

Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate 2015

Marking Scheme

Biology

Higher Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.

In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

Introduction

The marking scheme is a guide to awarding marks to candidates' answers. It is a concise and summarised guide and is constructed so as to minimise its word content. Examiners must conform to this scheme and may not allow marks for answering outside this scheme. The scheme contains key words, terms and phrases for which candidates may be awarded marks. This does not preclude synonyms or terms or phrases which convey the same meaning as the answer in the marking scheme. Although synonyms are generally acceptable, there may be instances where the scheme demands an exact scientific term or unequivocal response and will not accept alternatives. The descriptions, methods and definitions in the scheme are not exhaustive and alternative valid answers are acceptable. If it comes to the attention of an examiner that a candidate has presented a valid answer and there is no provision in the scheme for accepting this answer, then the examiner must first consult with his/ her advising examiner before awarding marks. As a general rule, if in doubt about any answer, examiners should consult their advising examiner before awarding marks.

Key words or terms or phrases may be awarded marks, only if presented in the correct context e.g. Question: Outline how water from the soil reaches the leaf.

Marking scheme: Concentration gradient/ root hair/ osmosis/ cell to cell/ root pressure/ xylem/ cohesion (or explained)/ adhesion (or capillarity or explained)/ Dixon and Joly/ transpiration or evaporation/ tension *any six* 6(3).

Answer: "Water is drawn up the xylem by osmosis" Although the candidate has presented two key terms (xylem, osmosis), the statement is incorrect and the candidate can only be awarded 3 marks for referring to the movement of water through the xylem.

Cancelled Answers

The following is an extract from S.63 *Instructions to Examiners, 2015* (section 7.3, p.22) "Where a candidate answers a question or part of a question once only and then cancels the answer, you should ignore the cancelling and treat the answer as if the candidate had not cancelled it."

e.g. Question: What is pollination?

Marking scheme: Transfer of pollen/ from anther/ to stigma 3(3).

Sample Answer: transfer of pollen/ by insect/ to stigma.

The candidate has cancelled the answer and has not made another attempt to answer the question and may be awarded 2(3) marks.

If an answer is cancelled and an alternative version given, the cancellation should be accepted and marks awarded, where merited, for the uncancelled version only. If two (or more) uncancelled versions of an answer are given to the same question or part of a question, both (or all) should be marked and the answer accepted that yields the greater (greatest) number of marks. Points may not, however, be combined from multiple versions to arrive at a manufactured total.

Surplus Answers

In Section A, a surplus wrong answer cancels the marks awarded for a correct answer.

e.g. # 1 *Question*: The walls of xylem vessels are reinforced with

Marking Scheme: lignin 4 marks

Sample answers:

- chitin, lignin there is a surplus answer, which is incorrect, therefore the candidate scores 4-4 marks = 0.
- lignin the answer, which is correct, has been cancelled, but there is no additional or surplus answer, therefore the candidate may be awarded 4 marks.

• lignin, ehitin - there is a surplus answer, which is incorrect, but it has been cancelled and as the candidate has given more than one answer (i.e. the candidate is answering the question more than once only), the cancelling can be accepted and he/ she may be awarded 4 marks.

e.g. # 2. *Question*: Name the **four** elements that are always present in protein. Marking Scheme: Carbon/ hydrogen/ oxygen/ nitrogen **4(3)** *Sample answers*:

- Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, calcium there is a surplus answer, which is
 incorrect, and which cancels one of the correct answers, therefore the candidate is
 awarded 3(3) marks.
- Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, calcium there is no surplus answer, there are three correct answers, therefore the candidate is awarded **3(3)** marks.
- Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, calcium, aluminium there is a surplus answer, which is incorrect, and which cancels one of the three correct answers, therefore the candidate is awarded 2(3) marks.
- Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, calcium, aluminium there is a surplus answer, which is incorrect, but it has been cancelled so the candidate may be awarded **3(3)** marks.

In the other sections of the paper, there may be instances where a correct answer is nullified by the addition of an incorrect answer. This happens when the only acceptable answer is a specific word or term. Each such instance is indicated in the scheme by an asterisk *.

