

NCERT Class 10 Maths Guide

All 14 chapters in the book's own numbering, what CBSE pays for each unit, and how the paper is built — page 1 of 2

14 chapters · 7 units · 80 theory + 20 internal = 100. Nothing outside the NCERT book is examinable — so “finish NCERT properly” is not advice, it is the whole scope.

The whole book in one table

Unit	Marks	Share	Chapters, with the number printed in your book
Number Systems	6	7.5%	Real Numbers (1)
Algebra	20	25.0%	Polynomials (2) · Pair of Linear Equations (3) · Quadratic Equations (4) · Arithmetic Progressions (5)
Coordinate Geometry	6	7.5%	Coordinate Geometry (7)
Geometry	15	18.75%	Triangles (6) · Circles (10)
Trigonometry	12	15.0%	Introduction to Trigonometry (8) · Some Applications (9)
Mensuration	10	12.5%	Areas Related to Circles (11) · Surface Areas and Volumes (12)
Statistics & Probability	11	13.75%	Statistics (13) · Probability (14)
Seven units	80	100%	Fourteen chapters. Constructions was removed — there is no fifteenth.

Read that last column carefully. The numbers do not run 1 to 14 down the page, because the units group chapters by *what they test* while the book numbers them in *teaching order*. Triangles is Chapter 6 but sits in Geometry beside Chapter 10. Any list that numbers the chapters 1 to 14 in unit order is not your book's numbering.

What CBSE builds from it

Section	Questions	Marks each	Total	Format
A	20	1	20	MCQ and assertion-reason
B	5	2	10	Very short answer
C	6	3	18	Short answer
D	4	5	20	Long answer
E	3	4	12	Case-based
Five	38	—	80	Three hours, no overall choice, plus 15 minutes reading time

180 minutes for 80 marks is **2.25 minutes a mark**. And note what is *not* here: CBSE publishes marks **by unit, never by chapter**, so every chapter-wise percentage table online is an unofficial estimate, however confident it looks.

Two things that cost students weeks

1. A topic's section number is not always its exercise number. Geometrical meaning of zeroes is Section 2.2 but **Exercise 2.1**; the graphical method is Section 3.2 but **Exercise 3.1**; heights and distances is Section 9.2 with **Exercise 9.1**, the chapter's only exercise, 16 questions. Search the wrong number and you land on a different topic.

2. An old edition still teaches deleted material. The rationalised syllabus removed Constructions as a whole chapter, Euclid's division lemma, the polynomial division algorithm, cross-multiplication, completing the square as a solving method, and area of a triangle from coordinates. Most solution sites still carry all of them.

Key takeaways

- ▶ The whole course is **14 chapters in 7 units**. Constructions is gone; there is no fifteenth chapter.
- ▶ **Learn your book's chapter numbers.** Every exercise reference uses them — “Ex 4.3” means Chapter 4, third exercise.
- ▶ Unit order and chapter order are **two different things**, both correct: the unit says what a chapter is worth, the number says where to find it.
- ▶ Concept → solved examples → exercises, in that order. Skipping the examples is why students get stuck.
- ▶ Plan by **unit**, never by chapter percentage. Algebra is 20 of 80 — a quarter of the paper in four chapters.

Fourteen chapters, one plan

A 16-week route through the book, one chapter worked the NCERT way, and the order that makes chapters easier — page 2 of 2

THE PLAN

14 chapters in 14 weeks, then 2 weeks to revise

Weeks allocated by **unit share** — one sensible order, not the only one.

Weeks	Unit	Chapters, in your book's numbers
1	Number Systems	1
2–5	Algebra — 25% of the paper	2, 3, 4, 5
6	Coordinate Geometry	7
7–9	Geometry — Triangles needs two	6, 10
10–11	Trigonometry	8, 9
12–13	Mensuration	11, 12
14	Statistics & Probability	13, 14
15–16	A second pass at the hard ones	Your list

ONE CHAPTER, WORKED THE NCERT WAY

A Chapter 5 question that needs Chapter 4's method

How many terms of the AP 24, 21, 18, ... are needed to give a sum of 78? (3 marks)

Step 1. $a = 24, d = 21 - 24 = -3, S_n = 78$.

Step 2. $S_n = n/2 [2a + (n-1)d] \rightarrow 78 = n/2 [48 + (n-1)(-3)]$

Step 3. $156 = n(51 - 3n) \rightarrow 3n^2 - 51n + 156 = 0 \rightarrow n^2 - 17n + 52 = 0$. That is a Chapter 4 quadratic, and dividing through by 3 is its own mark.

Step 4. $D = (-17)^2 - 4(52) = 81, \sqrt{81} = 9$, so $n = (17 \pm 9)/2 \rightarrow n = 13 \text{ or } n = 4$.

Step 5 — the trap. You are trained to reject one root. **Reject neither.** Both are positive whole numbers, so both are answers: the first 4 terms sum to 78, and so do the first 13. The terms turn negative after the 9th, which is how the running total comes back to 78 a second time.

Check ✓ $24 + 21 + 18 + 15 = 78$. And $a_{13} = 24 + 12(-3) = -12$, with $S_{13} = 13/2 [48 - 36] = 13/2 \times 12 = 78$. Both stand.

Now try this one: how many terms of the AP 9, 17, 25, ... must be taken to give a sum of 636? Same shape, one answer this time — answer in the footer.

THE ORDER THAT SAVES YOU WORK

Do this one first	and this one gets easier
Polynomials (2)	Quadratic Equations (4) — same zeroes, new methods
Quadratic Equations (4)	Arithmetic Progressions (5) — as the question above shows
Introduction to Trigonometry (8)	Some Applications of Trigonometry (9) — unreadable without it
Triangles (6)	Circles (10) — the tangent proofs are congruence proofs

WHERE THE MARKS ACTUALLY GO

Reading the solved example instead of solving it	Your hand never learns the method — and the exam is handwritten.
Writing the answer with no working	CBSE marks the method; a bare answer loses most of a 5-marker.
Rejecting a valid root out of habit	Rejecting is a mark — rejecting the wrong one costs the answer.

NCERT for the foundation. examfront for the marks.

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