

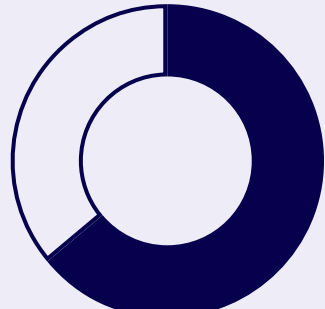
# (The) Resit Reports

College students on resits in GCSE English and maths

## What do young people in college today think about the resit process for English and maths?

We asked **1,000 college students** to give their perspectives – including almost **600** who’ve had to, or will have to, take at least one resit themselves.

### What students think of English



**64%** of college students say GCSE English helps prepare students with the skills they need for further study and the workplace

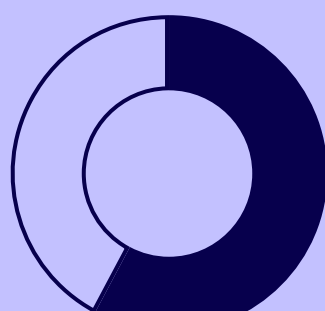
■ **1 in 7** (14%) disagree.

The **top reasons** students value English:

- It helps them **express thoughts and opinions** clearly (**36%**).
- They **enjoy reading or writing** (**35%**).
- = It helps them **read and write for the workplace** (**35%**).

Just **3.5%** see **no value** in studying English.

### What students think of maths



**58%** of college students say GCSE maths helps prepare students with the skills they need for **further study and the workplace**.

□ **Almost 1 in 5** (**19%**) disagree.

The **top reasons** students value Maths:

- It helps them **solve problems** and think logically (**43%**).
- It helps them with **everyday life** (**41%**).
- It helps them **prepare for the workplace** (**30%**).

**1 in 14** sees **no value** in studying maths.

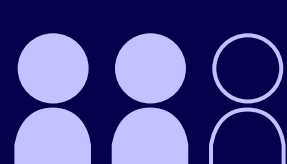
### Resits – What gets in the way

**“What one change would I make? Not needing to feel [too] much pressure, because everyone has a future.”**

College Student

- **62%** say resitting the same GCSE content makes students feel they are **going backwards**, not forwards.
- **Almost 6 in 10** think the **volume of assessments** involved in GCSE resits is too high.
- **Over half** think the **pressure to achieve a grade 4** in GCSE English or maths is too high.

□ **58%** of college tutors agree.

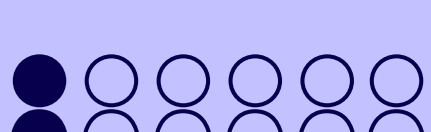


**Almost two-thirds (65%)** of all college students say they’ve missed or avoided both English and maths lessons/exams in the past because of **stress, anxiety or low confidence**.

- On top of this, around **1 in 5** have missed lessons/exams in **maths** for these reasons...
- ...and more than **1 in 10** (**12%**) have missed lessons/exams in **English**.

### Reviewing resits

Of college students who will take a resit, or have done already:



- **One in six** (**14%**) say they feel/felt **unmotivated** to resit their exam(s).
- **10%** say they feel/felt **unconfident** about passing their resit(s).

**Almost three-quarters** of college students say their peers would be **more motivated** if their GCSE English and maths resits were linked to **course or career goals**.

**“[I want these subjects to] teach you what you will need in the future because most students aren’t prepared for real life.”**

College Student

## How can the sector help every student get more out of English and maths at GCSE and at post-16?

**Read more** from the Pearson Resit Reports.

Visit our **Post-16 page** for:

- the tutor perspective on resits today
- students and tutors’ views on the changes they want to see.

**Learn more on the resit rethink**

[go.pearson.com/resitrethink](https://go.pearson.com/resitrethink)

