

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2021

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level In Biology (WB13) Paper 01 Practical Skills in Biology I

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1a	An answer that includes five of the following points.		
	 description of {bacteria grown (on nutrient agar) / bacterial lawn} / bacterial broth (1) 	Accept microbe	
	 filter paper discs soaked in plant extract (placed on agar) / plant extract placed in well (cut in agar) / plant extract added to broth (1) 		
	control variable described (1)	e.g. disc size / extract volume / temperature	
	one safety aspect described (1)	e.g. flaming / dish lid / use autoclave / safe temperature quoted (<32 C)	
	incubate for suitable time (1)	Accept 24 hours to 1 week	
	 clear zone around {disc / well} {measured / scored / turbidity measured (1) 	Accept cloudiness	(5)

Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
A chart with the following features.		
Y-axis correctly completed (1)	correct linear scale and title	
 X-axis correctly completed (1) 	bacteria names	
 key correctly completed (1) 	A,B,C,D and title	
	score for each species of plant	
	2.5 plant species	
	20	
	0.5	
	Bacillus subti lis Proteus vulgaris Staphylococcus a ureus	(3)
	A chart with the following features. • Y-axis correctly completed (1) • X-axis correctly completed (1) • key correctly completed	A chart with the following features. • Y-axis correctly completed (1) • X-axis correctly completed (1) • key correctly completed (1) • key correctly completed (1) • land title

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1(b)(ii)	 An answer that includes the following points: plant C has the lowest (antimicrobial) effect / affects only one bacterial species (1) 		
	 plant B has the highest (antimicrobial) effect (1) {B / D} affect all 3 species (1) 		
	 data manipulated to support one of the first two marking points (1) 	e.g. B has a total score of 8 / C has a total score of 2	
			(4)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(a)(i)	An answer that includes the following three points.		
	the water content is reduced (1)	Accept seeds dried	
	• the seeds are x-rayed (1)		
	the seeds are kept at {low temperature / dry} (1)	Accept low oxygen environment	
			(3)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(a)(ii)	An answer that includes the following points.		
	 the {number of different / variety of} species (of living organisms) in an area / stated area (1) 	Accept species richness of an area	
	the genetic differences within species of living organisms (1)	Accept genetic variety	(2)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(i)	A description that includes 4 of the following points:		
	fixing root tip described (1)	e.g. heating with conc. HCl	
	• stain used (1)		
	description of maceration / squashing (1)		
	view through high power microscope (1)	Accept magnification quoted >/= 100x	
	 count of number of dividing cells and divide by total number of cells (1) 		(4)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(ii)	An answer that includes the following points.		
	• read MI from graph (1)	e.g. 5(%)	
	 rearrange equation MI = no. of cells in mitosis ÷ total number of cells to calculate total number of cells (1) 	total number of cells = no. of cells in mitosis ÷ MI	
	substitute values in this equation and correct answer (1)	total no. of cells = 14 ÷ 0.05 = 280 / T = 1400 ÷ 5 = 280	
		correct answer with no working gains 3 accept T = 14 / 5 for 2	(3)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(iii)	A table drawn showing:		
	• suitable table (drawn) (1)	2 columns and 6 rows or vice versa	
	 headings root length with units, mitotic index with units (1) 	units in cells negates this mark	
	data correctly entered (1)	Root Length Mitotic Index (%)	
		5(.0) 0.0	
		6(.0) 0.4 8(.0) 0.8	
		10(.0) 1.4 12(.0) 1.8	(3)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(iv)	A description which includes the following points:		
	the longer the treatment the more the mitotic index is reduced / 14 days more than 4 days (1)		
	 {optimum / maximum} mitosis occurs in longer roots with greater aging (1) 	Accept mitosis starts later in more aged roots	
			(3)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(v)	A description which includes the following points:		
	experiment repeated (1)		
	under the same conditions / described (1)		(2)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3a	number of grains germinated (1)	Accept percentage germination (of pollen grains)	(1)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3b	An explanation that includes the following points:		
	 because it might affect {(pollen grain) germination / enzymes (involved in germination)} (1) 		
	 it is (thought to be) the optimum for {(pollen grain) germination / enzymes (involved in pollen germination)} (1) 		(2)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3ci	A graph with the following features:		
	A axes correctly orientated (1)	66 64 62	
	• L1 axes correctly labelled (1)	Solida germination (%) 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10	
	 L2 axes with correct units (1) 	54 52 50	
	 P correct plotting on a suitable linear scale for both axes (1) 	0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 Boric acid concentration / mg dm ⁻³	
	 R points joined with ruled straight lines (1) 	max 4 for bar chart as loses mp R	
			(5)

Questi on Numb er	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3cii	 A description that includes the following points: (all concentrations of) boric acid enhance germination (1) germination is higher in 100 mg dm⁻³ than all other concentrations / germination shows optimum value at 100 mg dm⁻³ (1) 	Accept optimum between 0 and 200 Allow consequential error	(2)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3di	A calculation that includes:	Accept values from 211 to 214 for 0 at 2 hrs	
	calculation of increase in rate	e.g. rate at 0 is 212 ÷ 2 = 106 difference = {130.5 - 106 / 24.5}	
	calculation of percentage increase in rate (1)	(24.5 ÷ 106) × 100 = 23 (%) ignore decimal places	
		130.5 - 106 ÷ 130.5 = 18.8 gets 1	
		alternatives	
		1. rate at 0 is 211 ÷ 2 = 105.5 = {130.5 - 105.5 / 25}	
		(25 ÷ 105.5) × 100 = 23 (%) ignore decimal places	
		2. rate at 0 is 213 ÷ 2 = 106.5 = {130.5 - 106.5 / 24}	
		(24 ÷ 106.5) × 100 = 22 (%) ignore decimal places	
		3. rate at 0 is 214 ÷ 2 = 107 = {130.5 - 107 / 23.5}	
		(23.5 ÷ 107) × 100 = 22 (%) ignore decimal places	
		130.5 - 106 ÷ 130.5 = 18.8 gets 1	
		130.5 - 105.5 ÷ 130.5 = 19.2 gets 1	
		130.5 - 106.5 ÷ 130.5 = 18.3 gets 1	
		130.5 - 107 ÷ 130.5 = 18 gets 1	
		Correct answer with no working gains 2 marks (2)	(2)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3dii	 An answer that includes five of the following points: make (100, 200, 300 mg dm⁻³) boric acid solutions from 500 mg dm⁻³ solution by dilution (1) 	Ignore serial	
	 control variable identified (1) 	e.g. pH, sucrose concentration, temperature, light	
	view through high power of microscope (1)	Accept magnification quoted >/= 100x	
	 suitable method for measuring pollen tube length described (1) 	e.g. stage micrometer and graticule	
	record results every hour for 4 hours (1)		(4)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(e)	An answer that includes the following:		
	• {both / germination and growth} show optimum at 100 mg dm ⁻³ (1)		
	 for growth boric acid concentrations above 100 mg dm⁻³ are inhibitory whereas for germination all concentrations above 100 mg dm⁻³ are stimulatory (1) 		(2)