

ofqual

How your exams are **marked and graded**

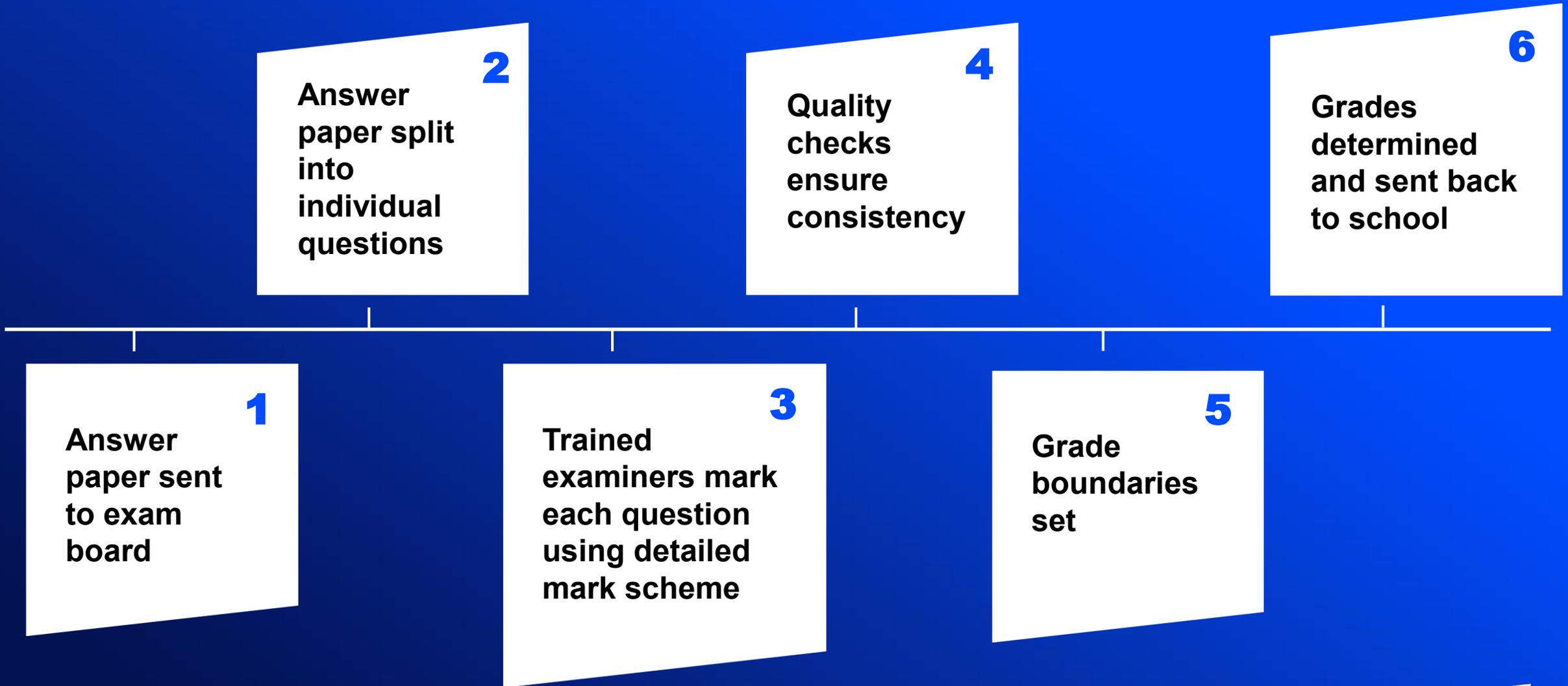
What happens between the exam hall and results day?





1. The journey of your exam paper

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2. Fair and anonymous marking

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Your grade reflects what you wrote, nothing else.

Anonymous 

Titus Whitney

Flossie Guerrero

Tadao Hirano

2. Fair and anonymous marking

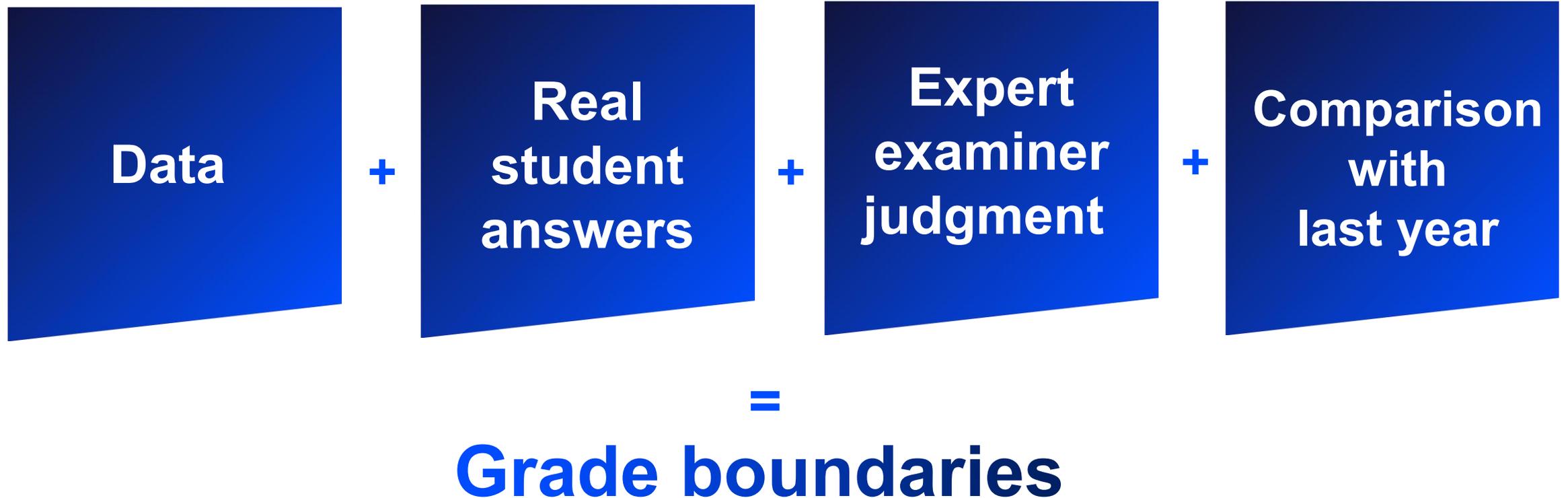
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3. How grade boundaries work

