

BIOLOGY

GCE Advanced Level and GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Grade thresholds taken for Syllabus 9700 (Biology) in the October/November 2011 examination.

	maximum mark available	minimum mark required for grade:		
		A	B	E
Component 11	40	28	24	17
Component 12	40	27	24	16
Component 13	40	28	24	17
Component 21	60	40	31	18
Component 22	60	40	31	18
Component 23	60	43	36	22
Component 31	40	28	24	18
Component 33	40	28	25	17
Component 34	40	25	22	15
Component 35	40	29	25	18
Component 36	40	29	25	18
Component 41	100	58	52	28
Component 42	100	58	52	28
Component 43	100	79	74	42
Component 51	30	21	19	13
Component 52	30	21	19	13
Component 53	30	24	21	15

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.

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 AY EY	11, 21, 31, 41, 51 12, 22, 33, 42, 52 12, 22, 34, 42, 52	183	163	143	124	106	88
AZ EZ	13, 23, 35, 43, 53 13, 23, 36, 43, 53	207	187	167	146	125	104
BX BY	41, 51 and AS from last June 42, 52 and AS from last June	189	172	155	131	108	85
BZ	43, 53 and AS from last June	213	196	179	153	127	101
CX CY	41, 51 and AS from last Nov. 42, 52 and AS from last Nov.	184	165	146	127	108	90
CZ	43, 53 and AS from last Nov.	208	189	170	148	127	106
S1 S3 S4 S5 S6	AS Level		86	73	64	55	47

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