Conventions

- Where only one answer is required, alternative answers are separated by 'or'.
- Where multiple answers are required each word, term or phrase for which marks are allocated is separated by a solidus (/) from the next word, term or phrase.
- The mark awarded for an answer appears in bold next to the answer.
- Where there are several parts in the answer to a question, the mark awarded for each part appears in brackets e.g. **5(4)** means that there are five parts to the answer, each part allocated 4 marks.
- The answers to subsections of a question may not necessarily be allocated a specific mark; e.g. there may be six parts to a question (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and a total of 20 marks allocated to the question. The marking scheme might be as follows: 2(4) + 4(3). This means that the first two correct answers encountered are awarded 4 marks each and each subsequent correct answer is awarded 3 marks.
- A word or term that appears in brackets is not a requirement of the answer, but is used to contextualise the answer or may be an alternative answer.

1. 10 + 7 + 3(1) i.e. best five answers from (a) – (f)

- (a) Monosaccharides
- (b) Digestion
- (c) 6
- (d) Cellulose
- (e) Starch
- (f) Deoxyribose

2. 8+7+5(1)

- (a) All (individuals) get some of a (scarce) resource
- (b) Water or minerals or space
- (c) Water **or** mate(s) **or** shelter **or** territory (or space)
- (d) Different food or feed on different parts of the plant
- (e) (i) Frequency or cover or transect or quadrat
 - (ii) Throw (object) over shoulder (and place quadrat) **or** random numbers matched to a Grid
 - (iii) pH or temperature or air content or water content or mineral content
 or humus content or soil type or particle size or soil texture or soil
 microorganisms

3. Best 6: 8 + 8 + 4(1)

4. 8+7+5(1)

(a) Protein

(b) Can only replicate (or reproduce) in a cellor can only replicate using a cell

(c) RNA or DNA

(d) mosaic (virus)

(e) Shape (of protein coat) or type of nucleic acid or antibody(antigen) reaction or size or host species or structure

(f) Non cellular **or** no (cell) organelles

(g) Manufacture of vaccines or enhancement of plant phenotype (or example) or used in medical research or control of bacteria
 or genetic engineering (or described) or pathogenic
 or biological control or harms plants (or harms animals)

(a)	T
(b)	F
(c)	T
(d)	T
(e)	T
(f)	T
(g)	F

5. 8+8+4(1)

(a) (Equivalent to) 0.3 - 0.35 (% sucrose solution)

(b) They lost water / by osmosis / because sucrose was more concentrated Any Two

(c) Salting (or curing) meat (or fish) or making fruit products such as jam or use of sugar for (preserving) fruit

(d) Water taken in / (water) into vacuole (or into cytoplasm) / protoplast (or membrane)

presses against cell wall / wall prevents bursting

Any Two

6. 8+7+5(1)

(a) X correctly placed on adipose tissue

(b) A = erector muscle

B = sweat gland

(c) (i) Piloerection: Hair stands up

Air is trapped **or** (air) insulates **or** reduces (or prevents)

heat loss

(ii) Vasoconstriction: Blood vessels (or arteries or arterioles) narrow

Reducing (or preventing) heat loss or less blood to skin

7	(a)	5 + 1	

- 7. (a) (i) DNA and protein
 - (ii) Non-coding (DNA)

7.
$$(b) + (c)$$
 $8 + 8 + 8(1)$

- (b) (i) 1. To breakdown the (cell) membrane(s)
 - 2. To cause the DNA to clump
 - 3. To breakdown (or remove or digest) the protein in the chromosomes
 - To bring the DNA out of solution or to make the DNA visible
 or to separate the DNA
- Pepsin Amylase (c) Catalase (i) 1. (or diastase) (or protease) Hydrogen Protein 2. or or Starch peroxide Peptides Oxygen (and 3. Maltose (or amino acids) water)
 - (ii) Boil **or** heat to high temperature (≥ 60 °C)
 - (iii) negative result for named test for productor positive result for named test for substrate[must match enzyme or product in c (i) above]
 - (iv) To maintain (a constant) pH or to vary pH

