

**Q & A from the Secondary 4 Science Option (SN) Math Exam Session  
- May 2022 and April 2023 -**

**Q. What can I bring, and not bring to the exam?**

A. Use the checklist from the exam resources at

<https://www.learnquebec.ca/en/examprep> .

**YES:** It is important to note that pencils, your calculator, a ruler, and your memory aid are the most important to bring. Additionally, you may have a compass, a set square, a protractor and graph paper.

**TIP:** Bring a calculator that you are comfortable with so that you know where to find the buttons you will need (sin, cos, tan, etc.). *Full calculator rules are listed in the exam preparation video.*

**NO:** It is VERY important to note that among the **unauthorized** materials are any digital devices (smartphone, wireless headphones or earbuds, smartwatch, etc.) that can be used to communicate, access the Internet, translate text, or create, save or consult data.

**Any student who is caught in possession of unauthorized materials during the examination will be expelled from the examination room for cheating and will receive a mark of 0% on the examination.** This rule applies even if a student who is found in possession of a digital device is not using the device or has turned it off. Leave these devices at home or with your parent/guardian when you go into the exam room.

**Q. Are there some parts of the exam where I'm not permitted to use a calculator? If so, which parts?**

A. You may use a calculator throughout this exam.

**Q What are the must-haves for the memory aid in this course?**

A. Keep in mind the relative importance for each branch of mathematics from the Ministère de l'Éducation documents when you are making your aid. Don't take up a lot of space on the sheet for topics that might be worth under 8% of the exam, for example.

**TABLE 1 – APPROXIMATE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF EACH BRANCH OF MATHEMATICS IN THE EXAMINATION FOR EACH OPTION**

Option	Arithmetic and algebra	Statistics and probability	Geometry
Science Option	From 48% to 54%	From 4% to 8%	From 40% to 44%

**Q. How can I prepare at home for the exam?**

- A. Practice. Review some questions for each concept and then check your work and answers against some corrected questions.  
Go through the list of concepts and processes and build a memory aid from scratch.  
Do some practice questions using the memory aid to see what might need to be added and to get used to finding information on it.

**Q. Do you have any tips for the memory aid?**

- A. Memory aids are unique to each student and what jogs your memory.  
The memory aid is your best friend. Spend ample time crafting, writing, organizing, and reviewing it. Make it your own.

**Start with the list of concepts and processes** that may be included in the exam.  
You may include full examples but keep in mind that you have limited space.

**Tips:**

Delineate the space - Draw lines to divide the different sections.

Take the 8 ½ x 11 paper and fold it into different sections. This is a good place to start to get a sense of how much space you have for each section.

Colour code your sections based on topic - don't just use pencil... Highlight parts that are important for YOU to remember.

Just like you would for writing in ELA, make more than one draft of the memory aid as you study. Your final draft can be created in the week before the exam so that you can use it as you review and practice.

Give the most space to the topics or concepts that YOU need help with.

**Q. Is there anything that is NOT allowed on the memory aid?**

- A. You may not include any mechanical reproduction like a photocopy on your memory aid. You must write your own aid in your own handwriting.

**Q. What tips do you have for the exam?**

- A. Consider the breakdown of marks in the exam. Make sure to leave yourself time for Part C (which is worth the most marks!)  
You don't need to complete the questions in order, so start with the section that will help you gain confidence.  
Be prepared for a 3 hour exam. Wear something comfortable.  
Use some strategies that can help keep you calm. Don't forget to breathe, take a moment to look up from your paper from time to time, and then refocus.  
Don't get caught up on one question and not move forward. If you are stuck, circle the question and come back to it after solving other questions you feel more confident with.

**Q. What are some strategies for answering multiple choice questions?**

- A. It is a scannable answer sheet so please use an HB pencil and fill in the correct answer. Double check your answers in the booklet BEFORE filling in the correct circle on the scannable sheet.

First, see if there are any impossible answers that you can eliminate from the choices. Then, solve the problem before looking at the multiple answers. Once you solve the problem, see which answer matches yours.

Write out your work and solutions on the booklet.

**Q. How can I maximize marks in Part C - situations involving application**

A. TIPS:

- Write everything down and show all your work!
- Draw a picture. When in doubt, sketch it out!
- Label your work.
- Teachers want to be able to follow the student's train of thought. Teachers cannot guess the student's reasoning so it has to be written on the paper.
- Show what you know. Show that you understand the concept and process that is being evaluated. Even if there is a calculation error or you get stuck part way through the question, you can still do well by demonstrating that you know the right formula to use and how to set up the solution.
- Don't stay stuck on any one problem especially in the multiple choice section. Move on and come back later.
- Write in a neat and organized manner. The teacher marking the paper will need to be able to read it and follow your work.

**Q. On the LEARN website, there is a section called ClassMarker ([www.learnquebec.ca/classmarker](http://www.learnquebec.ca/classmarker)) self tests with login required. How can we get access codes?**

- A. If you do not already have LEARN access codes through your school board or you cannot login through a school board portal, please follow the instructions here: <https://www.learnquebec.ca/learn-accounts>