Biology End of year Exam Week commencing 8th May 2018

1hr 45min written paper B1-B4 and B7



The paper will be out of **90marks** in total. You should aim to spend about **one minute per mark.**

You will need:

Blue/black pen (+spare)

Pencil

Ruler (mm)

Calculator

Read each question carefully, paying particular attention to the **command word** (describe, explain, calculate, evaluate etc) and to the **number of marks available** for the question.

Answers should be written clearly, without waffle, including any necessary key words. Bullet points are advisable for organising longer answers.

Remember to make use of the **kerboodle online text book** (ask your teacher regarding problems with access!) and your **class notes**.

The following checklists are based on the **OCR** exam specification.

Remember to **ask for help** if and when you encounter difficulties, either from your teacher or by attending biology clinic on Tuesday.



Good luck, from The Biology Dept.



Unit 1: Cell level systems

1.1- Cell structures and microscopy	
I can	
Describe the structure of a light microscope (name the different parts) AND explain	
the function of each part.	
Define the term 'magnification' AND explain the determining factor of magnification	
in a light microscope.	
Calculate the total magnification of a light microscope by multiplying the	
magnification of the eyepiece lens and the objective lens.	
Describe how to prepare a slide of a biological specimen INCLUDING the use of an	
appropriate chemical stain.	
Describe how to produce a focused image of a slide using a light microscope.	
Produce a quality biological drawing of a microscope image AND appreciate the	
quality of drawings produced by others.	
Define the term 'resolution' AND explain the determining factor of resolution.	
Compare the light microscope and the transmission electron microscope, TEM	
(advantages and disadvantages of each microscope type).	
Identify the organelles in a eukaryotic cell (membrane, cytoplasm, nucleus,	
mitochondria, ribosomes + cellulose wall, vacuole and chloroplasts in plant cells)	
Explain the function of each eukaryotic organelle.	
Identify the structural adaptations of specialised cells that enable them to carry out	
specific roles effectively.	
Identify the main features of a prokaryotic cell (wall, membrane, cytoplasm, loop of	
DNA, ribosomes + sometimes plasmids, flagella, capsule)	
Explain the function of each prokaryotic feature.	
Compare the structures of eukaryotes and prokaryotes (similarities and differences).	
Recognise the cell structures visible with a light and an electron microscope.	
Describe the relationship between mm, µm and nm.	
Convert values into different units (smaller unit = larger value!)	
Calculate the magnification of an image when provided with the actual size of the	

magnification (A = I / M) Convert ordinary numbers in to standard form (A x 10^{B}) AND vice versa.

Calculate the actual size of an object when provided with an image and the

object (M = I / A)

1.2- What happens in cells (and what do cells need)	
I can	_
Describe a biological molecule as a molecule that an organism is made up of. All cells are built using the same basic molecules.	
State that water (H ₂ O) is the most abundant molecule in living cells.	
Name the four main biological molecules as proteins, carbohydrates, lipids (fats) and nucleic acids.	
<i>Identify</i> proteins, carbohydrates and nucleic acids as being polymers AND <i>name</i> the monomers that each of these polymers is made up of.	
Identify the components of a lipid. (glycerol and fatty acids)	
Describe the main functions of each bio-molecule.	
Name DNA as an example of a nucleic acid.	
Describe the structure of DNA (two polymer strands made up on	
nucleotide monomers, 'double helix'. Four different bases A,C,G,T.	
Complementary base pairing between A-T, C-G holding two strands	
together.)	
Describe how DNA can be replicated to build exact copies needed for when new cells are made (cell division). Semi-conservative replication, original strands act as templates.	
State the function of DNA as a code to build proteins. The sequence of	_
bases is the code that determines the order of amino acids in the final	
protein.	
Name RNA as another example of a nucleic acid.	
Describe the structure of RNA (single strand of nucleotide monomers. Four	
different bases A,C,G,U.)	
<i>Identify</i> the differences between the structures of DNA and RNA.	
Describe the basic principle of protein synthesis (including unzipping of the	

DNA molecule containing the gene, making a mRNA copy of the gene in

the nucleus (transcription), the RNA gene copy leaving the nucleus, and a ribosome in the cytoplasm reading the base sequence of the gene copy (3 bases at a time) and joining together amino acids in order (translation)

