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Part of WJEC

YOUR STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO SWITCHING TO EDUQAS

A LEVEL BIOLOGY

MAKE THE SWITCH TO A BOARD THAT WILL SUPPORT YOU

Switching to Eduqas could be the best move you make.

You'll gain access to an unbeatable range of free teaching resources, and our team of subject specialists are on hand to give you all the help and advice you need.

Whether you're with AQA, OCR or Pearson (Edexcel), you can rest assured that switching to Eduqas is straightforward. Simply follow this guide, compare our specifications, and make the switch!

MAKING THE SWITCH

Switching to Eduqas is simple, just follow these quick and easy steps:

1. Follow our switcher guide for your subject.
2. Register your interest at **www.eduqas.co.uk/switch** and receive a printed copy of your chosen specification(s).
3. Visit your qualification page at **www.eduqas.co.uk/qualification**, to access the materials you need to begin teaching our specifications.
4. Visit our Digital Resources Website (**resources.eduqas.co.uk**), for free resources that can be used as classroom aids and as revision tools.
5. Contact our subject specialists for subject specific queries, practical advice and guidance.
6. Your Exams Officer will need to register your centre, if your centre is not already registered with us.
7. Once registered, your Exams Officer will be able to provide you with access to our Secure Website (**www.wjecservices.co.uk**), which hosts a wealth of resources that are not available elsewhere.

WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

If you have a question, simply contact our Biology team who will offer friendly advice and guidance:

Liane Adams
Subject Officer - Biology
science@eduqas.co.uk
029 2026 4252

A LEVEL BIOLOGY WITH EDUQAS

WHY CHOOSE US?

- Three themed components enabling focussed revision
- Three option topics within component 3 to give breadth and appeal to a range of candidates
- Core concepts topic establishing a good foundation of cellular and biochemical knowledge
- Strong emphasis on practical work
- Detailed methods and support for each of the specified practicals including a free Lab book to download
- Excellent support for the assessment of the Practical Endorsement aspect of the qualification
- Direct access to our subject specialist for support and guidance when delivering this qualification
- Comprehensive Teacher handbook
- Access to a wide range of free digital resources, including resources to support each of the three optional topics

SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Energy For Life (100 marks)	
Written examination: **2 hours**	**33 1/3% of qualification**
A range of short and longer structured compulsory questions. Assessment of core concepts will also be included.	

Component 2: Continuity of Life (100 marks)	
Written examination: **2 hours**	**33 1/3% of qualification**
A range of short and longer structured compulsory questions. Assessment of core concepts will also be included.	

Component 3: Requirements for Life (100 marks)	
Written examination: **2 hours**	**33 1/3% of qualification**
Section A: 80 marks. A range of short and longer structured compulsory questions based on the compulsory content of the component. Assessment of core concepts will also be included. **Section B:** 20 marks. Short and longer structured questions from a choice of 1 out of 3 options: Immunology and Disease, Human Musculoskeletal Anatomy or Neurobioogy and Behaviour **PRACTICAL ENDORSEMENT** Assessment of practical competency Reported separately and not contributing to final grade	

HELPING YOU MAKE THE SWITCH - COMPARING SPECIFICATIONS

SWITCHING FROM AQA

Eduqas Biology A level	AQA Biology A level
Core concepts assessed in all three components • Chemical elements are joined together to form biological compounds • Cell structure and organisation • Cell membranes and transport • Biological reactions are regulated by enzymes • Nucleic acids and their functions	
Component 1: Energy for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 1** **35% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(91 marks)**
• Importance of ATP • Photosynthesis • Respiration • Microbiology • Population size and ecosystems • Human impact on the environment Short and longer structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory 91 marks) extended response question (9 marks)	• Biological molecules • Cells • Organisms exchange substances with their environment • Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms Short and long structured questions including problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (76 marks), extended response questions (15 marks)

SWITCHING FROM AQA

Eduqas Biology A level	AQA Biology A level
Component 2: Continuity of Life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 2** **35% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(91 marks)**
• All organisms are related through their evolutionary history • Genetic material is copied and passed onto daughter cells • Sexual reproduction in humans • Sexual reproduction in plants • Inheritance • Variation and evolution • Application of reproduction and genetics Short and longer structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (91 marks) extended response question (9 marks)	• Energy transfers in and between organisms • Organisms respond to changes in to the internal and external environments • Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems • The control of gene expression Short and long structured questions including problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (76 marks), extended response questions (15 marks)
Component 3: Requirements for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 3** **30% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(78 marks)**
• Adaptations for gas exchange • Adaptations for transport • Adaptations for nutrition • Homeostasis and the kidney • The nervous system **Choice of one option from three:** • Immunology and disease • Human musculoskeletal anatomy • Neurobiology and behaviour Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory **Section A** Short and longer structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (71 marks) extended response question (9 marks) **Section B** 20 marks in each of the three options.	• Contents of all eight modules Short structured questions including practical techniques (38 marks), critical analysis of given experimental data (15 marks), One essay from a choice of two titles (25 marks)

