

## Guidance on the use of past paper questions for National 5 Biology

The new Courses at National 5 draw on the strengths of popular areas of study from Standard Grade and Intermediate 2 with the introduction of some new content. The purpose of this support document is to help centres and departments to identify suitable past paper questions/items that could be used, or possibly amended, to support learners in their preparation for sitting question papers (exams) as part of the National 5 Course assessment. The advice in this document reflects questions selected from 2011 to 2013 [past papers](#). (If you click on the highlighted links in the columns below, this will take you to the relevant past paper.)

When utilising any past paper questions, you need to take into account the following:

- ◆ You must select questions that provide the learners with the same level of challenge as those in the National 5 Specimen Question Paper.
- ◆ You may be able to use questions as published or with amendments as suggested in the columns below for Standard Grade and Intermediate 2.
- ◆ You must use questions that adhere to the National 5 General Marking Principles and reflect the form of detailed Marking Instructions as published in the National 5 Specimen Question Paper.

If any change to a Standard Grade/Intermediate 2 question is necessary, you must ensure that:

- ◆ The style and structure matches the Specimen Question Paper for National 5.
- ◆ Marking of the learner's response to the question adheres to the General Marking Principles in the National 5 Specimen Question Paper
- ◆ Marking Instructions are amended to reflect the style of the National 5 detailed Marking Instructions.

The details below for National 5 should be read in conjunction with the relevant:

Mandatory documentation:

- ◆ Course Specification
- ◆ Unit Specifications
- ◆ Course Assessment Specification

Advice and guidance:

- ◆ Course and Unit Support Notes

Assessment:

- ◆ Question Paper Component:
  - general assessment information
  - general marking principles and detailed marking instructions

Related Information as provided in the relevant N3-N5 Course Comparison Document.

**Key for the section below:**

- C — amend context as required
- S — amend source as required
- St — amend question style
- Str — amend structure of the question

Not all topic/areas of study will appear every year due to the sampling techniques used in producing question papers.

<b>Information from the Course Assessment Specification</b>  Each Section of the Question paper will be made up of restricted/extended response questions. Questions will <b>sample</b> the knowledge and understanding and apply skills described in the <b>Further mandatory information on Course coverage section.</b>	<b>The columns below identify additional support questions from Standard Grade and Intermediate 2 Past Papers 2011 to 2013.</b>		
	<b>Standard Grade Credit</b>	<b>Intermediate 2</b>	
	Use question as published	Use question as published	Amend question context/source
<b>Cell Biology</b>			
Cell structure		<a href="#">2011 B Q1(a) i &amp; ii &amp; (c)</a>  <a href="#">2012 A Q1</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q2</a>  <a href="#">2013 B Q1(a)</a>	
Transport across cell membranes	<a href="#">2011 Q8(a) &amp; (b)</a>  <a href="#">2012 Q8</a>  <a href="#">2013 7(b) ii</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q2</a>  <a href="#">2012 B Q4</a>  <a href="#">2013 B Q4(a) i, ii &amp; iii</a>	<a href="#">2012 A Q3</a> <a href="#">2013 B Q1(b) i &amp; ii</a>
Producing new cells	<a href="#">2011 Q8(c) &amp; (d)</a>  <a href="#">2012 Q9</a>		
DNA and the production of proteins		<a href="#">2011 B Q7(c)</a>  <a href="#">2013 B Q9(a)</a>	
Proteins and enzymes	<a href="#">2012 Q17(a) &amp; (c)</a>  <a href="#">2013 Q8(b) i &amp; ii</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q18</a> <a href="#">2011 B Q1(b)</a> <a href="#">2011 B Q4</a>  <a href="#">2012 A Q6</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q2(a)</a>  <a href="#">2013 A Q19</a>	<a href="#">2012 C Q1(a) — C</a>  <a href="#">2013 A Q2 — C</a>
	<b>Standard Grade Credit</b>	<b>Intermediate 2</b>	

