Information about the 2015 examination

The examination will be based on the Biology Senior External Syllabus 2006. It will consist of two papers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Perusal/planning time</th>
<th>Working time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>2 hours 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
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</tbody>
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The questions will be set out within the five topics listed in the syllabus. Each paper will contain short-response questions that will assess Understanding biology (UB) and Investigating biology (IB) and extended-response questions that will assess Evaluating biological issues (EBI).

The EBI question topics will be published in a subject notice later this year, to enable candidates to research each topic prior to the examination. Candidates will be able to bring their research notes into the examination room.

Paper One

Paper One will consist of three parts:

- Part A — Cell structure and function
- Part B — Physiology of organisms
- Part C — Organisms and ecosystems.

Paper Two

Paper Two will consist of two parts:

- Part A — Continuity of life
- Part B — Evolution and diversity.

Experimental investigations

Candidates will not be required to bring to the examination actual data collected as evidence of participation in experimental investigation learning experiences. They will, however, be expected to demonstrate a sound understanding of the scientific methods and investigative processes that they have used during the year while studying biology.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate a deep understanding of the experiments they designed, performed, evaluated and reflected on. It is also expected that they will have a thorough understanding of correct laboratory procedures and protocols consistent with the syllabus.
Level of achievement

Each candidate’s level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses across both Paper One and Paper Two.

Enquiries

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