SWITCHING FROM OCR BIOLOGY A

Eduqas Biology A level	OCR Biology A level
Core concepts assessed in all three components • Chemical elements are joined together to form biological compounds • Cell structure and organisation • Cell membranes and transport • Biological reactions are regulated by enzymes • Nucleic acids and their functions	Practical skills and Foundations in Biology assessed in all three papers • Cell structure • Biological molecules • Nucleotides and nucleic acids • Enzymes • Biological membranes • Cell division, diversity and organisation
Component 1: Energy for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 1: Biological processes** **37% of A level Written paper 2 hours 15 minutes** **(100 marks)**
• Importance of ATP • Photosynthesis • Respiration • Microbiology • Population size and ecosystems • Human impact on the environment short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	• Exchange surfaces • Transport in animals • Transport in plants • Communication and homeostasis • Excretion • Neuronal communication • Hormonal communication • Plant and animal reponses • Photosynthesis • Respiration **Section A** multiple choice (15 marks) **Section B** short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (85 marks)

SWITCHING FROM OCR BIOLOGY A

Eduqas Biology A level	AQA Biology A level
Component 2: Continuity of Life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 2: Biological diversity** **37% of A level Written paper 2 hours 15 minutes** **(100 marks)**
• All organisms are related through their evolutionary history • Genetic material is copied and passed onto daughter cells • Sexual reproduction in humans • Sexual reproduction in plants • Inheritance • Variation and evolution • Application of reproduction and genetics Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	• Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system • Biodiversity • Classification and evolution • Cellular control • Patterns of inheritance • Manipulation genomes • Cloning and biotechnology • Ecosystems • Populations and sustainability **Section A** multiple choice (15 marks) **Section B** short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (85 marks)
Component 3: Requirements for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 3: Unified biology** **26% of A level Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes** **(70 marks)**
• Adaptations for gas exchange • Adaptations for transport • Adaptations for nutrition • Homeostasis and the kidney • The nervous system Choice of **one** option from three: • Immunology and disease • Human musculoskeletal anatomy • Neurobiology and behaviour Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory **Section A** 80 marks **Section B** 20 marks in each of the three options	• Contents of all six modules Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (85 marks)

SWITCHING FROM OCR BIOLOGY B (ADVANCING BIOLOGY)

Eduqas Biology A level	OCR Biology B (Advancing biology)
Core concepts assessed in all three components • Chemical elements are joined together to form biological compounds • Cell structure and organisation • Cell membranes and transport • Biological reactions are regulated by enzymes • Nucleic acids and their functions	All topics assessed in all three papers
Component 1: Energy for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 1: Fundamentals of Biology** **41% of A level Written paper 2 hours 15 minutes** **(100 marks)**
• Importance of ATP • Photosynthesis • Respiration • Microbiology • Population size and ecosystems • Human impact on the environment short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	All topics assessed in all three papers **Section A** multiple choice (30 marks) **Section B** short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory (80 marks)
Component 2: Continuity of Life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 2: Scientific literacy in biology** **37% of A level Written paper 2 hours 15 minutes** **(100 marks)**
• All organisms are related through their evolutionary history • Genetic material is copied and passed onto daughter cells • Sexual reproduction in humans • Sexual reproduction in plants • Inheritance • Variation and evolution • Application of reproduction and genetics Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	All topics assessed in all three papers Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory. A section of the paper (20-25 marks) will include questions based on a pre-release article.

SWITCHING FROM OCR BIOLOGY B (ADVANCING BIOLOGY)

Eduqas Biology A level	OCR Biology B (Advancing biology)
Component 3: Requirements for life **22% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 3: Practical skills in biology** **22% of A level Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes** **(60 marks)**
• Adaptations for gas exchange • Adaptations for transport • Adaptations for nutrition • Homeostasis and the kidney • The nervous system Choice of **one** option from three: • Immunology and disease • Human musculoskeletal anatomy • Neurobiology and behaviour Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory **Section A** 80 marks **Section B** 20 marks in each of the three options	All topics assessed in all three papers Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory

SWITCHING FROM PEARSON BIOLOGY A (SALTERS NUFFIELD)

Eduqas Biology A level	PEARSON Biology A (SALTERS NUFFIELD)
Core concepts assessed in all three components • Chemical elements are joined together to form biological compounds • Cell structure and organisation • Cell membranes and transport • Biological reactions are regulated by enzymes • Nucleic acids and their functions	The following topics are assessed in all three papers: • Lifestyle, health and risk • Genes and health • Voice of the genome • Biodiversity and natural resources
Component 1: Energy for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 1: The Natural environment and species survival** **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**
• Importance of ATP • Photosynthesis • Respiration • Microbiology • Population size and ecosystems • Human impact on the environment short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	In addition to the topics listed above, the following topics are assessed • On the wild side • Immunity, infection and forensics Multiple choice, short and long answer questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory
Component 2: Continuity of Life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 2: Energy, exercise and co-ordination** **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**
• All organisms are related through their evolutionary history • Genetic material is copied and passed onto daughter cells • Sexual reproduction in humans • Sexual reproduction in plants • Inheritance • Variation and evolution • Application of reproduction and genetics Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	In addition to the topics listed above, the following topics are assessed • Run for your life • Grey matter Multiple choice, short and long answer questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory

SWITCHING FROM PEARSON BIOLOGY A (SALTERS NUFFIELD)

Eduqas Biology A level	PEARSON Biology A (SALTERS NUFFIELD)
Component 3: Requirements for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 3: General and practical applications in Biology** **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**
• Adaptations for gas exchange • Adaptations for transport • Adaptations for nutrition • Homeostasis and the kidney • The nervous system Choice of **one** option from three: • Immunology and disease • Human musculoskeletal anatomy • Neurobiology and behaviour Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory **Section A** 80 marks **Section B** 20 marks in each of the three options	• Contents of all eight modules Multiple choice, short and long answer questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory. A section of the paper will include questions based on a pre-release article.

SWITCHING FROM PEARSON BIOLOGY B

Eduqas Biology A level	PEARSON Biology B
Core concepts assessed in all three components • Chemical elements are joined together to form biological compounds • Cell structure and organisation • Cell membranes and transport • Biological reactions are regulated by enzymes • Nucleic acids and their functions	The following topics are assessed in all three papers: • Biological molecules • Cells, viruses and reproduction of living things • Classification and biodiversity • Exchange and transport
Component 1: Energy for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 1: Advances Biochemistry, Microbiology and Genetics** **30 % of A level Written paper 1 hour 45 minutes** **(90 marks)**
• Importance of ATP • Photosynthesis • Respiration • Microbiology • Population size and ecosystems • Human impact on the environment short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	In addition to the topics listed above, the following topics are assessed • Energy for biological processes • Microbiology and pathogens • Modern genetics Multiple choice, short and long answer questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory
Component 2: Continuity of Life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 2: Advanced physiology, evolution and ecology** **30 % of A level Written paper 1 hour 45 minutes** **(90 marks)**
• All organisms are related through their evolutionary history • Genetic material is copied and passed onto daughter cells • Sexual reproduction in humans • Sexual reproduction in plants • Inheritance • Variation and evolution • Application of reproduction and genetics Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory	In addition to the topics listed above, the following topics are assessed • Origins of Genetic variation • Control systems • Ecosystems Multiple choice, short and long answer questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory

SWITCHING FROM PEARSON BIOLOGY B

Eduqas Biology A level	PEARSON Biology B
Component 3: Requirements for life **33 1/3% of A level Written paper 2 hours** **(100 marks)**	**Paper 3: General and practical principles in biology** **40% of A level Written paper 2 hours 30 minutes** **(120 marks)**
• Adaptations for gas exchange • Adaptations for transport • Adaptations for nutrition • Homeostasis and the kidney • The nervous system Choice of **one** option from three: • Immunology and disease • Human musculoskeletal anatomy • Neurobiology and behaviour Short structured questions, extended questions problem solving, calculations, practical and theory **Section A** 80 marks **Section B** 20 marks in each of the three options	• Contents of all ten modules Multiple choice, short and long answer questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory. Half of the paper will focus on testing students' knowledge and understanding of practical skills and techniques.

THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

FREE TAILORED BIOLOGY DIGITAL RESOURCES

We've created a wealth of free digital resources to support our qualifications. They have been developed to enhance learning, stimulate classroom discussion, and encourage student engagement. Access our resources today at **resources.eduqas.co.uk**

REGIONAL SUPPORT

Our Regional Support Team are also on hand to offer free support in the delivery of our qualifications. They can also give you face-to-face advice on our range of qualifications, online resources, CPD and curriculum developments. To book a visit or to find out more, please visit **www.eduqas.co.uk/RegionalSupportTeam**

Catherine Oldham
Region: North
catherine.oldham@eduqas.co.uk

Jonathan Harrington
Region: South East
jonathan.harrington@eduqas.co.uk

Dave Evans
Region: North West
david.evans@eduqas.co.uk

Ant Fleming
Region: East Anglia and Kent
anthony.fleming@eduqas.co.uk

David Jones
Region: South West, Midlands
davidr.jones@eduqas.co.uk

TEACHERS WHO HAVE MADE THE SWITCH

"As a Biology Department having switched to WJEC Eduqas back in 2009 from a familiar large exam board, we've never looked back. Top of the list of Eduqas' many qualities is communication. On phoning, you can immediately speak directly with the Subject Officer and get a clear, straightforward answer to your question. Consequently, over time, we feel the school has developed a really strong working relationship with the board. The question papers are well written and thought out, there are plenty of training materials online, including a searchable Question Bank and the feedback in the examiner's reports is always comprehensive and constructive. Eduqas definitely allows our students reach their exam potential. We wouldn't ever consider switching to a different exam board."

DAVID COOKE,
HEAD OF BIOLOGY

CASTLE SCHOOL, BRISTOL

Eduqas
245 Western Avenue
Cardiff CF5 2YX
029 2026 5465
info@eduqas.co.uk

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