8	(a)		5 + 1	
8.	(a)	(i)	*Saprophytic	[accept *saprobic]
		(ii)	Diagram: cell + nucleus + attached bud with bud	(or a nucleus) labelled
8.	(b)	+ (c)	9 + 9 + 6(1)	
8.	(b)	(i)	Malt (extract)	
		(ii)	Attach leaves (or leaf pieces) to (inside of) lid	
			Replace lid (on dish) or (dish) upright for 24 hours	
			or one aseptic technique described	
		(iii)	Pink colonies or pink with 'colonies' described	
	(c)	(i)	Some exposed to IAA and some not exposed to IAA	
			or tissue exposed to different concentrations of IAA	
			Leave for at least 2 days	
			Measure (or record) growth or compare growth	
		G:N	Description of how concentration (and A.)	amountly (aftigue)
		(ii)	Description of how concentration (or IAA) changed	growth (of tissue)

9.	(a)		5 + 1
9.	(a)	(i)	To form the basis of a prediction or to give a starting point for an
			experiment or (to attempt) to explain an observation
		(ii)	Neither the experimenter nor the test group knows who gets what
			(or described)
9.	(b)		9 + 9 + 6(1)
9.	(b)	(i)	So they are genetically similar or they are likely to respond in the
			same way (to iodine)
		(ii)	 To (provide a standard or baseline to) compare with the experiment A larger sample makes allowance for illness (or death) or to make the results more statistically significant Different concentrations of iodine (solution) / made up using pond water / 25 tadpoles in each (solution) / leave for a time / record changes in tadpoles / (control) no iodine
		(iii)	Temperature / amount of food / oxygen concentration / light (exposure) / volume of water / duration of exposure Any Two

10.	(a)	(i)	Mendel	3
		(ii)	Separation of homologous chromosomes	
			or separation of alleles	3
		(iii)	Haemophilia or (red-green) colour-blindness	3
	(b)	(i)	(Two bases joined by) hydrogen bonds / purine with pyrimidine /	
			Cytosine with Guanine / Adenine with Thymine in DNA /	
			Adenine with Uracil in RNA or Thymine replaced by Uracil in RNA	3(3)
		(ii)	Sequence(s) of three bases / on DNA / on mRNA ${f or}$ on tRNA / (each	
			codon) codes for one amino acid / that codes for a start (or stop)	3(3)
		(iii)	mRNA is formed / using a (single) strand of DNA / (DNA acts) as a	
			template (or described) / in nucleus / (catalysed by) RNA polymerase	3(3)
	(c)	(i)	*E	3
		(ii)	*C	3
		(iii)	*E	3
		(iv)	*C	3
		(v)	*B	3
		(vi)	*C	3
		(vii)	glX / glY	2(3)

11.	(a)	(i)	Heterotrophic: must consume food or eats other organisms	3
			or cannot make their food	
			Omnivorous: eats both animal and plant (material)	3
		(ii)	Correct amounts of each food type (for health)	3
	(b)	(i)	Diagram: continuous tube + stomach + intestines + a gland	6, 3, 0
			1. Liver / salivary glands / pancreas	2(2, 1, 0)
			2. Duodenum / ileum	2(2, 1, 0)
			3. Colon / caecum (or appendix) / rectum	2(2, 1, 0)
	(b)	(ii)	1. Enzyme that digests lipids (or fats or oils)	3
			2. Stomach or duodenum	3
			[accept small intestine or ileum or salivary glands or pancreas]	
			3. <i>Stomach</i> : (pH) < 7	
			<i>Duodenum</i> or <i>small intestine</i> or <i>ileum</i> : (pH) 7 – 9	3
	(c)	(i)	1. $I = \frac{1}{2}C = \frac{1}{1}PM = \frac{2}{2}M = \frac{3}{3}$	3
			2. (Humans have) fewer incisors (or fewer canines)	
			or Animal shown has more incisors (or more canines)	3
			3. <i>Type of food</i> : meat or flesh or other animals	3
			Explanation: long (or sharp or pointed or large or extra)	
			canines (or incisors)	3
		(ii)	Absorption of water / peristalsis / egestion / absorb vitamins	2(3)
		(iii)	Production of vitamins / compete with other micro-organisms /	
			digestion / benefit immune system	2(3)

