

BIOLOGY

GCE Advanced Level and GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Grade thresholds taken for Syllabus 9700 (Biology) in the October/November 2012 examination.

	maximum mark available	minimum mark required for grade:		
		A	B	E
Component 11	40	28	24	17
Component 12	40	32	29	21
Component 13	40	32	28	18
Component 21	60	39	32	18
Component 22	60	39	32	21
Component 23	60	45	38	22
Component 31	40	27	22	14
Component 33	40	28	25	15
Component 34	40	27	24	15
Component 35	40	26	22	14
Component 36	40	28	24	17
Component 41	100	67	60	32
Component 42	100	67	60	32
Component 43	100	60	54	30
Component 51	30	20	18	13
Component 52	30	20	18	13
Component 53	30	21	18	11

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	194	175	156	136	117	98
AZ EZ	13, 23, 35, 43, 53 13, 23, 36, 43, 53	188	169	150	131	112	94
BX BY	41, 51 and AS from last June 42, 52 and AS from last June	193	176	159	137	115	94
BZ	43, 53 and AS from last June	187	170	153	132	111	90
CX CY	41, 51 and AS from last Nov. 42, 52 and AS from last Nov.	192	171	150	130	111	92
CZ	43, 53 and AS from last Nov.	186	165	144	125	106	88
S1 S3 S4 S5 S6	AS Level		90	79	70	61	53

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