Genetic engineering	<a href="#">2013 Q14(a)</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q13</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q7</a>	
Photosynthesis	<a href="#">2012 Q5(b), (c) &amp; (d)</a> <a href="#">2013 Q5(a) ii &amp; (b)</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q5</a> <a href="#">2011 A Q7</a> <a href="#">2012 C Q1(b)</a> <a href="#">2013 B Q5</a>	
Respiration	<a href="#">2012 Q14(c)</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q1</a> <a href="#">2011 A Q3</a> <a href="#">2011 A Q4</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q5</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q3(a) ii, (b) i, ii &amp; iii</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q9(b)</a>	<a href="#">2011 B Q2(a) — C</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q3(a) i — C</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q5 — C</a>
<b>Multicellular Organisms</b>			
Cells, tissues and organs	This topic did not appear in recent past papers due to sampling requirements.		
Stem cells and meristems	This topic did not appear in recent past papers due to sampling requirements.		
Control and Communication	<a href="#">2011 Q14(c)</a> <a href="#">2012 Q4(a)</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q23</a> <a href="#">2011 B Q12(b) i &amp; ii</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q12(a)</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q24</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q25</a>	<a href="#">2011 B Q12(a) — C</a>
Reproduction		<a href="#">2012 B Q8(a) &amp; (c)</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q13</a>	
	<b>Standard Grade Credit</b>	<b>Intermediate 2</b>	

Variation and Inheritance	<a href="#">2011 Q15 (a), (b) &amp; (c)</a> <a href="#">2012 Q16(a)</a> <a href="#">2013 Q12</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q11</a> <a href="#">2011 Q14</a> <a href="#">2011 Q15</a> <a href="#">2011 B Q7(a)</a>  <a href="#">2012 A Q13</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q14</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q15</a>  <a href="#">2013 B Q8</a>	
The need for transport	<a href="#">2011 Q7(c)</a>  <a href="#">2012 Q5(a)</a> <a href="#">2012 Q13(b)</a>  <a href="#">2013 Q9(a) &amp; (b)</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q19</a> <a href="#">2011 A Q22</a> <a href="#">2011 B Q11(a) &amp; (b)</a>  <a href="#">2012 A Q17</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q19</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q21</a> <a href="#">2012 A Q25</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q9(a) iii</a> <a href="#">2012 B Q11</a>  <a href="#">2013 A Q22</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q23</a> <a href="#">2013 B Q10</a> <a href="#">2013 B Q11(a) i &amp; ii &amp; (b) i &amp; iii</a>	
Effects of lifestyle choices on human transport and exchange systems	This topic did not appear in recent past papers due to sampling requirements.		
<b>Life on Earth</b>			
Biodiversity and the distribution of life	<a href="#">2011 Q1(a)</a> <a href="#">2011 Q6</a>	<a href="#">2011 B Q5(d)</a>  <a href="#">2012 A Q9</a>  <a href="#">2013 A Q9</a>	
Energy in ecosystems	<a href="#">2011 Q2</a>  <a href="#">2012 Q1(a) i</a> <a href="#">2012 Q2(b) &amp; (c)</a>  <a href="#">2013 Q1</a>	<a href="#">2011 A Q12</a> <a href="#">2011 A Q16</a> <a href="#">2011 B Q5(a), (b) &amp; (c)</a> <a href="#">2011 C Q1</a>	

	<a href="#">2013 Q3(b)</a>	<a href="#">2012 B Q6</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q11</a> <a href="#">2013 A Q12</a>	
Sampling techniques and measurement of abiotic and biotic factors	<a href="#">2011 Q1b</a>		
Adaptation, natural selection and the evolution of species		<a href="#">2011 A Q10</a> <a href="#">2013 B Q6</a>	
Human impact on the environment	This topic did not appear in recent past papers due to sampling requirements.		
<b>Resources</b>			
SQA past papers <a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm">www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm</a>	<p>Additional National 5 assessment support material is available here:</p> <p>Education Scotland <a href="http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/">www.educationscotland.gov.uk/</a></p> <p>Glow <a href="http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/usingglowandict/">www.educationscotland.gov.uk/usingglowandict/</a></p> <p>Glow Log-in <a href="https://secure.glowscotland.org.uk/login/login.htm">https://secure.glowscotland.org.uk/login/login.htm</a></p>		