Т

12.	(a)	(i)	$6\text{CO}_2 + 6$	$6\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 0$	$C_6H_{12}O_6 +$	6O ₂	6, 3, 0		
		(ii)	*Chlorop	*Chloroplast(s)					
	(b)	(i)	* A T P	ATP					
	(0)	(ii)		supplies	H^+ and e^-	or NADPH supplies hydrogen or NADPH	3		
		(11)		• •		duced (or converted) / to form			
						hydrate or 6C compound) /			
					regenerated		3+6		
			Turbi (C	(*) -8					
		(iii)	Respirati	espiration (or described)					
			Conversi	Conversion to starch (or to other named carbohydrate)					
			or provid	or provides food (for other organisms)					
		(iv)	Tempera	Temperature / light intensity / CO ₂ conc.					
		(v)	Greater c	rop yield	l or resistar	nt to disease or resistence to drought			
			or not af	fected by	pesticides	or example of nutritional advantage			
			or examp	ole of cor	nmercial ac	lvantage	3		
	(c)	(i)	Name:	*Gl	ycolysis		3		
			Location	: *Cy	tosol (or *c	eytoplasm)	3		
		(ii)			nber of n atoms	Compound			
					6	Glucose or (Compound C)	3		
					3	Pyruvic acid	3		
					2	Acetyl CoA or (Compound A)	3		
		(iii)	Gas X:	*Carbo	on dioxide	[accept CO ₂]	1		
		(111)	Gas Y:	*Oxyg		[$accept O_2$]	1		
			Gus 1.	Олуд	CII	$[uccepi\ O_2]$	1		
		(iv)	Сотроин	nd D:	*Water	[accept H ₂ O]	1		
			Two fund	ctions	solvent /	biochemical reactant / maintain			
					(constant) temperature / maintain shape / transport /			
					medium	for chemical reactions	2(3)		

13.	(a)	(i)	Ecosystem:	Organisms (interacting) with their environment	3
		(ii)	Community:	All (or groups) of organisms found in an ecosystem	3
		(iii)	Fauna:	*Animals	3
	(b)	(i)	Named predate	or and matching ecosystem	3
			Matching (beh	avioural) adaptive technique	3
		(ii)	1. Difference	es within a population (or within a species or between	
			individual	s)	3
			2. Difference	es in a named factor	3
		(iii)	B = Name	ite ed larger carnivore ed smaller herbivore ed (large) producer	3, 2, 0
			2. B or herb	ivore named in (iii) B, above	3
		(iv)	1. Limits the	e length (or described)	3
			2. Limits the	number (or described)	3
		(v)	May not be sur	itably adapted (or described)	3
	(c)	(i)	Can become p	ests or can spread disease or native organisms have	
			reduced or no	immunity to their parasites or eat native plants or eat	
			native animals	or eat crops or compete with native species	
			or extinction o	f native species	6
		(ii)	Young (or sma	all) fish trapped or reduced reproduction rates (or	
			depletes fish st	tocks) or extinction of species	6
		(iii)	- , ,	nesting or endangering animals or disrupts food	
			chains (or desc	cribed)	6
		(iv)	Toxic or risk o	of infection or pollution of waterways (or described)	6

14.	Any two of (a), (b), (c)	(30, 30)
110	1 my two of (a), (b),	(50,50)

14.	(a)	(i)	Feature named		3			
			Mechanism de	escribed	3			
		(ii)	Thymus / sple	en / lymph nodes / tonsils	2(3)			
		(iii)	Antigen:	ntigen: (foreign particle that) causes an antibody response				
				OR				
			Antibody:	(protein) produced in response to an antigen (or to				
				infection)	3			
		(iv)	1. Killer T c	ells: recognise infected cell (or cancer or antigen)				
				or produce perforin or perforates (cell)				
				membrane or kill the infected cell	6			
				or kill cancer cell				
			Helper T	cells: produce interferon or recognise antigens or				
				stimulate B-cell (or antibody production) or				
				activate Killer T cells	6			
			2. *Suppress	sor (T cells)	3			