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Use a genetic code table to determine the amino acid order coded for by a gene.	
<i>Explain</i> how a change in sequence of bases of DNA (a mutation) can affect the	1
function of the protein produced.	
<i>Identify</i> enzymes as protein molecules that lower the activation energy of a	1
chemical reaction. (biological catalysts).	
Use the terms enzyme, active site, specific, substrate, products, collision, and	
denature correctly. (Lock and key theory)	
Describe AND explain the effects of temperature, pH and substrate concentration	
on enzyme activity. (sketch graphs)	
Describe a method that could be used to investigate enzyme activity for a reaction]
that produces a gas (PAG4)	
Analyse numerical data, including mean calculations and rate calculations, AND	
present data graphically.	
Describe digestion as a process of breaking down large (insoluble) molecules into	
small (soluble) molecules.	
<i>Identify</i> the mechanical aspects (mastication by teeth, squeezing and churning by	
muscles) and the chemical aspects (enzymes) of digestion.	
<i>Name</i> the specific enzyme used and products made during the digestion of	
proteins, carbohydrates and lipids (fats).	
<i>Identify</i> where protease, amylase and lipase enzymes are made, AND where they	
act.	
Describe AND explain the roles of hydrochloric acid (HCl) and bile during digestion.	
Describe the term balanced diet.	
<i>Identify</i> the required nutrient types in a balanced diet AND give examples of food	
high in each nutrient.	
Describe the role of each nutrient type in the body.	
State that foods can be investigated using specific chemical tests to see which	
nutrient types they contain.	
Describe the chemical tests for starch (iodine-blue/black), sugar (benedicts-	
red/orange), protein (biuret-purple) and lipid (ethanol and water- emulsion) (PAG	
2)	
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1.3- Respiration

I can	
Describe respiration as a chemical reaction that occurs inside ALL living cells	
that releases energy from food (glucose)	
Explain that enzymes control ALL chemical reactions that take place inside	
cells.	
Identify ATP as a small molecule that is used by ALL cells as energy	
currency. (Respiration produces ATP)	
State processes that require energy in cells (eg. movement, protein	
synethesis etc)	
Describe respiration as an exothermic reaction (releases heat energy)	
Name the two types of respiration (aerobic and anaerobic)	
Describe aerobic respiration as a reaction that takes place when oxygen is	
plentiful	
State that aerobic respiration takes place in the mitochondria and produces	
lots of ATP	
Recall the summary word equation for aerobic respiration	
Write a balanced symbol equation for aerobic respiration	
Link the effects of exercise (including increased heart and ventilation rates)	
to aerobic respiration.	
Describe anaerobic respiration as a reaction that takes place in the absence	
of oxygen	
State that anaerobic respiration occurs in the cytoplasm and produces less	
ATP than aerobic respiration.	
Recall the summary word equation for anaerobic respiration in animals	
(lactic acid).	
Link a build up of lactic acid during vigorous exercise to muscle fatigue/	
cramp.	
Explain the term 'oxygen debt'.	
Compare anaerobic respiration in animals, plants, fungi and bacteria (lactic	
acid, CO ₂ and alcohol)	

1.4- Photosynthesis

1.4- Photosynthesis	
Use the term producer to describe green plants (producers are organisms that	
make their own food using a chemical reaction called photosynthesis)	
Recognise the importance of plants to all other forms of life (start of ALL food	
chains, plants produce biomass)	
Recall the summary word equation for photosynthesis	
Write a balanced symbol equation for photosynthesis	
Describe and explain early experiments investigating photosynthesis and plant	
growth (eg. Van Helmont and Priestley)	
Describe photosynthesis as an endothermic reaction (requires energy) that	
occurs in the chloroplasts (using a pigment called chlorophyll that absorbs light	
energy) to produce sugar/ glucose	
Describe the uses of the glucose made by photosynthesis (respiration for	
energy, storage as starch, conversion to proteins, fats and other carbs)	
State that photosynthesis has two main parts	
1- water molecules split into H+ ions and O ₂ gas <i>using light energy</i>	
2- H+ ions are added to CO ₂ to create glucose	
Explain that enzymes control ALL chemical reactions that take place inside	
cells.	
Describe the effects of different factors on the rate of photosynthesis:	
temperature, light intensity and CO ₂ conc. (including use of sketch graphs)	
Explain the effects of different factors on the rate of photosynthesis:	
temperature, light intensity and CO ₂ conc. using the idea of limiting factors.	
Describe how to measure the rate of photosynthesis by collecting volume of	
O ₂ produced in a set time or, counting number of bubbles in a set time.	
Understand that the inverse square law can be used to measure light intensity	
(as you increase the distance of a lamp from a photosynthesising plant, the	
light intensity decreases by the square of that distance)	
Light intensity =1	
distance ²	
Describe how to maximise the rate of photosynthesis (eg. green houses) by	
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choosing the best values for several factors limiting the rate of photosynthesis.

