

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced GCE

BIOLOGY

2806/03/INST

Instructions for the Planning Exercise and Practical Test

To be opened immediately

Planning Exercise – for issue on or after:

Wednesday **15 MARCH 2006**

Practical Test:

Tuesday **23 MAY 2006** Morning 1 hour 30 minutes

This document is for the **Head of Centre** and for the use of the **Biology teacher and/or technician** who prepares the apparatus and materials for the examination.

A packet containing **two** copies of the Biology Practical Test, 2806/03/TEST, accompanies the packet containing these Instructions.

These documents should be issued to the Biology teacher immediately they arrive at the Centre, but they **must be kept in a secure place at all times**.

These documents are provided so that the Biology teacher and/or technician can ensure that the Centre's apparatus and chemicals are suitable for carrying out the Biology Practical Test.

Great care should be taken that any confidential information given here does not reach the candidates, either directly or indirectly.

These instructions consist of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

PLANNING EXERCISE

The Planning Exercise should be issued to candidates on or after the date shown on the front of this document. The candidates' Plans must be collected in, on or before the date of the Practical Test. These arrangements may be made at the discretion and convenience of the centre.

It should be recognised that each Planning Exercise makes only a small contribution to the overall assessment and candidates should therefore be guided to spend an appropriate amount of time on the work. Candidates should be given **between 7 and 10 days** to complete it.

The mark scheme for the Planning Exercise is based closely on the coursework mark descriptors for Skill P given in the Specification and a copy of these descriptors should be made available to candidates to assist them in their work.

Candidates may be given access, if they request it and at the discretion of the Centre, to laboratory space and facilities in order to be able to carry out preliminary work which will help in constructing their Plan. However, it should be noted that the responsibility for Health and Safety during this period rests with the Centre, and the attention of teachers is drawn to the Health and Safety section in the Specification. Access to suitable library and other resources may also be required and, while time at home or in private study will be necessary to complete the task to a high standard, sufficient work must be completed under direct supervision to allow the teacher to authenticate the work with confidence as that of the candidates concerned. Many Centres find that this can best be managed by allowing candidates a set period of time to research the topic but requiring the Plan to be written under supervision. The supervising teacher should complete the statement of authentication for each candidate on the front cover page of the Plan. Details should be provided on the Report Form for the Practical Test of any assistance given to candidates.

After candidates' work has been collected, it must be kept securely until the date of the Practical Test (or must be collected on the day of the Practical Test) and must be included with the scripts for the Practical Test when these are despatched to the Examiner. Please tie together **loosely** (or use a treasury tag) the Planning Exercise and Practical Test for each candidate **with the Practical Test on the top**.

Guidance for Teachers/Tutors on authenticating work

The Work submitted by candidates for assessment must be entirely their own.

Candidates may however:

- quote from books or any other source; this should be referenced in the work and all sources acknowledged;
- receive guidance from someone other than their teacher / tutor; the course teacher must be informed of the name of the person giving external guidance and the nature of the assistance given;
- produce work at a location away from the examination Centre provided that the work remains under the supervision of the teacher/tutor.

In cases of privately entered candidates or distant tutored candidates, the Centre must ensure that:

- the teacher/tutor has acquainted themselves thoroughly with the general standard of candidates' work before accepting work for assessment;
- sufficient on-going regular monitoring of candidates' work has taken place.

Before authenticating work, the teacher/tutor should ask themselves the following basic questions.

- Has the **Declaration by candidate** been signed by the candidate?
- Was at least part of the work done under your direct supervision?
- Did you check the work during its production?
- Is the standard of finished work consistent with your professional judgement of the candidate's ability?

If you have answered 'YES' to the above questions you may authenticate the work.

