

BIOLOGY

GCE Advanced Level and GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Grade thresholds taken for Syllabus 9700 (Biology) in the May/June 2013 examination.

	maximum mark available	minimum mark required for grade:		
		A	B	E
Component 11	40	31	27	16
Component 12	40	30	26	16
Component 13	40	34	28	17
Component 21	60	40	37	18
Component 22	60	37	34	18
Component 23	60	41	38	24
Component 31	40	25	22	13
Component 32	40	25	22	13
Component 33	40	22	19	10
Component 34	40	22	19	10
Component 35	40	21	19	12
Component 41	100	55	45	27
Component 42	100	56	48	25
Component 43	100	55	45	27
Component 51	30	22	18	10
Component 52	30	21	18	9
Component 53	30	22	18	10

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 AZ	11, 21, 31, 41, 51 11, 21, 32, 41, 51 13, 23, 35, 43, 53	179	157	135	116	97	79
AY EY	12, 22, 33, 42, 52 12, 22, 34, 42, 52	176	157	138	117	96	76
BX BZ	41, 51 and AS from last June 43, 53 and AS from last June	188	166	144	124	105	86
BY	42, 52 and AS from last June	185	166	147	125	104	83
CX CZ	41, 51 and AS from last Nov. 43, 53 and AS from last Nov.	189	165	141	124	107	90
CY	42, 52 and AS from last Nov.	186	165	144	125	106	87
S1 S2 S3 S4 S5	AS Level		82	73	62	52	42

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