Unit 2: Scaling up

2.1- Supplying the cell

I can	
Name substances that are required to move into and out of cells.	
Describe the cell surface membrane as a partially permeable structure.	
Describe the process of diffusion as the movement of a substance from an	
area of high concentration to an area of lower concentration (a passive	
process=no ATP/energy required).	
State which factors affect the rate of diffusion, and explain why.	
State some examples of diffusion in organisms.	
Describe the diffusion of water through a partially permeable membrane as OSMOSIS.	
Use the term water potential to describe the amount of 'free' water molecules in a solution.	
Describe a solution as solute dissolved in solvent.	
Explain how the water potential of a solution changes as more solute is added.	
Use the terms isotonic, hypotonic and hypertonic when comparing solutions.	
Describe the effects of osmosis on animal cells (lysis and crenate).	
Describe the effects of osmosis on plant cells (turgid and flaccid/plasmolysed).	
Explain the reason for these different effects .	
State the difference between a passive and an active process.	
Describe how molecules can move by active transport (against the concentration gradient, using ATP/energy and requiring specific helper proteins in the membrane).	
Explain where the ATP/energy for active transport comes from.	
Describe some examples of active transport in organisms including ion uptake by root hair cells and glucose absorption in the small intestine.	

Give reasons why new cells need to be made (growth, repair and	
reproduction).	
Describe the life cycle of a cell as the preparation for, and the process of cell	
division.	
Describe what happens during the preparation phase (interphase) including	
growth, production of proteins and organelles and DNA replication.	
Describe how DNA is replicated (semi-conservative replication).	
Use the term chromatids when describing how chromosomes look once	
DNA has replicated (each chromosome now has chromatids = 'x' shaped).	
Describe the stages of MITOSIS (division of the nucleus) including	
Chromosomes condense and become visible (prophase)	
Chromosomes line up along the middle (metaphase)	
Chromatids pulled to opposite poles by spindle fibres (anaphase)	
 New nuclei form around the two sets of chromosomes (telophase). 	
Describe the final phase of cell cycle as cytoplasm division = cytokinesis.	
Use the terms zygote (fertilised egg) and embryo (ball of identical cells).	
Describe how embryos are formed by mitosis.	
Explain how cells from an embryo are unspecialised (have not yet	
differentiated) and have the potential to give rise to any type of specialised	
cell. These cells are called embryonic stem cells.	
Stem cells	
Are unspecialised	
Divide indefinitely	
Can produce several types of specialised cells.	
Describe 'differentiation' as the process of an unspecialised cell becoming	
specialised by turning on/turning off certain genes.	
State that stem cells can be found in adult tissue too, although these do not	
have the same potential as embryonic stem cells (can only become a few	
cell types, not all).	
Describe how stem cells may be used in medical research.	
Evaluate the use of stem cells (ethics).	
State that plants also have stem cells (in meristem regions such as shoot	
and root tips).	

