

SCERT • KERALA BOARD OF PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

Kerala SSLC

Complete Syllabus & Exam Preparation Guide

 Subject-wise Syllabus

 Exam Pattern

 Best Books

 Preparation Tips



CONTENTS

What's Inside This Guide

01

Introduction

Why the SSLC exam matters and how to use this guide

02

Overview of the Exam

Subjects, marks distribution, grading system and exam pattern

03

Subject-wise Syllabus

Languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Science & IT

04

Best Books for Preparation

Recommended textbooks and reference material

05

Preparation Tips

Study strategies to help you score an A+

06

Conclusion

Final words of encouragement

⚠ **Please note:** The Kerala SSLC syllabus is set by SCERT and Pareeksha Bhavan and can be revised from year to year — a 25% syllabus reduction has been announced starting with the 2026–27 batch. Always cross-check chapter lists against your current SCERT textbooks and the official notification on pareekshabhavan.kerala.gov.in before finalising your study plan.



The **Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC)** examination, conducted every March by the **Kerala Board of Public Examinations (KBPE)** through the Pareeksha Bhavan, is the first major public examination a Kerala student faces. More than four lakh students appear for it every year, making it one of the largest Class 10 board exams in the country.

SSLC is more than a certificate — it is the checkpoint that shapes the higher secondary stream (Science, Commerce or Humanities) a student will pursue next. A strong performance opens doors to preferred schools, favoured subject combinations, and scholarship opportunities.

Why this guide?

This ebook brings together everything a Class 10 Kerala student needs in one place: the exam pattern, a subject-wise breakdown of the syllabus, trusted books for reference, and practical preparation strategies — so you can plan your revision with clarity instead of scrambling across scattered sources.

Who is this for?

- ✓ Class 10 students preparing for the SSLC public examination
- ✓ Parents who want to understand the exam structure and support their child's revision
- ✓ Tutors and teachers designing a study plan or crash course



Overview of the Exam

The SSLC exam is conducted in **pen-and-paper mode** in March, with results typically announced in May. Students from Government, Aided and Unaided schools affiliated with the Kerala board are eligible after completing Class 9. Below is a general picture of the subjects and marks — always confirm exact figures for your academic year from your school or the official notification.

Subjects & Typical Mark Distribution

SUBJECT	PAPERS	TYPICAL MARKS
First Language (Malayalam / Tamil / Kannada, etc.)	Part I & Part II	50 + 50
English (Second Language)	Single paper	100
Hindi / Third Language	Single paper	50
Mathematics	Single paper	100
Social Science	Single paper	100
Science	Physics, Chemistry, Biology	50 each
Information Technology (IT)	Mainly practical / CE based	50

Grading & Pass Marks

SSLC uses a **grade-based system** (A+ down to E) rather than a simple pass/fail cutoff. Students need a minimum **D+ grade (around 30-35%)** in the Terminal Evaluation of every subject to clear the exam. Your final score combines **Continuous Evaluation (CE)** from school with **Terminal Evaluation (TE)** from the board exam.

Exam Duration

Major papers like English, Social Science and Mathematics generally run for **2.5 hours**, while Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Hindi are shorter, around **1.5 hours**. Exams are usually held in the morning session.

✦ A syllabus reduction of about **25%** has been approved by SCERT starting with the 2026-27 academic batch, with a focus on core, competency-based learning. Question papers are moving towards a roughly **30% easy - 50% average - 20% higher-order** difficulty structure.



Subject-wise Syllabus

Here's a broad map of what each subject covers. Chapter names can vary slightly by medium (English/Malayalam) and by academic year, so always follow your current SCERT textbook as the primary source.

