

Delegate Booklet  
Course Title: Understanding assessment and  
improving delivery in International A level  
Biology  
YBI11/19IF01

### About this event

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**Course Title: Understanding assessment and improving delivery in International A level Biology**

**Course Code: YBI11/19IF01 - Understanding assessment and improving delivery in International A Level Biology**

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### Aims and Objectives of the event

1. delegates will be introduced to the idea of assessment objectives: what are they and why they are used when writing examination papers,
2. analyse recent question papers and learn which types of question match the different assessment objectives,
3. investigate different assessment objectives, considering how questions in these areas have been answered by looking at feedback from previous exam series,
4. discuss strategies for teaching to try and make sure students can access questions targeting different assessment objectives,
5. review the support Pearson offers for the qualification,
6. network, discuss best practice and share ideas with other teachers.



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## Agenda

10:00 – 10:10 Introductions and housekeeping

Session 1: Assessment Objectives (1 hour)

10:10 – 10:40 What are they, why do we use them, what does the wording mean? What balance of AOs are there in the exams?

10:40 – 11:10 Assigning AOs. (whole questions) – which AO would you assign to each question part?

11:10 – 11:30 BREAK

Session 2: AO2 (1h 15)

11:30 – 12:15 AO2: Why do we ask AO2? What types of AO2 questions are there (calculation, application)

Consideration of some questions from recent papers.

Some marking / feedback to see good and poor student answers.

12:15 – 12:45 Teaching strategies: how can we make sure students succeed at AO2

12:45 – 13:45 LUNCH

Session 3: AO3 (1h 15)

13:45 – 14:30 AO3: Why do we ask AO3? What types of AO3 questions are there (calculation, application)?

Consideration of some questions from recent papers.

Some marking / feedback to see good and poor student answers.

14:30 – 15:00 Teaching strategies: how can we make sure students succeed at AO3

Session 4: Practical Work (30 min)

15:00 – 15:30 Practical work Useful resources and websites

15:30-16.00 Any questions / plenary / feedback / depart.



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## Activity 1

**What are the weightings of each AO?**

**In IAS**

**AO 1**

**AO2 (a)**

**AO2 (b)**

**AO3**

**What are the weightings of each AO?**

**In IA2**

**AO 1**

**AO2 (a)**

**AO2 (b)**

**AO3**



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## **Activity 2**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Examine questions 1, 2 and 3**

**Decide which AO each question is examining**

**Compare your answers with other delegates on your table.**

## **Activity 3**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 2bi**

**Student responses A-D**

**Without looking at mark scheme**

**Place these in rank order**

**Compare your answers with other delegates on your table.**



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## **Activity 4**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 2bi**

**Student responses A-D**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**

## **Activity 5**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 1bi**

**Student responses A-D**

**Without looking at mark scheme**

**Place these in rank order**

**Compare your answers with other delegates on your table.**



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## **Activity 6**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 1bi**

**Student responses A-D**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**

## **Activity 7**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 5bii**

**Student responses A-D**

**Without looking at mark scheme**

**Place these in rank order**

**Compare your answers with other delegates on your table.**



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## **Activity 8**

**Look at Paper WBI11/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 5bii**

**Student responses A-D**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**

## **Activity 9**

**Look at Paper WBI13/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 1c**

**Student responses A-C**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**





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## **Activity 10**

**Look at Paper WBI13/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 3c**

**Student responses A-D**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**

## **Activity 11**

**Look at Paper WBI13/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 3ai**

**Student responses A-D**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**



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## **Activity 12**

**Try IGCSE CORMS prompt to answer question 1cii**

**Write your answer**

**Mark your answer**

**Does it work?**

## **Activity 13**

**Look at Paper WBI13/01 June 2019**

**Look at question 1cii**

**Student responses A-D**

**Using mark scheme**

**Mark these responses**

**Compare your marks with other delegates on your table.**



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## Useful web links for practicals

- Practical Biology Nuffield Foundation  
<https://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/practical-biology>
- Science and Plants for Schools  
<https://www.saps.org.uk/>
- STEM learning  
<https://www.stem.org.uk/>
- Vassar stats  
<http://vassarstats.net/>
- Royal Society of Biology  
<https://www.rsb.org.uk/education/teaching-resources/secondary-schools>

## Contacts at Pearson

### Subject advisor

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