

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Science B 4462 / Biology 4411

BLY1F Unit Biology 1

Mark Scheme

2012 examination – January series

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of students' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of students' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

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MARK SCHEME

Information to Examiners

1. General

The mark scheme for each question shows:

- the marks available for each part of the question
- the total marks available for the question
- the typical answer or answers which are expected
- extra information to help the Examiner make his or her judgement and help to delineate what is acceptable or not worthy of credit or, in discursive answers, to give an overview of the area in which a mark or marks may be awarded.

The extra information is aligned to the appropriate answer in the left-hand part of the mark scheme and should only be applied to that item in the mark scheme.

At the beginning of a part of a question a reminder may be given, for example: where consequential marking needs to be considered in a calculation; or the answer may be on the diagram or at a different place on the script.

In general the right hand side of the mark scheme is there to provide those extra details which confuse the main part of the mark scheme yet may be helpful in ensuring that marking is straightforward and consistent.

2. Emboldening

- 2.1 In a list of acceptable answers where more than one mark is available 'any **two** from' is used, with the number of marks emboldened. Each of the following lines is a potential mark.
- 2.2 A bold **and** is used to indicate that both parts of the answer are required to award the mark.
- 2.3 Alternative answers acceptable for a mark are indicated by the use of or. (Different terms in the mark scheme are shown by a /; eg allow smooth / free movement.)

3. Marking points

3.1 Marking of lists

This applies to questions requiring a set number of responses, but for which students have provided extra responses. The general principle to be followed in such a situation is that 'right + wrong = wrong'.

Each error/contradiction negates each correct response. So, if the number of error/contradictions equals or exceeds the number of marks available for the question, no marks can be awarded.

However, responses considered to be neutral (indicated as * in example 1) are not penalised.

Example 1: What is the pH of an acidic solution? (1 mark)

Student	Response	Marks awarded
4	4.0	amaraca
1	4,8	Ü
2	green, 5	0
3	red*, 5	1
4	red*, 8	0

Example 2: Name two planets in the solar system. (2 marks)

Student	Response	Marks awarded
1	Pluto, Mars, Moon	1
2	Pluto, Sun, Mars,	0
	Moon	

3.2 Use of chemical symbols / formulae

If a student writes a chemical symbol / formula instead of a required chemical name, full credit can be given if the symbol / formula is correct and if, in the context of the question, such action is appropriate.

3.3 Marking procedure for calculations

Full marks can be given for a correct numerical answer, as shown in the column 'answers', without any working shown.

However if the answer is incorrect, mark(s) can be gained by correct substitution / working and this is shown in the 'extra information' column;

3.4 Interpretation of 'it'

Answers using the word 'it' should be given credit only if it is clear that the 'it' refers to the correct subject.

3.5 Errors carried forward

Any error in the answers to a structured question should be penalised once only.

Papers should be constructed in such a way that the number of times errors can be carried forward are kept to a minimum. Allowances for errors carried forward are most likely to be restricted to calculation questions and should be shown by the abbreviation e.c.f. in the marking scheme.

3.6 Phonetic spelling

The phonetic spelling of correct scientific terminology should be credited **unless** there is a possible confusion with another technical term.

3.7 Brackets

(.....) are used to indicate information which is not essential for the mark to be awarded but is included to help the examiner identify the sense of the answer required.

question	answers	extra information	mark
1(a)	brown (colour)		1
1(b)	(long) ears		1
1(c)	(long) horns		1
1(d)	(white) ring		1
Total			4

question	answers	extra information	mark
2(a)	any two from:		2
	light / sunlight	ignore Sun	
	• water		
	nutrients / ions / salts / minerals	ignore food	
	• space		
2(b)(i)	herbicides		1
2(b)(ii)	pesticides		1
2(c)	any two from:	mark as a whole	2
	habitat destroyed		
	numbers / species / biodiversity reduced	allow animals die / move away	
	less food / fewer breeding sites	allow fewer homes / nowhere to live	
		ignore would keep animals out	
Total			6

