

Switching to OCR A from Pearson (Edexcel) A

The content within the [OCR Biology A specification](#) covers the 'Big Ideas' of biology and will be very familiar. We've laid it out in a logical progression to support co-teaching the AS level and teaching the A level in a linear way.

OCR Biology A	Pearson (Edexcel) A
<p>Module 1: Practical skills</p> <p>Planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation</p> <p>Plus all the skills to be covered in the Practical Endorsement</p>	<p>The same practical skills, as mandated by the DfE, are listed in appendix 5 of the Edexcel A specification</p>
<p>Module 2: Foundations in Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell structure • Biological molecules • Nucleotides and nucleic acids • Enzymes • Biological membranes • Cell division, diversity and organisation 	<p>1. Lifestyle, Health and Risk: lipids and saccharides</p> <p>2. Genes and Health: membranes, proteins, nucleic acids, genes</p> <p>3. Voice of the genome: cell structure, mitosis, meiosis, genes</p> <p>4. Biodiversity and Natural Resources: plant cells</p>
<p>Module 3: Exchange and Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange surfaces • Transport in animals • Transport in plants 	<p>1. Lifestyle, Health and Risk: cardiovascular</p> <p>2. Genes and Health: gas exchange</p> <p>4. Biodiversity and Natural Resources: vascular tissue in plants</p>
<p>Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicable diseases, disease prevention and the immune system • Biodiversity • Classification and evolution 	<p>4. Biodiversity and Natural Resources: biodiversity, classification</p> <p>5. On the Wild Side: evolution</p> <p>6. Immunity, Infection and Forensics</p>



OCR Biology A	Pearson (Edexcel) A
<p>Module 5: Communication, homeostasis and energy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and homeostasis • Excretion • Neuronal communication • Hormonal communication • Plant and animal responses • Photosynthesis • Respiration 	<p>5. On the Wild Side: photosynthesis</p> <p>7. Run for your Life: respiration, muscles, homeostasis</p> <p>8. Grey matter: animal and plant responses</p>
<p>Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cellular control • Patterns of inheritance • Manipulating genomes • Cloning and biotechnology • Ecosystems • Populations and sustainability 	<p>3. Voice of the genome: genetic control</p> <p>4. Biodiversity and Natural Resources: genetics</p> <p>5. On the Wild Side: ecosystems</p> <p>8. Grey matter: genetic engineering</p>
<p>Appendix 5d: Mathematical requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arithmetic and numerical computation • Handling data • Algebra • Graphs • Geometry and trigonometry 	<p>Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arithmetic and numerical computation • Handling data • Algebra • Graphs • Geometry and trigonometry



Assessment

OCR Biology A	Pearson (Edexcel) A
<p>AS Paper 1: Breadth in Biology, Modules 1-4 50% of AS Written paper 1hr 30 minutes 70 marks</p> <p>Section A multiple choice questions, 20 marks. Section B short structured questions, covering problem solving, calculations, practical and theory, 50 marks.</p>	<p>AS Paper 1: Topics 1-4 & practical skills 50% of AS Written paper 1hr 30 minutes 75 marks</p> <p>65 marks short answer questions, 10 marks comprehension.</p>
<p>AS Paper 2: Depth in Biology, Modules 1-4 50% of AS Written paper 1hr 30 minutes 70 marks</p> <p>Short structured questions and extended response questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory.</p>	<p>AS Paper 2: Topics 1-4 & practical skills 50% of AS Written paper 1 hr 30 minutes 75 marks</p> <p>65 marks short answer questions, 10 marks extended response.</p>
<p>A Level Paper 1: Biological processes, Modules 1, 2, 3 & 5 37% of A level Written paper 2 hours 15 minutes 100 marks</p> <p>Section A multiple choice questions, 15 marks. Section B short structured questions, and extended response questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory 85 marks.</p>	<p>A Level Paper 1: Topics 1-4 & practical skills 35% of A level Written paper 2 hours 91 marks</p> <p>76 marks short and long answer questions, 15 marks extended answers.</p>
<p>A Level Paper 2: Biological diversity, Modules 1, 2, 4 & 6 37% of A level Written paper 2 hours 15 minutes 100 marks</p> <p>Section A multiple choice questions, 15 marks. Section B short structured questions and extended response questions, problem solving,</p>	<p>A Level Paper 2: Topics 5-8 & practical skills 35% of A level Written paper 2 hours 91 marks</p> <p>76 marks short and long answer questions, 15 marks extended answers.</p>



OCR Biology A	Pearson (Edexcel) A
calculations, practical and theory 85 marks.	
<p>A Level Paper 3: Unified Biology, Modules 1-6</p> <p>26% of A level</p> <p>Written paper 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>70 marks</p> <p>Short structured questions and extended response questions, problem solving, calculations, practical and theory.</p>	<p>A Level Paper 3: Topics 1-8 & practical skills</p> <p>30% of A level</p> <p>Written paper 2 hours</p> <p>78 marks</p> <p>38 marks structured questions.</p> <p>15 marks analysis of experimental data</p> <p>25 marks essay question.</p>

