

## NOTICE TO CENTRES

FAO: Head of Science/KS4 Science Coordinator

Date: September 2008

Subject: Gateway Science Suite

### GCSE GATEWAY SCIENCE SUITE SPECIFICATION UPDATE

#### INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

J640 Science B, J643 Biology B, J644 Chemistry B and J645 Physics B

#### **Science in the News: Level of Response Grid**

Following consultation with teachers and moderators, OCR has made a number of changes to the wording of the Level of Response Grid to assist teachers in interpreting the qualities to be assessed.

The revision to the wording will not have an impact on the number of marks awarded or the standard of the assessment for each quality assessed. This means that any work that has been marked already using the original Level of Response Grid for guidance does **not** need to be marked again.

A revised version of this Science in the News Level of Response Grid is attached, highlighting the changes to the wording in bold and underlined.

A revised candidate cover sheet is also attached. This cover sheet and the revised Level of Response Grid should be used from now onwards when assessing student work. Any work which has been previously assessed and has the original cover sheet attached can still be submitted for moderation.

New versions of the specifications and the relevant candidate cover sheets are available on the OCR website and through OCR Interchange.

Any enquiry about this notice should be referred to the OCR Customer Contact Centre on phone number, 01223 553998 or email, [general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk)

## Revised Science in the News Level of Response Grid

Quality Assessed		Number of Marks						
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
A	<b>Approach to the task</b>  /6			Some research is carried out; some <b>information</b> is collected from at least one suitable source.		The information provided is used to plan their research; <b>information</b> is collected from more than one suitable source <b>and used in the report. All sources are fully referenced.</b>		Makes good use of the information provided to structure a <b>balanced report; information</b> is relevant, detailed and logically presented.
B	<b>Analysis of the data</b>  /6			At least one trend / pattern is identified and outlined correctly.		The main trends/patterns are described correctly and there is some evidence of <b>correct</b> processing of quantitative data.		The main trends/ patterns are described correctly with reference to quantitative data. These data have been <b>further</b> processed to reveal additional information and/or detect anomalies.
C	<b>Evaluation of the data</b>  /6			<b>A comment has been made about the quality of the evidence.</b>		There is a comparison of the reliability of the <b>various forms of</b> evidence, <b>including</b> an attempt to identify which evidence is most/least reliable.		There is detailed consideration of the evidence showing a good understanding of the relative merits of the evidence gathered in terms of both <b>reliability and validity.</b>
D	<b>Relating the data to issues</b>  /6			An attempt has been made to relate some of these data/ information to the impact on people <b>or the</b> environment.		The report shows some understanding of <b>the social, economic or environmental issues as they relate to the task.</b>		The report shows a clear understanding of <b>the social, economic or environmental issues as they relate to the task with an understanding of the science involved.</b>
E	<b>Justifying a conclusion</b>  /6			A conclusion is given with justification based on at least one piece of evidence.		A considered conclusion is given with justification based on the significance of more than one piece of evidence.		A considered conclusion is given with a well-argued justification based on careful analysis of the relative significance of more than one piece of evidence.
F	<b>Quality of written communication</b>  /6			Spelling, punctuation and grammar are of generally poor quality. Little or no relevant scientific or technical vocabulary is used.		Spelling, punctuation and grammar are generally sound. Appropriate scientific or technical vocabulary is used.		Spelling, punctuation and grammar show very few errors. The report shows full and effective use of relevant scientific and technical terms.

Science in the News Title

Centre Number  Candidate Number

Candidate Name

Quality Assessed		Number of Marks						
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>A</b>	<b>Approach to the task</b>  /6			Some research is carried out; some information is collected from at least one suitable source.		The information provided is used to plan their research; information is collected from more than one suitable source and used in the report. All sources are fully referenced.		Makes good use of the information provided to structure a balanced report; information is relevant, detailed and logically presented.
<b>B</b>	<b>Analysis of the data</b>  /6			At least one trend / pattern is identified and outlined correctly.		The main trends/patterns are described correctly and there is some evidence of correct processing of quantitative data.		The main trends/ patterns are described correctly with reference to quantitative data. These data have been further processed to reveal additional information and/or detect anomalies.
<b>C</b>	<b>Evaluation of the data</b>  /6			A comment has been made about the quality of the evidence.		There is a comparison of the reliability of the various forms of evidence, including an attempt to identify which evidence is most/least reliable.		There is detailed consideration of the evidence showing a good understanding of the relative merits of the evidence gathered in terms of both reliability and validity.
<b>D</b>	<b>Relating the data to issues</b>  /6			An attempt has been made to relate some of these data/ information to the impact on people or the environment.		The report shows some understanding of the social, economic or environmental issues as they relate to the task.		The report shows a clear understanding of the social, economic or environmental issues as they relate to the task with an understanding of the science involved.
<b>E</b>	<b>Justifying a conclusion</b>  /6			A conclusion is given with justification based on at least one piece of evidence.		A considered conclusion is given with justification based on the significance of more than one piece of evidence.		A considered conclusion is given with a well-argued justification based on careful analysis of the relative significance of more than one piece of evidence.
<b>F</b>	<b>Quality of written communication</b>  /6			Spelling, punctuation and grammar are of generally poor quality. Little or no relevant scientific or technical vocabulary is used.		Spelling, punctuation and grammar are generally sound. Appropriate scientific or technical vocabulary is used.		Spelling, punctuation and grammar show very few errors. The report shows full and effective use of relevant scientific and technical terms.

**Total Mark Awarded**

**/36**

**NOTICE TO CENTRES** (continued)

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