

Mary Jones and Geoff Jones

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Biology
Coursebook
Second edition



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Introduction

This book has been written to help you to do well in your Cambridge International Examinations IGCSE Biology examination (0610). We hope that you enjoy using it.

The book also covers the Biology content of the new CIE IGCSE Combined Science syllabus (0653) and Coordinated Science syllabus (0654), and can be used with the CIE 'O' level Biology syllabus (5090).

Core and Supplement

Your teacher will tell you whether you are studying just the Core part of the Biology syllabus, or whether you are studying the Supplement as well. If you study the Core only, you will be entered for Papers 1, 2 and one of the practical exams, and can get a maximum of Grade C. If you also study the Supplement, your teacher may enter you for Paper 3 instead of Paper 2, and you will be able to get a maximum of Grade A*. The Supplement material in this book is marked by a letter 'S' and green bars in the margin.

Definitions

There are quite a lot of definitions in the IGCSE syllabus that you need to learn by heart. These are all in this book, at appropriate points in each chapter, inside boxes with a heading 'Key definition'. Make sure you learn these carefully.

Questions

Each chapter has several sets of Questions within it. Most of these require quite short answers, and simply test if you have understood what you have just read (or what you have just been taught).

At the end of each chapter, there are some longer Revision questions testing a range of material from the chapter.

Activities

Each chapter contains Activities. These will help you to develop the practical skills that will be tested in your IGCSE Biology examination. It's really important that you should try to do as many of these as possible. Most of them need to be done in a laboratory.

There are three possible exams to test your practical skills, called Paper 4, Paper 5 and Paper 6. Your teacher will tell you which of these you will be entered for. They are equally difficult, and you can get up to Grade A* on any of them. You should try to do the Activities no matter which of these papers you are entered for.

Key ideas

At the end of each chapter, there is a short list of the main points covered in the chapter. Remember, though, that these are only very short summaries, and you'll need to know more detail than this to do really well in the exam.

The CD-ROM

There is a CD-ROM in the back of the book. You'll also find the Key ideas on the CD-ROM. You can use the revision check lists on the CD-ROM to check off how far you have got with learning and understanding each idea.

The CD-ROM also contains a set of interactive multiple-choice questions testing whether you know and understand the material from each chapter.

You'll find some self-assessment check lists on the CD-ROM too, which you can print off and use to assess yourself each time you observe and draw a specimen, construct a results chart, draw a graph from a set of results or plan an experiment. These are all very important skills, and by using these check lists you should be able to improve your performance until you can do them almost perfectly every time.

There are some suggestions on the CD-ROM about how you can give yourself the very best chance of doing well in your exams, by studying and revising carefully.

Workbook

There is a workbook to go with this textbook. If you have one, you will find it really helpful in developing your skills, such as handling information and solving problems, as well as some of the practical skills.

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