

CUET Marks vs Percentile 2026

How to Calculate Your Score | Normalisation Explained | College Predictor | Score-to-College Map

CUET UG 2026 is held May 11 – May 31 in CBT mode across 300+ cities. NTA converts your raw marks into a percentile score using the equi-percentile normalisation method to ensure fairness across multiple shifts. Result is expected in the first week of July 2026 at cuet.nta.nic.in. This guide explains the difference between marks and percentile, how to calculate both, and what score you need for top universities.

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|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 200+ Participating Universities | 13 Lakh+ Students Expected | May 11-31 CUET 2026 Exam Dates | July 2026 Expected Result Date | 700-850 Good Score for Top Colleges | 5 Marks / -1 Marking Scheme |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

1. CUET Marks vs Percentile — Key Differences

| Factor | CUET Marks (Raw Score) | CUET Percentile Score |
|----------------|--|--|
| Definition | Actual marks scored based on correct/incorrect answers | Relative score — shows % of candidates you scored higher than |
| Calculated By | Candidate's own performance only | Compared with all candidates in the same session |
| Formula | (Correct x 5) - (Wrong x 1) | $100 \times (\text{Candidates with equal or lower score}) / \text{Total candidates}$ |
| Range | 0 to Max Marks (subject-wise) | 0 to 100 (100 = topper of session) |
| Used For | Calculating raw performance | Merit list, admission cutoff, university shortlisting |
| Shift Impact | Can vary by shift difficulty | Normalised — fair across all shifts via equi-percentile method |
| Reliability | Less reliable (shift difficulty varies) | More reliable — preferred by universities for admission |
| Decimal Places | Whole numbers | Up to 7 decimal places (to avoid ties) |

2. CUET 2026 Marking Scheme & Score Calculation

| Section | No. of Questions | Attempt | Marks/Correct | Neg. Marking | Max Marks |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| Section IA & IB (Languages) | 50 | 40 out of 50 | +5 | -1 | 200 |
| Section II (Domain Subjects) | 45/50 | 35/40 out of 45/50 | +5 | -1 | 200 |
| Section III (General Test) | 60 | 50 out of 60 | +5 | -1 | 250 |

Raw Score Formula: $\text{Score} = (\text{No. of Correct Answers} \times 5) - (\text{No. of Wrong Answers} \times 1)$ | **Percentile Formula:** $P = 100 \times (\text{Candidates with score equal to or less than yours}) / \text{Total Candidates in session}$

3. CUET Expected Marks vs Percentile 2026 — Score Map

Based on previous year CUET UG trends reported on [Shiksha.com](https://shiksha.com). Actual percentile may vary by subject and shift.

| Score Range (Raw Marks) | Expected Percentile | Performance Level | Admission Chances | Recommended Action |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| 850 – 1000 | 99.5 – 100 | Exceptional | Top DU colleges (SRCC, Hindu), JNU, BHU top courses | Apply to top DU, JNU, BHU, central universities |
| 750 – 849 | 95 – 99.4 | Excellent | DU (most colleges), BHU, Hyderabad Univ., JNU | Apply broadly to central + state universities |
| 650 – 749 | 85 – 94.9 | Very Good | State universities, DU (some), private deemed | Shortlist 10+ colleges via CUET College Predictor |

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|--|---|
| 550 – 649 | 70 – 84.9 | Good | State universities, private colleges, deemed | Explore state + private university options |
| 450 – 549 | 50 – 69.9 | Average | Private colleges, some state universities | Check cutoffs carefully; apply to safer options |
| 350 – 449 | 30 – 49.9 | Below Average | Limited options — private colleges mainly | Consider applying to colleges with lower cutoffs |
| Below 350 | Below 30 | Low | Very few options | Reappear next year or explore alternative courses |

*Score range is approximate. Max marks vary by subject combination. 90-99 percentile = DU top colleges. 95+ = SRCC, Hindu, Miranda House. Source: Shiksha.com

4. CUET 2026 Normalisation Process — Explained Simply

| Step | What Happens | Why It Matters |
|--------|---|--|
| Step 1 | Percentile of each student calculated using raw marks within their own shift | Ensures within-shift performance is ranked fairly |
| Step 2 | Percentiles arranged in descending order by raw marks for each shift separately | Creates a comparable baseline for each session |
| Step 3 | Linear interpolation fills any gaps in the percentile-to-marks mapping table | Handles ties and missing data points accurately |
| Step 4 | Normalised marks calculated on a common scale using equi-percentile method | A student in a harder shift gets equivalent normalised marks |
| Step 5 | Final NTA score (normalised) is used for result, merit list & university shortlisting | All students fairly compared regardless of shift difficulty |

Key Takeaway: Your percentile is NOT your marks percentage. A student scoring 600 raw marks in a hard shift may get a higher percentile than a student scoring 600 raw marks in an easy shift.