The following notes for guidance are issued to candidates



- 1 Your Plan should have a clear and helpful structure and should be illustrated by diagrams, tables, charts, graphs etc. as appropriate. Remember that these can often be used to replace words in the text. Diagrams should be relevant to the content of your Plan and positioned appropriately. Labels on diagrams, flow charts or tables should be clear and concise. Large blocks of text should be included in the word count.
- 2 You should take care to use technical and scientific terms correctly and to write in clear and correct English.
- 3 Your Plan should be hand-written or word-processed on A4 paper, which should have a hole punched at the top left-hand corner. Pages should be numbered and should have a clear margin on the right-hand side. You should write (or print) on one side of the paper only and each sheet should be marked with your Centre number and Candidate number.
- 4 You should show that you have consulted an appropriate range and variety of sources. At the end of your Plan you should list clearly the sources you have used. You should refer to these references in your Plan where appropriate. Where you have incorporated material which has been copied directly from a source such as a book or the Internet, this must be acknowledged in your Plan and details included in the references at the end. However, it should be noted that the inclusion of copied material will not in itself gain credit. The list of references should not be included in the word count.
- 5 Your Plan should be based on the use of standard equipment, apparatus, chemicals and other materials available in a school or college science laboratory.
- 6 Your Plan should be between 500 and 1000 words. A Plan that is in excess of 1000 words is likely to have poor structure and unselective choice of material, so that full credit may not be available. You should indicate the number of words in the margin of the Plan at approximately 200 word intervals.
- 7 When you have finished, tie the pages together **loosely** (or use a treasury tag), with this sheet on the top, so that the pages turn over freely. Your Centre will give you the date by which your Plan must be handed in.

PLANNING EXERCISE (continued)

Centres should be reminded that candidates only need to appreciate how to carry out an investigation in sufficient detail for them to write a plan. They do not need to carry out the investigation for themselves.

Centres must ensure that candidates do not use human subjects or actual urine in this investigation.

If candidates wish to try out the procedure they may be provided with the following:

- 1 A 1.5% solution of aspirin prepared by dissolving five 300 mg tablets in a few cm^3 of distilled water and making up to 100 cm^3 with more distilled water.
- 2 1% iron (III) chloride  solution prepared by dissolving 1 g of iron (III) chloride  in a few cm^3 of distilled water and making up to 100 cm^3 with more distilled water.
- 3 Distilled water with a trace of yellow food colouring to make it resemble urine.

PRACTICAL TEST

General Instructions

The attention of teachers is drawn to the details of this examination given in Appendix E of the specification.

The Biology teacher and/or technician must be granted access to the question paper in advance of the Practical Test in order to be satisfied that apparatus and materials are in accordance with these instructions and are fully suitable for the performance of the experiments. To this end, the Biology teacher and/or technician should perform questions 1 and 2 of the Practical Test and be satisfied that the candidates will be able to collect suitable results with the apparatus and materials provided. **A sample set of results, clearly labelled, should be sent to the Examiner on top of the candidates' scripts.**

The Biology teacher and/or technician should also check **all** the slides supplied by OCR.

If the apparatus or materials that are provided to candidates differ significantly from these instructions, then full details of the changes must be given on the Report Form. Candidates will not be disadvantaged provided that the nature of the experiments has not been changed. The Biology teacher and/or technician is advised to contact OCR well before the date of the examination if, for example, there are difficulties with obtaining materials or particular pieces of apparatus.

Candidates should be informed that, if they find themselves in real difficulty, they may ask the Invigilator for assistance but the extent of this assistance will be reported to the Examiner, who may make a deduction of marks. If the Invigilator becomes aware that a candidate is having difficulty, then the Invigilator is expected to give the minimum amount of help required to enable the candidate to obtain a set of results from the apparatus. A note of the type of help given should be made on the Report Form on the last page of the candidate's script. **Under no circumstances should help be given to candidates with the presentation or analysis of experimental data.**

In cases of faulty apparatus (not arising from a candidate's mishandling) that prevents the required readings from being taken, extra time must be allowed so that the candidate has a fair opportunity of performing the experiment as though the fault had not been present. Details of such cases of time compensation should be made on the Report Form.

Cases of individual hardship, e.g. illness, disability etc. should be reported direct to OCR using the 'Special Considerations' form and **not** included on the Report Form.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Attention is drawn to the section on Health and Safety in Appendix B of the Biology Specification. This section covers the Practical Tests as well as coursework. Centres are reminded that, in UK law, the responsibility for Health and Safety lies with the employer.

