

How to Revise

Paper breakdown.

The onscreen exam is split into 3 main sections:

| Criterion A | Criterion B and C | Criterion D |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| Worth approx. 25% | Worth approx. 50% | Worth approx. 25% This is also where the global context is linked. |

This means you really need to spend A LOT of time revising your B/C/D skills rather than spending the majority of your time learning content (Criterion A)

Where to begin

The best way to familiarize yourself with the assessment is to first read through the assessment revision guide document I have sent you. This contains all the styles of questions you will encounter in the assessment. You will recognize some of these from class already.

Warning!!!



Do not fall into the trap of sitting for hours reading over and learning content! This is NOT a huge part of your assessment and will lead to you missing marks in the B/C/D sections of the exam.

Being familiar with questions is THE BEST way of prepping for the assessment.

You should set a time aside to do each criterion.

While you are practicing questions

It is important that while you are revising and practicing questions that you are doing this **efficiently**.

- ✓ Set yourself a **STRICT** time limit while answering the question
- ✓ Write or type your answers and then correct them afterwards
- ✓ Ensure you are critically checking your answers against the marking scheme
- ✓ Make note of areas you got stuck in or didn't understand so you can revise this theory afterwards.
- ✓ Repeat questions over time and see can you answer it better the next time- this is super important as questions in the paper are quite repetitive so you possibly will see some very similar ones in your own exam.

On the Revision OneNote Notebook there are LOADS of extra practice questions you can do. I would suggest splitting your time amongst the criteria and dedicating different study sessions to different criteria (if you have more than one science subject you could study criteria together for these subjects)

Revision OneNote: [Year 10 Biology Revision \(Web view\)](#)

Along with the sample questions, there are also sample answers for a long B and long D questions. These questions are worth a lot of marks and really worth knowing well!!!

How to improve question answering

It is vital you make yourself really familiar with these papers and what sorts of things the marking scheme expects. This skill will develop as you answer more and more papers. Always try to follow the below steps to make your answer as good as possible

1. **Marks-** how many marks is it worth, this is an indication as to the amount of information you should include. If the question is worth 4 marks then you should have at least 4 points of information in your answer.
2. **Command terms-** every question begins with a command term, this is the second indication of how much information you should include. A question beginning with 'state' will require a lot less information than a question beginning with 'explain'. Make sure you are familiar with all the command terms (list on classrooms).
3. **Time-** Manage your time carefully. If a question is only worth 1 mark then you shouldn't be spending 10 minutes trying to answer it. The paper is worth 100 marks and you have 2 hours to complete. This means you can allocate 1.2 minutes to each mark on the paper. I would suggest you aim to answer the questions 1 minute to each mark (eg if it's worth 4 marks you spend 4 minutes on it) this will then allow 20 extra minutes for reading/checking etc.
4. **Key terminology-** you will notice that marks are given in the exam for using scientific terminology. When you are answering try to ensure your answers include some of these terms. A full list of terminology is on classrooms so ensure you are implementing these into your practice.
5. **Read the question carefully-** many many mistakes are made due to incorrect reading of the question. Information supplied with the question is there for a reason so make sure you are reading it all. You should use the highlight tool on the paper to highlight key points in the question.

Mind and Body

You are all biologists and therefore should be extra aware and conscious of how our bodies work and function to their highest potential. Please ensure you are taking all the below points into consideration while you are studying and especially in the days leading up to your exams.

- ✓ **Sleep**- You MUST be getting 8 hours every night. Your brain and memory function depends on this!!!!!!!
- ✓ **Water**- As we know, water is the medium for everything in our body, makes up all our cells and is required for metabolic reactions. Your brain will not be able to function to its highest potential if it is not hydrated. Drink A MINIMUM of 2 litres per day (more if you are exercising that day)
- ✓ **Food**- You will need sufficient carbohydrates, protein, fats, vitamins and minerals to keep your body and brain in tip top form.
- ✓ **Exercise**- make sure you are keeping all that blood and nutrients flowing around your body, even a 30 minute walk will help keep your body working healthily during this time.
- ✓ **Breaks**- the human brain struggles to focus on the same thing for more than 45mins to 1 hour. Give yourself regular breaks while revising. Get up, go for a walk, talk to people, take rests from screen time so when you return you will be able to focus again.

Most importantly- listen to your body!!!!!!! If you are not able to focus or feel like the study session is not going well-just leave it!! Take a day off, or whatever you need, and get back in the zone later on. It really is pointless sitting in front of the screen if nothing is going in. Use your time efficiently to get the maximum output.

Good luck!!