5. CUET UG Subject-wise Highest Score in 2025

The table below shows the highest NTA Score achieved per subject in CUET UG 2025 (out of 250).

| SECTION IA & IB — Languages | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Subject Code | Subject Name | Highest NTA Score (out of 250) |
| 101 | English | 241.96 |
| 102 | Hindi | 238.06 |
| 103 | Assamese | 220.00 |
| 104 | Bengali | 244.00 |
| 105 | Gujarati | 166.00 |
| 106 | Kannada | 232.00 |
| 107 | Malayalam | 238.00 |
| 108 | Marathi | 244.00 |
| 109 | Odia | 219.00 |
| 110 | Punjabi | 250.00 |
| 111 | Tamil | 241.00 |
| 112 | Telugu | 178.00 |
| 113 | Urdu | 250.00 |

| SECTION II — Domain Subjects & Section III — General Aptitude Test | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Subject Code | Subject Name | Highest NTA Score (out of 250) |
| 301 | Accountancy / Book Keeping | 249.76 |
| 302 | Agriculture | 228.40 |
| 303 | Anthropology | 208.00 |
| 304 | Biology / Biological Science / Biotechnology / Biochemistry | 249.70 |
| 305 | Business Studies | 250.00 |

| | | |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 306 | Chemistry | 247.64 |
| 307 | Environmental Science | 185.00 |
| 308 | Computer Science / Information Practices | 239.50 |
| 309 | Economics / Business Studies | 244.45 |
| 312 | Fine Arts / Visual Arts / Commercial Arts | 248.33 |
| 313 | Geography / Geology | 250.00 |
| 314 | History | 249.60 |
| 315 | Home Science | 234.33 |
| 316 | Knowledge Tradition - Practices in India | 187.00 |
| 318 | Mass Media / Mass Communication | 204.50 |
| 319 | Mathematics / Applied Mathematics | 243.70 |
| 320 | Performing Arts (Dance; Drama, Music) | 242.00 |
| 321 | Physical Education (Yoga; Sports) | 219.00 |
| 322 | Physics | 237.00 |
| 323 | Political Science | 249.60 |
| 324 | Psychology | 250.00 |
| 325 | Sanskrit | 244.00 |
| 326 | Sociology | 245.40 |
| 501 | General Aptitude Test | 203.36 |

Note: Scores highlighted in orange indicate a perfect score of 250.00. Data sourced from NTA CUET UG 2025 official results.

Key Resources — Use These on Shiksha.com

CUET Marks vs Percentile 2026 — Full Shiksha.com Article

Complete guide on how CUET raw marks differ from percentile, how normalisation works, and what score you need for your target university.

<https://www.shiksha.com/science/articles/cuet-marks-vs-percentile-blogId-129525>

CUET 2026 Exam — Complete Guide on Shiksha.com

Exam pattern, syllabus, important dates (May 11-31, 2026), result date, marking scheme, preparation tips, and cutoff analysis.

<https://www.shiksha.com/science/cuet-exam>

CUET College Predictor — Find Your College Now

Enter your CUET percentile and get a personalised list of colleges and courses you can realistically target across 200+ universities.

<https://www.shiksha.com/science/cuet-college-predictor>

CUET 2026 Result & Scorecard — Shiksha.com

Check your CUET UG 2026 result, download scorecard, understand NTA normalised score, and plan next steps for college admissions.

<https://www.shiksha.com/science/cuet-exam-results>

Disclaimer & Sources: All data in this guide is sourced exclusively from Shiksha.com and NTA official data. CUET 2026 exam dates: May 11–31, 2026. Result expected: First week of July 2026. Highest scores in Section 5 are from CUET UG 2025 official NTA results. Percentile estimates in other sections are based on previous year trends — actual percentile depends on number of candidates and difficulty level. For official cutoffs, visit cuet.nta.nic.in and respective university websites. This PDF is for informational purposes only.