question	answers	extra information	mark
3(a)	sexual	this order only	1
	characteristic		1
	mutation		1
	chromosome		1
3(b)	Remove egg cell from ovary 3 The egg cell is now empty 2 The egg cell now has the nucleus of a body cell. 1 Ball of cells 4 Cloned animal	four correct gains 3 marks two or three correct gains 2 marks one correct gains 1 mark accept correct connection between statement and box	3
Total			7

question	answers	extra information	mark
4(a)	High blood pressure Diabetes Arthritis High level of salt in food Irregular periods Lack of food High blood sugar	1 mark for each correct line mark each line from left hand box two lines from left hand box cancels mark for that box	3
4(b)	reference to diet / less food / healthier food / balanced diet		1
	reference to exercise / activity		1
4(c)(i)	27.77 / 27.78 / 27.8 / 27.7°	correct BMI gains 3 marks accept 2 or more 7s after decimal point for 3 marks 27.7 gains 2 marks if answer incorrect: allow 1 mark for 3.24 allow 1 mark for correct answer based on incorrect (height) ²	3
4(c)(ii)	overweight	allow ecf from (c)(i) if no attempt at (c)(i) no mark can be awarded for (c)(ii)	1
Total			9

question	answers	extra information	mark
5(a)(i)	6		1
5(a)(ii)	1/5 or 10/50 or one fifth or 20% or 1 in 5 or 0.2 or 1:4 or 1 to 4	do not allow 1:5 or 1 to 5	1
5(b)	heroin	apply list principle	1
5(c)	people not honest in answers	allow small sample / people from same area do not accept unequal numbers of men and women	1
5(d)	might lead to mental illness / named or might lead to more addictive / hard drugs / named hard drugs	ignore cancer / lung disease / tar / damages brain cells accept gateway drug ignore addictive / slows reactions	1
Total			5

question	answers	extra information	mark
6(a)	(soft) body parts / other parts / named parts	accept flesh	1
	decayed / decomposed / rotted / eaten or	ignore disintegrated / dissolved ignore microorganisms	1
	bones do not decay / decompose / rot / get eaten		
6(b)	any one aquatic feature from: egstreamlined body shape		1
	long taileyes on top of head		
	scalesfins / paddles / flippers / webbed feet	ignore gills	
	any one terrestrial feature from:(front) legs / limbs / hands	ignore feet	1
	could lift front end upwards	accept for 2 marks eg fin / flipper	
		can be used for walking or fins like legs	
Total			4

question	answers	extra information	mark
7(a)	hearsay		1
7(b)	(volunteers with feet in) empty bowls	accept bowl with no (iced) water do not accept mention of bowl with iced water	1
7(c)	any three from:	ignore control variables, eg age, gender	3
	only some of those whose feet were in cold water caught colds		
	some controls caught colds		
	only feet were cold in experimental group	allow (control) not wrapped up warm	
	 only kept feet in cold water for 20 minutes 		
	insufficient evidence for 'proof' / only showed increased risk	allow small sample size	
	don't know activities of individuals before / after the investigation (eg exposure to cold virus) / reference to immune system	allow investigation done in 'cold season'	
Total			5

Question 8

question	answers	extra information	mark
8(a)	Y – spinal cord / central nervous system / CNS	do not accept spine ignore nerve / nervous system / coordinator ignore grey / white matter	1
	W – receptor / nerve ending	ignore sensory / neurone / stimulus	1
	X – effector / muscle	allow gland	1
8(b)	 any two from: eg reflex action quicker effect of reflex action over shorter period hormone involves blood system and reflex involves neurones / nerve cells reflex involves impulses and hormone involves chemicals reflex action affects only one part of the body 	accept reverse argument for each marking point ignore nervous system / nerves	2
		ignore involves brain ignore outside / inside stimuli	
Total			5

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