2.2- Challenges of size

I can	
State how multicellular organisms need highly adapted structures including	
gaseous exchange surfaces and transport systems to enable living processes	
to be performed effectively.	
Describe the term 'surface area:volume'	
State that small objects have a big SA:vol, whilst big objects have a small	
SA:vol	
Link SA:vol to diffusion	
Describe the main structures of the human gas exchange system, in	
particular alveoli as the site of gas exchange	
Relate the circulatory system to the gas exchange system (oxygen diffuses	
into the blood at the alveoli and is then pumped around the body to all	
cells)	
Describe the circulatory system as a 'double circulation' system (heart to	
lungs, then heart to body)	
Describe the structure of a human heart (2halves, 4 chambers, cardiac	
muscle, main blood vessels in and out, valves)	
Describe the structure of blood vessels with reference to thickness of walls,	
diameter of lumen, presence of valves	
Explain how the structure of the heart and the blood vessels are adapted to	
their functions	
Name the main components of blood.	
Explain how red blood cells and plasma are adapted to their transport	
functions.	
Describe how the roots, stem and leaves of a plant form a system for	
transport of substances around the plant.	
Explain that root hair cells are adapted for the absorption of water and	
mineral ions by having a large surface area, and lots of mitochondria for	
active transport.	
State that xylem tissue transports water and mineral ions from the roots	
up to the stems and leaves. (X W)	
Describe how plants lose water vapour from their leaves via the stomata.	
This is called transpiration.	

Describe how the rate of transpiration is affected several factors including humidity, temperature, air movement, light intensity. I can explain these effects.	
Use the term transpiration stream to describe the movement of water from the roots through the xylem and out of the leaves	
Explain that wilting occurs if plants lose water faster than it is replaced by the roots.	
Describe how a simple potometer can be used to investigate factors	
that affect the rate of water uptake (effectively the rate of transpiration)	
State that phloem tissue transports dissolved sugars from the leaves to the	
rest of the plant for immediate use or storage. (mmmphloem sounds nice,	
sugar is nice)	
Describe the movement of sugars from the leafs to other tissues	
throughout the plant as Translocation.	

Unit 3: Coordination and control

3.1- The Nervous System

5.1– The Nervous System	
I can	
Describe the function of the nervous system (how the body communicates with itself and	
also receives information from its surroundings.)	
State that sense organs contain receptor cells to detect specific stimuli (changes in the	
environment)	
Describe how upon detecting a stimulus receptor cells generate an electrical signal that can	
be transmitted along nerve cells (neurones)	
Identify the brain and spinal cord as the central nervous system CNS [also called	
coordinators]. CNS contains relay neurons.	
State that sensory neurones transmit impulses TO the CNS, motor neurones transmit	
impulses FROM the CNS.	
Describe the basic pathway of a nervous impulse [receptor -> coordinator -> effector]	
State that effectors cause a response. They are either muscles (causing movement) or glands	
(causing the secretion of chemicals/hormone)	
Explain the purpose of reflex actions (rapid response to evade danger.)	
Describe the pathway of a reflex arc. Only 3 neurones involved. Uses closest coordinator (not	
necessarily the brain) for fastest response.	
[receptor>sensory neurone>relay neurone>motor neurone>effector]	
State that a synapse is a gap between two neurones.	
Describe how the electrical impulse is transmitted across the synapse as a chemical message. Neurotransmitter diffuses across the synapse and is detected by the next neurone generating a new electrical impulse.	
Explain how the main structures of the eye are related to their functions (including cornea, iris, pupil, lens, retina, optic nerve, ciliary body, suspensory ligaments)	
Describe common defects of the eye and explain how some of these problems may be overcome (including colour blindness, short-sightedness and long-sightedness)	
Describe the structure and function of the brain (including cerebrum, cerebellum, medulla, hypothalamus, pituitary)	
Explain some of the difficulties of investigating brain function (including the difficulty in getting research subjects and the consideration of ethical issues)	
Explain some of the limitations in treating damage and disease in the brain and other parts of the nervous system (including the limited ability to repair nervous tissue, irreversible damage to the surrounding tissues and difficulties with accessing parts of the nervous system)	

3.2- Coordination and control – The endocrine system (PART 1: animal hormones)

