

# BIOLOGY

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## GCE Advanced Level and GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Grade thresholds taken for Syllabus 9700 (Biology) in the May/June 2011 examination.

|              | maximum mark available | minimum mark required for grade: |    |    |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----|----|
|              |                        | A                                | B  | E  |
| Component 11 | 40                     | 31                               | 27 | 16 |
| Component 12 | 40                     | 32                               | 28 | 16 |
| Component 13 | 40                     | 31                               | 27 | 16 |
| Component 21 | 60                     | 46                               | 43 | 23 |
| Component 22 | 60                     | 43                               | 38 | 18 |
| Component 23 | 60                     | 45                               | 40 | 17 |
| Component 31 | 40                     | 27                               | 24 | 13 |
| Component 32 | 40                     | 32                               | 29 | 18 |
| Component 33 | 40                     | 29                               | 26 | 13 |
| Component 34 | 40                     | 27                               | 24 | 11 |
| Component 35 | 40                     | 26                               | 23 | 14 |
| Component 41 | 100                    | 73                               | 64 | 41 |
| Component 42 | 100                    | 64                               | 57 | 34 |
| Component 43 | 100                    | 64                               | 57 | 34 |
| Component 51 | 30                     | 22                               | 18 | 10 |
| Component 52 | 30                     | 17                               | 13 | 7  |
| Component 53 | 30                     | 17                               | 13 | 7  |

The thresholds (minimum marks) for Grades C and D are normally set by dividing the mark range between the B and the E thresholds into three. For example, if the difference between the B and the E threshold is 24 marks, the C threshold is set 8 marks below the B threshold and the D threshold is set another 8 marks down. If dividing the interval by three results in a fraction of a mark, then the threshold is normally rounded down. Grade A\* does not exist at the level of an individual component.

The thresholds for the **syllabus** are determined first by adding together the thresholds for the components taken by the candidate. A reduction may be made at the higher grades depending on the correlation of the papers. If the maximum raw marks for the components are not in the weighting/relationship specified in the syllabus, a weighting is applied to arrive at the overall thresholds. The A\* threshold is calculated using the difference between A and B as a starting point.

For AS Level components, small adjustments may be made to the marks awarded for some versions of the paper in order to neutralise any differences in the difficulty of the different versions and so make sure that all candidates face an equal demand.

The maximum total mark for this syllabus is **260** for A Level and **130** for AS Level.

Cambridge International Advanced and Advanced Subsidiary Level  
9700 Biology June 2011  
Grade Thresholds

For this syllabus in this series the grade thresholds were as follows:

| Option                     | Combination of components                                      | A*         | A          | B          | C          | D          | E          |
|----------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| AX<br>EX                   | 11, 21, 31, 41,51<br>11, 21, 32, 41,51                         | <b>210</b> | <b>188</b> | <b>166</b> | <b>142</b> | <b>118</b> | <b>95</b>  |
| AY<br>EY<br>AZ             | 12, 22, 33, 42, 52<br>12, 22, 34, 42, 52<br>13, 23, 35, 43, 53 | <b>194</b> | <b>174</b> | <b>154</b> | <b>131</b> | <b>108</b> | <b>85</b>  |
| BX                         | 41, 51 and AS from last June                                   | <b>213</b> | <b>192</b> | <b>171</b> | <b>148</b> | <b>126</b> | <b>104</b> |
| BY<br>BZ                   | 42, 52 and AS from last June<br>43, 53 and AS from last June   | <b>197</b> | <b>178</b> | <b>159</b> | <b>137</b> | <b>115</b> | <b>94</b>  |
| CX                         | 41, 51 and AS from last Nov.                                   | <b>205</b> | <b>181</b> | <b>157</b> | <b>138</b> | <b>119</b> | <b>100</b> |
| CY<br>CZ                   | 42, 52 and AS from last Nov.<br>43, 53 and AS from last Nov.   | <b>189</b> | <b>167</b> | <b>145</b> | <b>126</b> | <b>108</b> | <b>90</b>  |
| S1<br>S2<br>S3<br>S4<br>S5 | AS Level   |            | <b>95</b>  | <b>85</b>  | <b>71</b>  | <b>57</b>  | <b>44</b>  |

Grade Thresholds are published for all GCE A/AS and IGCSE subjects where a corresponding mark scheme is available.