

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2021

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level In Biology (WBI16) Paper 01

Practical Skills in Biology II

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1(a)	A description that includes the following points: • dependent variable is the number	Accept dependent variable is	
	(of eggs) hatched per unit time (1)	number (of eggs) hatched per stated time	
	 use of five different concentrations of calcium ions (1) 	Accept use of zero calcium ions as one of the concentrations Ignore units if given	
	 counting brine shrimps {hatched / swimming} at {same / stated} time intervals (1) 	If single count: minimum time one hour, maximum time 3 days	
	suitable control of one variable (1)	eg. temperature / stated temp (up to 45°C) - thermostatically controlled waterbath pH - buffer light intensity – distance of bulb / wattage of bulb salinity - % or gml ⁻¹	
	 repeats (for each treatment) and calculate a mean (1) 		(5) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1(b)(i)	An answer that includes two of the following		
	points:		
	• pH (1)		(2)

	ехр
temperature (1)	
• salinity (1)	
light intensity (1)	

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1(b)(ii)	 An answer that includes the following points: variable with suitable control method described (1) 		
	 results are not valid / description of expected effect on the dependent variable (1) 	Description should be directional	(2) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1(c)	An explanation that includes three of the following points:		
	 calcium ions allow substrate to bind to the active site of enzyme (1) activation energy lowered (at active site) 	Accept calcium ions increase binding of substrate to active site Accept calcium ions allow formation of enzyme- substrate complex	
	(1)	complex	
	an increased rate of respiration (1)		
	 faster {anabolic / synthesis} reactions (leading to earlier hatching) (1) 	Accept description of anabolic / synthesis	
		reactions	(3) exp

(Total for question 1 = 12 marks)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(a)	 there will be no difference between the biomass of Almo and Kanlow (switchgrass) 	Accept no difference in biomass between the two varieties of switchgrass	(1) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(i)	the organic matter of living organisms in a given area	Accept biological material for organic matter Accept organic matter per area per unit time eg per hectare per year	(1) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(b)(ii)	• correct calculation of energy content (1)	162 450 MJ	
	 answer expressed to two significant figures in standard form (1) 	1.6 × 10 ⁵ MJ	
		ALLOW consequential error for MP2	
		Correct answer with no working gets 2 marks	(2) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional	Guidance		Mark
2(b)(iii)	 suitable table format, with data, correct column headings and units (1) 	Do not acce the table. eg.	ept units in 1	the body of	
			ss (of switc	are	
	 medians correctly identified 	year	Almo	Kanlow	
	as 14.0 and 15.2 (1)	1	20.1	15.5	
		2	19.2	22.2	
		3	14.2	14.4	
		4	11.4	11.4	
		5	11.8	12.6	(2)
		6	13.6	15.2	ехр
		7	14.0	16.5	

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark	
2(c)	 bar graph with linear scale, correct axis labels with units (1) 	Scale must start at zero		
	• medians plotted correctly (1)	Allow ECF from 2biii		
	• range bars plotted correctly (1)		(3) exp	

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(d)(i)	 correct substitution of given R values in the equation (1) correct value of U₂ (1) 	19.5	
		Correct answer with no working gets 2 marks	(2) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(d)(ii)	An answer that includes three of the following points:		
	 the calculated value of U (19.5) is more than the critical value which is 8 (at p = 0.05) (1) 	Allow ECF from (d)(i) Accept critical value circled in table	
	therefore accept the null hypothesis		
	 there is no difference between the yield of Almo and Kanlow varieties of switchgrass (1) 	eg range bars overlap	
	• comment on variability of data (1)		(3) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(e)	An answer that includes three of the following points:		
	 only one field was used so it may not be a representative sample (for biomass from these varieties) (1) 	Do not accept small sample size	
	the plots for each variety may not have been randomly selected (1)	Accept eg. all of the Almo plots may have been on one side of the field and all of the Kanlow plots on the other	
	 one named environmental condition may not be the same for each variety (1) 	eg. shading, soil type, soil moisture, mineral content, slope of field	
	 comment on the range of data over the seven-year period (1) 	eg. number of growing days / weather conditions might not be the same each year	(3) exp

(Total for question 2 = 17 marks)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(a)	A description that includes the following points:	Ignore stated methods – credit is for finding out	
	 find a suitable method for touching the external gills (1) 		
	find suitable conditions that allow the sea slugs to be active (1)	Accept eg. temperature, light intensity	
	 find a suitable method to decide when the gills have re-emerged 		
	(1)		Exp (3)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(b)	An answer that includes ten of the following points:		
	clear statement of the dependent variable e.g. (time for) re-emergence of gills (1)		
	description of method to provide different number of touches (1)	Accept description of frequency of touches eg every 5 minutes	
	description of method for ensuring same intensity of each touch stimulation (1)	eg glass rod of same diameter same person using same glass rod to touch with the same force	
	description of method for determining complete re- emergence of gills (1)	eg measure / sketch gills at start and refer to this clear statement required	
	 the method of touching the gills must not cause pain / damage (1) 		
	 the animals are given time to acclimatise {before stimulation begins / between touches} (1) 	eg water temperature, pH, salinity, depth of water, light	
• va	variables that need to be taken into account (2)	intensity, substrate eg source / age / sex / species of Aplysia	
	description of how these variables are controlled (2)	Accept repeat with the same animal (after suitable	(10)
	repeat whole experiment with different animals (1)	interval)	ехр

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(c)	• table with headings and units (1)	Headings: time for re-emergence (accept minutes or seconds) and number of touches	
	 means calculated from repeats (1) 	Accept description of table Accept statement or column in table Accept medians in place of mean	
	 line graph format with labelled axes (1) 	Accept description of graph	
	• use of an appropriate correlation statistical test (1)	Accept named test eg Spearman Rank	(4) exp

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(d)	 difficult to standardise the touch affecting the withdrawal reflex (1) 	eg. pressure / force	
	 possible errors in determining full re-emergence (1) 		
	 difficult to control {age of animal / surface area of gills} (1) 	accept sex of Aplysia	
	 difficult to control other possible stimuli which may cause reflex (1) 	eg. sound, shadows, vibrations, water currents	(4) exp