I can	
Understand that not all co-ordination and control of the body is carried out by the nervous system. There is a system of control that uses chemicals in its mechanism called the endocrine system.	
State that hormones are chemical messengers.	
Describe how, in animals, hormones are released by endocrine GLANDS, transported around the body in the BLOOD plasma and affect TARGET cells that have specific RECEPTORS on their cell surface membrane.	
Explain the role of thyroxine in the body (including how the thyroid gland	
produces thyroxine that controls the speed at which oxygen and food products are burned up to produce ATP/energy [metabolism])	
Use thyroxine as an example of a negative feedback system	
Explain the role of adrenalin in the body (including adrenal glands release	
adrenaline many cells in the body contain receptors for adrenaline allowing the	
hormone to exert an effect on a wide variety of tissues, responsible for 'fight or	
flight' responses)	
Describe the role of hormones in controlling the human menstrual cycle, including	
FSH (matures an egg + stimulates oestrogen secretion from ovaries)	
Oestrogen (builds up the uterus lining, inhibits FSH secretion from pituitary+	
stimulates LH release from pituitary)	
LH (releases the egg from the ovary [ovulation])	
 Progesterone (maintains the uterus lining during mid/end of cycle and into pregnancy) 	
Analyse the relative hormones levels from raw data and graphically.	
Explain the artificial use of hormones in contraception	
Describe the various methods of contraception available (hormonal and non-	
hormonal) and evaluate their relative effectiveness and ethical use	
Explain the use of hormones in modern reproductive technologies to treat infertility	
(including FSH use to increase the number of mature eggs available)	

3.2- Coordination and control – The endocrine system (PART 2 : plant hormones)

I can	
Explain how plant hormones are important in the control and coordination	
of plant growth and development.	
Describe plant growth in response to environmental stimuli as tropisms	
Phototropism= growth of shoot towards light	
Gravitropism=growth of shoot away from gravity AND growth of roots	
towards gravity	
Hydrotropism = growth of roots towards water	
Identify Auxin as the hormone that controls plant growth in the growing tips	
of shoots and roots. Auxin causes cell elongation. Unequal distribution of	
auxin results in unequal growth (bending of shoots/roots)	
Identify Gibberellin as another plant hormone controlling growth of the	
stem.	
Identify Ethene a plant hormone responsible for fruit ripening.	
Describe some of the different ways in which people use plant hormones to control plant growth (including selective herbicides, root cuttings, seedless	

fruit (parthenocarpic fruit development-seedless fruit), altering dormancy)

3.3- Homeostasis: Maintaining internal environments

I can...

Describe Homeostasis as the mechanisms involved in keeping internal conditions of the body constant. 'same state'

Explain the importance of homeostatic mechanisms to allow metabolic reactions to proceed at appropriate rates.

For our cells to function properly the environment that surrounds them needs to be controlled at an optimum level.

- Temperature (37°C)
- Water concentration (Isotonic)
- Sugar concentration (Isotonic)
- Toxic substances need to be removed.

Describe how body temperature is monitored by the thermoregulatory centre in the Hypothalamus of the brain. This centre has receptors sensitive to the temperature of the blood flowing through the brain. Also temperature receptors in the skin send impulses to the thermoregulatory centre, giving information about skin temperature.

Describe how core body temperature is controlled by the thermoregulatory centre by sending impulses to effectors (muscles and glands)

If the core body temperature is too high:

• blood vessels supplying the skin capillaries dilate (get wider) so that more blood flows through the capillaries and more heat is lost by RADIATION from the skin surface VASODILATION.

sweat glands release more sweat which cools the body as it EVAPORATES.

If the core body temperature is too low:

- blood vessels supplying the skin capillaries constrict (get narrower) to reduce the flow of blood through the capillaries VASOCONSTRICTION
- muscles may 'shiver' their CONTRACTION requires ATP/energy from respiration, which releases some heat energy to warm the body.

Explain why GLUCOSE is needed by all cells of the body for respiration- Chemical energy stored in the glucose is released and used by the cell.

Explain why the <u>concentration of glucose</u> in the blood needs to be controlled to ensure there is enough for efficient respiration, but not too much as to negatively affect cells (osmosis)

Describe how glucose levels rise after eating and fall during exercise.

Describe how blood glucose concentration of the body is monitored and controlled by the PANCREAS. The pancreas is a gland that produces and secretes two hormones INSULIN and GLUCAGON.

