



# Entry Level Interim Examiners' Report



Science  
Entry Level  
Summer 2024

## **Introduction**

This report provides a summary of candidates' performance, including the assessment objectives/skills/topics/themes being tested, and highlights the characteristics of successful performance and where performance could be improved within the qualification as a whole. A final report providing detailed commentary on candidate performance in each unit will be provided by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

## **Executive Summary**

There was an increase in the number of candidates for the Entry Level Certificate in Science during this series, including a slight increase in the number of candidates entering through the medium of Welsh.

In all units, where candidates were present for the assessment, there was a high attempt rate for questions. In units 2 and 3, the main cause of loss of marks was the absence of whole parts of the unit. Centres are reminded that there is a 2-year window to carry out these assessments and appropriate catch-up sessions should be provided for absent candidates.

Quality of written communication continued to be a problem for some candidates. Some responses were very unclear or contradictory, with candidates unable to express their ideas. Maths skills were generally well done, with candidates able to extract and process data from tables or graphs.

Graph plotting was done well in units 1 and 2, where axes and scales tend to be given to the candidates. However, in unit 3, where the y-axis scale was not given, candidates struggled with selecting an appropriate scale, and frequently did not include a number at the origin.

Recall of knowledge was a problem for candidates at entry 1 and entry 2 levels – this has been an issue for a number of years. However, candidates managed better with recall if a choice of answers was given.

In unit 3, the risk assessments proved challenging for some candidates. Control measures should be appropriate to the risk/hazard and should not be general in nature e.g. wearing safety goggles where there was no danger of harm to the eyes.

Areas for improvement	Classroom resources	Brief description of resource
Knowledge of the particle model	Entry Level Science booklet 1: Modern living and energy. Section 1 Entry concepts and use. <a href="http://wjec.co.uk">Book-1 Section 1 Energy concepts and use.pdf (wjec.co.uk)</a>	Course booklet produced by WJEC covering Topic 1 in the specification.
Understanding the pH scale	Entry Level Science booklet 2: Obtaining resources. Section 3 Producing useful compounds in the laboratory. <a href="http://wjec.co.uk">Book-2 Section 3 compounds in the laboratory.pdf (wjec.co.uk)</a>	Course booklet produced by WJEC covering Topic 2 in the specification.
Recall of the structure of the heart	Entry Level Science booklet 4: Health, Fitness and Sport. Section 3 Exercise and Fitness in Humans. <a href="http://wjec.co.uk">Book-4 Section 3 Exercise and fitness in humans.pdf (wjec.co.uk)</a>	Course booklet produced by WJEC covering Topic 4 in the specification.
Large-scale structure of the Earth	Entry Level Science booklet 2: obtaining resources. Section 2 Our planet. <a href="http://wjec.co.uk">Book-2 Section 2 our planet.pdf (wjec.co.uk)</a>	Course booklet produced by WJEC covering Topic 2 in the specification.

## Further support

Document	Description	Link
Professional Learning / CPD	WJEC offers an extensive programme of online and face-to-face Professional Learning events. Access interactive feedback, review example candidate responses, gain practical ideas for the classroom and put questions to our dedicated team by registering for one of our events here.	<a href="https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/professional-learning/">https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/professional-learning/</a>
Past papers	Access the bank of past papers for this qualification, including the most recent assessments. Please note that we do not make past papers available on the public website until 12 months after the examination.	<a href="#">Portal by WJEC</a> or on the WJEC subject page
Grade boundary information	<p>Grade boundaries are the minimum number of marks needed to achieve each grade.</p> <p>For unitised specifications grade boundaries are expressed on a Uniform Mark Scale (UMS). UMS grade boundaries remain the same every year as the range of UMS mark percentages allocated to a particular grade does not change. UMS grade boundaries are published at overall subject and unit level.</p> <p>For linear specifications, a single grade is awarded for the subject, rather than for each unit that contributes towards the overall grade. Grade boundaries are published on results day.</p>	For unitised specifications click here: <a href="#">Results, Grade Boundaries and PRS (wjec.co.uk)</a>
Exam Results Analysis	WJEC provides information to examination centres via the WJEC Portal. This is restricted to centre staff only. Access is granted to centre staff by the Examinations Officer at the centre.	<a href="#">Portal by WJEC</a>
Classroom Resources	Access our extensive range of FREE classroom resources, including blended learning materials, exam walk-throughs and knowledge organisers to support teaching and learning.	<a href="https://resources.wjec.co.uk/">https://resources.wjec.co.uk/</a>

Bank of Professional Learning materials	Access our bank of Professional Learning materials from previous events from our secure website and additional pre-recorded materials available in the public domain.	<a href="#">Portal by WJEC</a> or on the WJEC subject page.
Become an examiner with WJEC.	We are always looking to recruit new examiners or moderators. These opportunities can provide you with valuable insight into the assessment process, enhance your skill set, increase your understanding of your subject and inform your teaching.	<a href="#">Become an Examiner   WJEC</a>

## **Supporting you**

### **Useful contacts and links**

Our friendly subject team is on hand to support you between 8.30am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Tel: 029 2240 4252

Email: [science@wjec.co.uk](mailto:science@wjec.co.uk)

Qualification webpage: [Entry Level Certificate in Science \(wjec.co.uk\)](https://www.wjec.co.uk/entry-level-certificate-in-science)

See other useful contacts here: [Useful Contacts | WJEC](#)

### **CPD Training / Professional Learning**

Access our popular, free online CPD/PL courses to receive exam feedback and put questions to our subject team, and attend one of our face-to-face events, focused on enhancing teaching and learning, providing practical classroom ideas and developing understanding of marking and assessment.

Please find details for all our courses here: <https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/professional-learning/>

### **WJEC Qualifications**

As Wales' largest awarding body, WJEC supports its education community by providing trusted bilingual qualifications, specialist support, and reliable assessment to schools and colleges across the country. This allows our learners to reach their full potential.

With more than 70 years' experience, we are also amongst the leading providers in both England and Northern Ireland.



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