14.	(b)	(i)	A = *grey matter	1			
			B = *white matter	1			
			C = *central canal or *cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)				
		(ii)	A: consists (mainly) of cell bodies or (mostly) no myelin	3			
			B: consists (mainly) of axons or (mostly) myelin	3			
		(iii)	1. Protection (of CNS)				
			2. *Three	3			
		(iv)	1. Automatic (or involuntary) response to a stimulus	3			
			2. Stimulus at receptor / (causes) impulse along sensory				
			neuron / (impulse) through interneuron / (impulse) through				
			motor neuron / to effector (or muscle or gland) or effector reacts /				
			(another impulse is sent) to the brain. Any Two	2(6)			

14.	(c)	(i)	Diagram:	testis + prostate (or seminal vesicles or Cowper's gland)	
				+ sperm duct & urethra + penis	6, 3, 0
			Labels:	testis, epididymis, sperm duct, seminal vesicle,	
				Cowper's gland, prostate gland, urethra, penis, scrotum	3 + 2
		(ii)	X on testes		1
		(iii)	Named gland	l + function	3
		(iv)	1. (Sperm	cells) need a lot of energy or (sperm cells) need to swim	
			long dis	tances (or described) (compared to their size)	3
			Mitocho	ondria produce energy or mitochondria carry out	
			(aerobic) respiration	3
			2. Only the	e head (of the sperm) enters the egg	
			or no sp	erm mitochondria enter the egg	3
		(v)	Egg:	12 – 48 hours	3
			Sperm:	0-7 days	3

15.	(a)	(i)	*Ovule		
		(ii)	One seed leaf		
		(iii)	Lipids (or fats or oils) / protein / carbohydate (or named) / vitamin(s)		
		(iv)	How to store (seeds) or when to sow (seeds) or maximise the growing		
			season or seed treatment before sowing (or examples)		
		(v)	1. Water content could vary between seeds		
			2. Food is transferred to the embryo or respiration or loss of CO ₂		
			3. *Photosynthesis		
			4. (No as) it will lose mass		
			(Due to) respiration or loss of CO ₂	3	

15. (b) (i		(i)	Diagram: rl	rhizoids + hypha + sporangiophore + sporangium	
			Labels: R	Chizoids / hypha(e) or stolon / apophysis / sporangium /	
			S	porangiophore / columella / spores / mycelium	3(1)
		(ii)	1. Decomposer (or description of decomposition)		3
			2. (To allow) recycling of nutrients (or minerals or elements)		3
		(iii)	(Fungi) have (cell wall of) chitin		
			or (Plantae) have (cell wall of) cellulose		
			or (Fungi) have no chloroplasts		
			or (Plantae) hav	3	
		(iv)	Sporulation		3
(v)		(v)	Different strains	s of or '+' and '□' (hyphae) which produce /	
			progametangia / (formation of) gametangia (and suspensors) /		
			fertilisation / z	ygospore / meiosis or germination (of zygospore)	4(3)

15.	(c)	(i)	Rod (or bacilli) / spherical (or cocci) / spiral (or spirilla)			
		(ii)	Disease-causing (agent or organism)			
		(iii)	Asepsis: Free of pathogens			
			Sterility: Free of (micro)organisms			
		(iv)	(Endo)spore formation			
		(v)	1. $B = *log (phase)$			
			C = *stationary (phase)			
			D = *decline (or *death) (phase)			
			2. Limited space (or food or O ₂) or waste (or toxin) accumulating			
			or death rate = birth rate			
			3. Batch processing: Fixed amount of nutrients added at beginning			
				or (bioreactor) emptied at end of production	3	
			Continuous flow:	Nutrients continuously fed into (bioreactor)		
				or product removed continuously		
			Stage Reference:			
			Batch: All stages occur			
			OR			
			Continuous flow: Stage B (or C) (or log or stationary phase)			
				maintained		