Describe what happens when glucose levels are high;
Insulin is secreted.
Insulin targets cells in the LIVER and muscles causing glucose to be absorbed from the blood and
converted to insoluble GLYCOGEN for storage.
Blood glucose concentration is lowered.
Describe what happens when glucose levels are low;
Glucagon is secreted.
Glucagon targets cells in the LIVER and muscles causing glycogen to be converted back into
GLUCOSE and released from cells.
Blood glucose concentration is increased.
Describe Diabetes as a disease where a person is unable to control their blood glucose concentration
effectively.
Compare the two main types of diabetes:
Type 1 is where insulin is not made or not made correctly by the pancreas (people are usually born
with Type 1, or develop it following a virus)
Type 2 is where insulin is made but either not enough or the body becomes insensitive to it (this
form is associated with obesity and the elderly)
Explain how Diabetes may be controlled by careful attention to diet and exercise. Type 1 diabetics may
also be treated by injecting insulin.
<i>Identify</i> the main waste products that have to be removed from the body including:
carbon dioxide, produced by all cells during respiration
 urea, produced in the liver by the breakdown of excess amino acids
Describe how Urea is carried from the liver in the bloodstream and removed by the kidneys in the urine,
which is temporarily stored in the bladder.
State that humans have two bean-shaped organs (kidneys) located in the abdominal cavity. The main
function of the kidneys is to remove toxic urea from the blood, and to regulate the balance of
electrolytes (salts/ions) and water in the blood. The kidneys produce a substance called urine.
Describe the gross structure of the kidney (capsule, cortex, medulla) and the structure of the kidney
tubule (nephron)
Describe how a healthy kidney produces urine by:
• First FILTERING ALL the sugar, salt, water and urea out of the blood under high pressure. (the pores in
the filtering unit are small so blood cells and proteins are not filtered out).
ALL of the sugar is then actively REABSORBED
As much salt needed by the body is reabsorbed (diffusion)
As much water as is needed is reabsorbed (osmosis)
• Excess ions and water, and ALL the urea are then released from the kidney as urine.
Describe the effect of ADH on the permeability of the kidney tubules, referring to the amount of water
reabsorbed and negative feedback
<i>Explain</i> the response of the body to different temperature and osmotic challenges, including response to
dehydration/high sweating, effects of over hydration/excessive water intake, effects of high salt intake.
<i>Evaluate</i> the effectiveness of sports drinks (glucose- for respiration/energy, water to replace loss via
sweating, salt/ions to replace loss via sweating)

Unit 4: Ecosystems

decomposition (aerobic and anaerobic)

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I can	
Describe an ecosystem in terms of the living components (community of different organisms) within the physical area (habitat).	
Describe a group of organisms belonging to the same species living within a habitat as a population.	\vdash
Describe a group of organisms belonging to the same species living within a habitat as a population.	
State the difference between biotic and abiotic factors	
Explain how abiotic and biotic factors can affect communities (including temperature, light intensity,	
moisture level, pH of soil, predators, food/prey)	
State the factors that plants and animals need to survive.	
Describe the differences between the trophic levels (feeding levels) of organisms within an ecosystem	
(producers and consumers) – food chains/webs	
Describe the importance of interdependence and competition in a community (predation, mutualism	
and parasitism)	<u> </u>
Explain how predator and prey populations fluctuate in a predation relationship	
Describe the difference between parasitism and mutualism	
Define biomass and describe how biomass data is collected	
Construct and describe pyramids of biomass	
<i>Explain</i> , with examples, how biomass is lost between the different trophic levels (loss of biomass	
related to egestion, excretion, respiration)	
Calculate the efficiency of biomass transfers between trophic levels	
Explain why the number of trophic levels in a food chain is limited	
State that many different materials cycle through the abiotic and biotic components	
of an ecosystem (eg Carbon, Nitrogen and water)	
Describe how water is cycled through an ecosystem and explain the importance of the water cycle to	
living organisms (maintaining habitats and flow of nutrients through ecosystem)	
Describe the importance of nitrogen to organisms (required for DNA and proteins)	
Describe how nitrogen is cycled through an ecosystem	
Describe the main stages of the carbon cycle(especially how carbon is added to and removed from the	
atmosphere.	
<i>Explain</i> why atmospheric carbon dioxide levels are increasing, including interpretation of data relating	
to changes in atmospheric carbon dioxide levels.	
Explain the role of microorganisms in the cycling of materials through an ecosystem (state examples of	
decomposers and <i>define</i> decomposition)	
Explain the effect of factors such as temperature, water content, and oxygen availability on rate of	
i	