	39	27
Jun 2025 (AY)	160	137	115	87	59	46	33

0606 is single-tier (no Core/Extended split). All candidates sit Paper 1 (non-calculator, 80 marks) and Paper 2 (calculator, 80 marks) for a 160-mark total. Eligible for grades A*–E only. Cambridge publishes multiple variants (AX/AY/AZ) per series. Boundaries shown are for the AX and AY June 2025 variants — always confirm your school's variant. Source: Cambridge International published grade threshold table, June 2025. Always verify at cambridgeinternational.org.

Command Word Mastery

Mark schemes attach specific meaning to each command word below. Misreading one of these costs marks that working had already earned.

Command Word	What It Demands	Common Student Error	Workshop Fix
Hence	Use the result from the immediately preceding part of the question as a direct input. Starting from scratch does not earn the method link mark.	Reworking from first principles and arriving at the same answer — the "hence" instruction implies the link must be visible.	Drill phase: students annotate "using [previous result]" before writing the next line. Peer review checks the link is stated.
Show that	Present every algebraic step leading to the given result. The final answer is printed — the marks are in the route.	Writing only the final line or skipping steps. Without visible working, no marks can be awarded for "show that".	Anatomy phase: students cover the given answer and work independently, then uncover to check they arrived at it.
Solve	Find all values satisfying the equation or inequality. For quadratics and trigonometric equations, all valid roots in the given range must be stated.	Finding one root and stopping — particularly common on trig equations where a second root exists in the given domain.	Checklist: after solving, students substitute each answer back and check; for trig, they sketch the curve to confirm root count.
Verify	Substitute the given value and confirm it satisfies the stated condition, with full working shown.	Stating "it works" without substituting and showing the arithmetic that confirms it.	Close phase: peer reviewer confirms the substitution is written out before the verification statement.

How EMI uses this: Cambridge 0606 Additional Mathematics is designed for students who have, or are likely to achieve, grade A*, A or B in standard 0580. Every workshop opens by confirming which variant the student is sitting (AX/AY/AZ) — boundaries differ between variants and misidentification costs marks on boundary days.