Languages (First, Second & Third Language)

150-200 marks

- First Language (Malayalam/Tamil/Kannada, etc.): prose, poetry, grammar and composition across two papers
- English: reading comprehension, prose & poetry appreciation, grammar, and creative/functional writing
- Hindi/Third Language: basic grammar, comprehension passages and short compositions

Mathematics

100 marks

- Algebra: equations, polynomials, arithmetic sequences
- Geometry: circles, similar triangles, tangents, geometric constructions
- Mensuration: solids, surface area and volume (prisms, cylinders, etc.)
- Coordinate geometry and trigonometry basics
- Statistics: measures of central tendency and data handling

Science

50 + 50 + 50 marks

- **Physics:** force and motion, electric current and circuits, sound, light, and simple machines
- **Chemistry:** the mole concept and chemical reactions, acids/bases/salts, metals and reactivity, periodic classification, carbon compounds
- **Biology:** plant & animal kingdom, human physiology (nervous, reproductive, excretory systems), heredity and evolution, health and environment

Social Science

100 marks

- **History:** the world wars, the Indian freedom struggle, and post-independence India
- **Geography:** physical features, climate, resources, and human geography
- **Civics/Political Science:** the Indian Constitution, democracy, and governance
- **Economics:** basic economic concepts, development, and public finance

Information Technology (IT)

50 marks

- Computer fundamentals, office applications, and basic programming concepts
- Practical, lab-based assessment combined with continuous evaluation through the year



Best Books for Exam Preparation

Since every SSLC question is drawn directly from the prescribed textbook, your **SCERT textbook is the single most important resource**. The books below are commonly used to supplement it with practice and revision material.

SCERT Kerala Class 10 Textbooks (all subjects)

- 1 The official textbook — every board question is set directly from this. Non-negotiable as your primary study material.

SCERT / Pareeksha Bhavan Model Question Papers & Answer Keys

- 2 Free official practice papers that reveal the current question pattern and mark-wise weightage.

Previous Years' SSLC Question Papers (10-year compilations)

- 3 Solving past papers builds familiarity with recurring question types and time management.

Subject-wise Guides from Trusted Publishers (e.g., regional exam guide series)

- 4 Useful for concise chapter summaries, solved examples, and quick revision notes — treat as a supplement, not a substitute for the textbook.

Chapter-wise Notes & Study Material from HSSLive / School Resources

- 5 Handy for chapter-wise weightage analysis and quick doubt-clearing alongside classroom teaching.

💡 **Tip:** Verify the latest edition of any reference book against the current academic year's syllabus, especially given the recent syllabus rationalisation — older editions may include deleted portions.



1

Master the Syllabus First

Go through the complete syllabus before you start, and tick off topics as you cover them.

2

Build a Realistic Timetable

Allocate daily time to each subject, giving extra hours to areas you find difficult.

3

Stick to the Textbook

Since questions are set directly from SCERT books, know every example and exercise thoroughly.

4

Make Short Revision Notes

Summarise each chapter in your own words for quick last-minute revision closer to the exam.

5

Practice Model & Past Papers

Time yourself while solving previous years' and model papers to build speed and accuracy.

6

Don't Neglect Internal Assessment

CE marks from tests, assignments and projects add up — take classroom work seriously all year.

7

Revise Regularly, Not Just Before Exams

Weekly revision keeps concepts fresh; last-minute cramming is far less effective at this level.

8

Take Care of Yourself

Sleep well, eat properly, and take short breaks between study sessions to stay sharp and focused.



The Kerala SSLC exam is well within reach for every student who prepares steadily and follows the SCERT textbooks closely — the board's own pass rates, consistently above 99%, reflect just how achievable success is with the right approach.

Use this guide as a roadmap: understand the exam pattern, work through your subjects systematically, lean on the right books, and apply the preparation strategies shared here. Most importantly, keep checking the official Pareeksha Bhavan and SCERT websites for the latest syllabus and notifications for your exam year, since some details — especially with the syllabus rationalisation from 2026–27 — are subject to change.

Wishing you all the best!

With consistent effort, smart revision, and confidence in what you've learned, an A+ across every subject is absolutely within your reach. Good luck for your SSLC exams! ✨