



General Certificate of Secondary Education

Physical Education 3581/W Full Course *Specification A*

Written paper

Report on the Examination *2008 examination - June series*

Further copies of this Report are available to download from the AQA Website: www.aqa.org.uk

Copyright © 2008 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

COPYRIGHT

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered centres for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

The Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (company number 3644723) and a registered charity (registered charity number 1073334). Registered address: AQA, Devas Street, Manchester M15 6EX
Dr Michael Cresswell Director General.

Physical Education (3581/W)

General

Candidates of all levels were able to make an attempt at answering most parts of all questions on the paper. Marks awarded were slightly higher on average than previous years.

Scores for QWC were generally between 0 and 2. Candidates achieving high scores on the paper did not use enough specialized terminology and write extensively enough to fully justify awarding marks above this level and spelling was often very poor.

As in previous years many candidates failed to attain marks due to making rather vague comments which were not fully explained, expanded or justified

Question 1

Generally answered well and good knowledge was shown.

- (a)(ii) Some candidates lost marks for not explaining what lactic acid is and merely describing how it builds up.
- (c)(iii) Many candidates only scored one mark as they were unable to give a full answer for obesity and made references just to being overweight or not taking enough exercise.

Question 2

This was generally answered well.

- (a)(ii) Candidates dropped a mark because they didn't state from the centre or midline. Few candidates chose to draw an annotated diagram but those who did, and who labelled it correctly, were awarded marks.
- (c)(ii) Differentiated candidates well, weaker candidate's answers were limited to one mark for saying 'pumping blood around the body'. Good candidates were able to give extensive answers with more information than required.

Question 3

This is the question candidates appeared to find the most difficult.

- (a)(i) Candidates lost marks if they simply stated an injury without describing an accident which could cause it. Many of the actions described were reactive, e.g. giving details of first aid treatment rather than being proactive.
- (a)(ii) Many candidates got sprain and strain the wrong way round.
- (b) (i) Many candidates used their training programme experiences to answer this question.
- (b) (ii) Many candidates could not clearly describe what sets and repetitions were.
- (c) Was generally answered better than in previous years.

Question 4

Lower scoring candidates found this question more challenging.

- (a) Most candidates chose to use anabolic steroids or stimulants as their example.

- (b)(i)(ii)(iii) Some candidates lost marks because they did not describe the effect on performance. Anxiety caused the most problems.
- (c) There were some excellent answers to this part of the question but some candidates did not seem aware of what a technological development was, but just described a piece of equipment or footwear which was used.

Question 5

- (a) There were some poor responses to this part: many candidates did not relate their answers to GCSE PE but more generally to participation in sport outside of school. When using roles, some answers were limited to a description of the role rather than answering the question.
- (b)(i) & (ii) Answers were often repetitive with candidates failing to distinguish between level of performance and participation.
- (c)(i) & (ii) Candidates did not always use different examples and therefore lost marks.
- (d) Some candidates did not refer to London and used previous Olympic Games instead and in some cases did not describe how it was a disadvantage to London, instead describing how it was a disadvantage to the individual.

Question 6

This question was not as poorly answered as the final question in previous years as several Parts of the question asked for advantages and disadvantages and later positive and negative effects, this allowed lower ability candidates to score more highly.

- (a)(i) & (ii) Candidates did not always give examples so lost marks.
- (b)(i) Some candidates did not state how supporters were more informed about sport and lost one mark.
- (c)(i) & (ii) This part was generally answered well but some candidates gave more than one example rather than fully describe one sport outside of school. When using roles some answers were limited to a description of the role rather than answering the question.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA website www.aqa.org.uk/over/stat