Materials used in the examination should display appropriate hazard symbols.

Each candidate must be provided with the following apparatus and materials.

Since the slides are shared, some candidates must begin with Question 2.

Question 1

Centres must trial this question using the urease that the candidates will use. The expected timing for tube 5 (0.02% urea) is 200 s. If the timings obtained are too rapid, increase the volume of ethanoic acid **and instruct the candidates accordingly**.

If the reaction is slower, increase the concentration of urease. Candidates do not need to be told of this change.

- (i) 100 cm³ distilled water in a beaker labelled **distilled water**.
- (ii) 100 cm³ of 0.1% urea solution. Prepare by dissolving 1 g of urea (carbamide) in a few cm³ of distilled water and making up to 100 cm³ with more distilled water. Dilute 10 cm³ of this solution with 90 cm³ of distilled water and supply to candidates in a beaker labelled **urea solution**.
- (iii) 25 cm³ of urease solution. Prepare by dissolving 5 g of **urease active meal** in a few cm³ of distilled water and making up to 100 cm³ with more distilled water. Allow to stand for 10 minutes stirring occasionally and filter through a Buchner funnel. **This may be prepared the day before the examination**. Supply to candidates in a beaker labelled **urease solution**.
- (iv) 25 cm³ of 0.07% urea solution. Prepare by dissolving 0.7 g of urea (carbamide) in a few cm³ of distilled water and make up to 100 cm³ with more distilled water. Dilute 10 cm³ of this solution with 90 cm³ of distilled water. Add a *trace* of yellow food colouring and supply in a small beaker labelled **U**.
- (v) 25 cm³ of 0.1 mol dm⁻³ ethanoic acid in a beaker labelled **ethanoic acid**.
- (vi) 10 cm³ of universal indicator in a dropping bottle or small beaker with a dropping pipette, labelled **universal indicator**.
- (vii) Seven boiling tubes, (e.g. 150 × 24 mm) – five labelled **1** to **5**, one labelled **C** and one unlabelled, in a boiling tube rack.
- (viii) Two 10 cm³ syringes **and** two 1 cm³ syringes.
- (ix) Beaker with distilled water for washing, labelled **water for rinsing** and a container for waste water labelled **waste**.
- (x) Bench timer, stopwatch or stop clock.
- (xi) Paper towels.

Suggested suppliers:

Urea, (code C5F 80673) and urease active meal (code C5F 55897) are available from:

Philip Harris Ltd., Finchel House, Excelsior Road, Abbey Park, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, LE65 1NG. Tel. 0845 120 4520. Fax. 01530 419 492. Web site: www.philipharris.co.uk

Question 2

Candidates must be provided with a microscope with low power and high power objectives e.g. $\times 4$ and $\times 40$. Each candidate must have sole use of a microscope for at least 35 minutes.

- (i) Slides **S1** and **S2**.
- (ii) Hand lens.

To be supplied by OCR.

- (i) Slides **S1** and **S2**.

RETURN OF EXAMINATION MATERIALS TO OCR

Please read the following instructions carefully.

Immediately after the examination, the slides must be returned to OCR in the containers in which they were received, using the self-adhesive labels for the parcel; they must not be included in parcels of scripts. On occasion, it may be possible for OCR to offer certain slides or materials, used in the examination, for sale to centres. In this case, an Order Form will be enclosed with the materials sent from OCR for the examination. Slides and containers not returned in good condition will be charged at the rate of £3 per item.

The address for the return of slides is:

UCLES Laboratory
Combine House
Harvest Way
Cambridge
CB1 2RA

Please indicate clearly the Centre number when returning slides.

QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to minimise the disadvantage of a practical examination at which the Examiner is not present, the teacher responsible for the examination is asked to complete the Report Form on the back cover of the script of the candidate whose name appears first on the attendance register. Further comments by teachers need only be made on those scripts where difficulties are encountered.

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