

BIOLOGY

GCE Advanced Level and GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Grade thresholds taken for Syllabus 9700 (Biology) in the May/June 2011 examination.

	maximum mark available	minimum mark required for grade:		
		A	B	E
Component 11	40	31	27	16
Component 12	40	32	28	16
Component 13	40	31	27	16
Component 21	60	46	43	23
Component 22	60	43	38	18
Component 23	60	45	40	17
Component 31	40	27	24	13
Component 32	40	32	29	18
Component 33	40	29	26	13
Component 34	40	27	24	11
Component 35	40	26	23	14
Component 41	100	73	64	41
Component 42	100	64	57	34
Component 43	100	64	57	34
Component 51	30	22	18	10
Component 52	30	17	13	7
Component 53	30	17	13	7

The thresholds (minimum marks) for Grades C and D are normally set by dividing the mark range between the B and the E thresholds into three. For example, if the difference between the B and the E threshold is 24 marks, the C threshold is set 8 marks below the B threshold and the D threshold is set another 8 marks down. If dividing the interval by three results in a fraction of a mark, then the threshold is normally rounded down. Grade A* does not exist at the level of an individual component.

The thresholds for the **syllabus** are determined first by adding together the thresholds for the components taken by the candidate. A reduction may be made at the higher grades depending on the correlation of the papers. If the maximum raw marks for the components are not in the weighting/relationship specified in the syllabus, a weighting is applied to arrive at the overall thresholds. The A* threshold is calculated using the difference between A and B as a starting point.

For AS Level components, small adjustments may be made to the marks awarded for some versions of the paper in order to neutralise any differences in the difficulty of the different versions and so make sure that all candidates face an equal demand.

The maximum total mark for this syllabus is **260** for A Level and **130** for AS Level.

For this syllabus in this series the grade thresholds were as follows:

Option	Combination of components	A*	A	B	C	D	E
AX EX	11, 21, 31, 41,51 11, 21, 32, 41,51	210	188	166	142	118	95
AY EY AZ	12, 22, 33, 42, 52 12, 22, 34, 42, 52 13, 23, 35, 43, 53	194	174	154	131	108	85
BX	41, 51 and AS from last June	213	192	171	148	126	104
BY BZ	42, 52 and AS from last June 43, 53 and AS from last June	197	178	159	137	115	94
CX	41, 51 and AS from last Nov.	205	181	157	138	119	100
CY CZ	42, 52 and AS from last Nov. 43, 53 and AS from last Nov.	189	167	145	126	108	90
S1 S2 S3 S4 S5	AS Level		95	85	71	57	44

Grade Thresholds are published for all GCE A/AS and IGCSE subjects where a corresponding mark scheme is available.