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Grade boundaries are set to keep standards consistent



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Why grade boundaries change year to year

Different grade boundaries DOES NOT EQUAL different quality of work needed

Year X

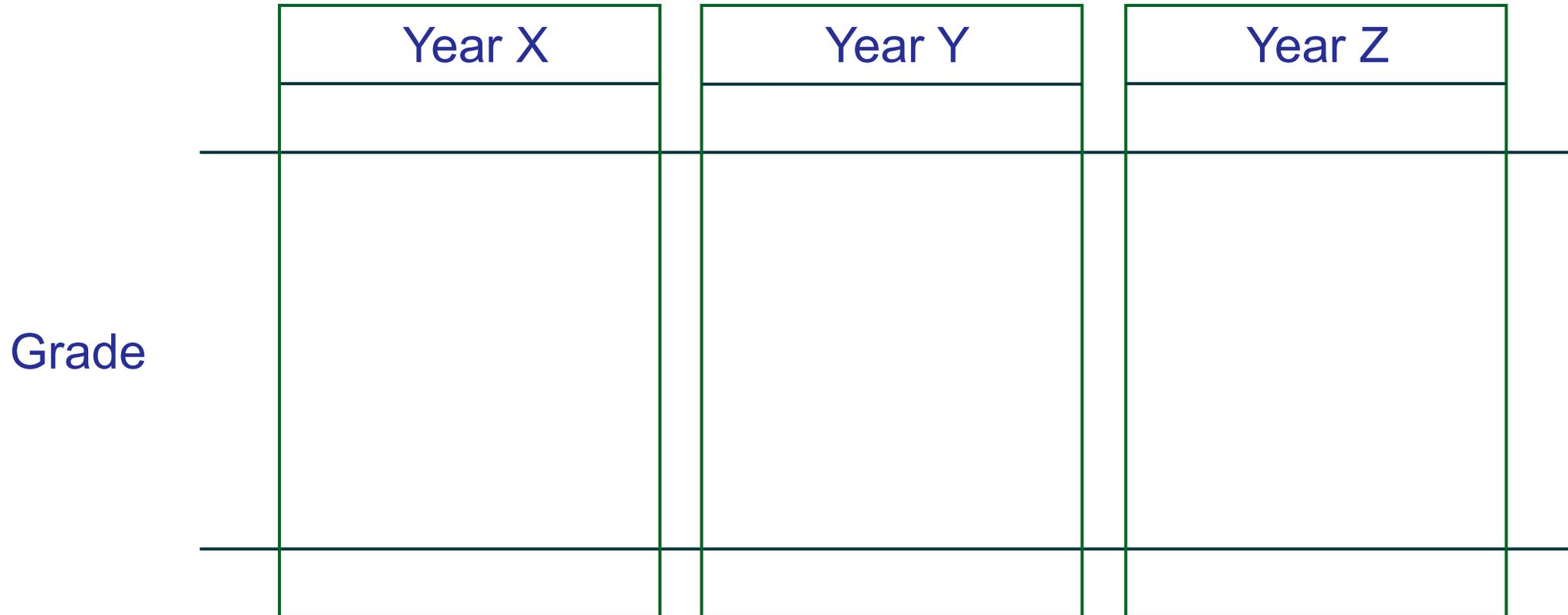
Year Y

Year Z

3. How grade boundaries work

Why grade boundaries change year to year

If a paper is easier than last year → boundaries are set higher



3. How grade boundaries work

Why grade boundaries change year to year

If a paper is harder than last year → boundaries are set lower

	Year X	Year Y	Year Z
	154	152	150
Grade	153	151	149
	152	150	148
	151	149	147
	150	148	146
	149	147	145
	148	146	144
	147	145	143

4. Myths vs facts

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Grade
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Grade boundaries are decided **before** exams even happen



Grade boundaries are **only** set once most papers **have been marked.**



4. Myths vs facts

Higher grade boundaries mean it's **harder** to achieve each grade.

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Higher grade boundaries mean it's **harder** to achieve each grade.



If an exam was easier than the previous year, grade boundaries for that paper **will be higher**. If was harder, grade boundaries **will be lower**.



4. Myths vs facts

There's **a limit on how many students** can achieve each grade.

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There's **a limit on how many students** can achieve each grade.



There are **no caps or quotas** saying a certain number must "pass" or "fail".



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It's **easier** to
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If one exam board's paper was **slightly easier than another's**, its grade boundaries will be set **slightly higher to balance** this out (and vice versa).



4. Myths vs facts

It can be **harder or easier** to get your grades depending on which year you sit the exam.

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It can be **harder or easier** to get your grades depending on which year you sit the exam.



It's **no harder or easier** to get any particular grade from one year to the next.





Recap

- ✔ Your exam is marked anonymously and fairly.
- ✔ Trained examiners use consistent mark schemes.
- ✔ Grade boundaries adjust to keep standards consistent year on year.
- ✔ Your grade reflects what you know, understand and can do.



**Your job is to
do your best!**



Your job is to **do your best!**

Now focus on:

- ✓ **Your revision**
- ✓ **Your exam technique**
- ✓ **Showing what you know**

You've got this!