

# **Biology & CS (Biology)**

## **2020 SBA Annual Conference**

# HKEAA staffs:

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# General Observations

- Biology : 12600 students (407 schools) submitted SBA marks
- CS(Bio) : 232 students (10 schools) submitted SBA marks
- Moderation (statistical methods and professional judgment)
- Biology: 66.2% of schools within expected range  
22.1% of schools higher than expected  
11.7% of schools lower than expected
- CS (Bio): 64.3% of schools within expected range  
28.6% of schools higher than expected  
7.1% of schools lower than expected

# Outlier detection and follow-up actions

Statistic	DC's comment	Action
↑	Strict	Adopt statistic result
↓	Lenient	Adopt statistic result
-	Appropriate	Adopt statistic result
↑	Lenient	Supervisor review
↓	Strict	Supervisor review
↑	Appropriate	Supervisor review
↓	Appropriate	Supervisor review
-	Lenient / Strict	Supervisor review

# Correlation with written exam

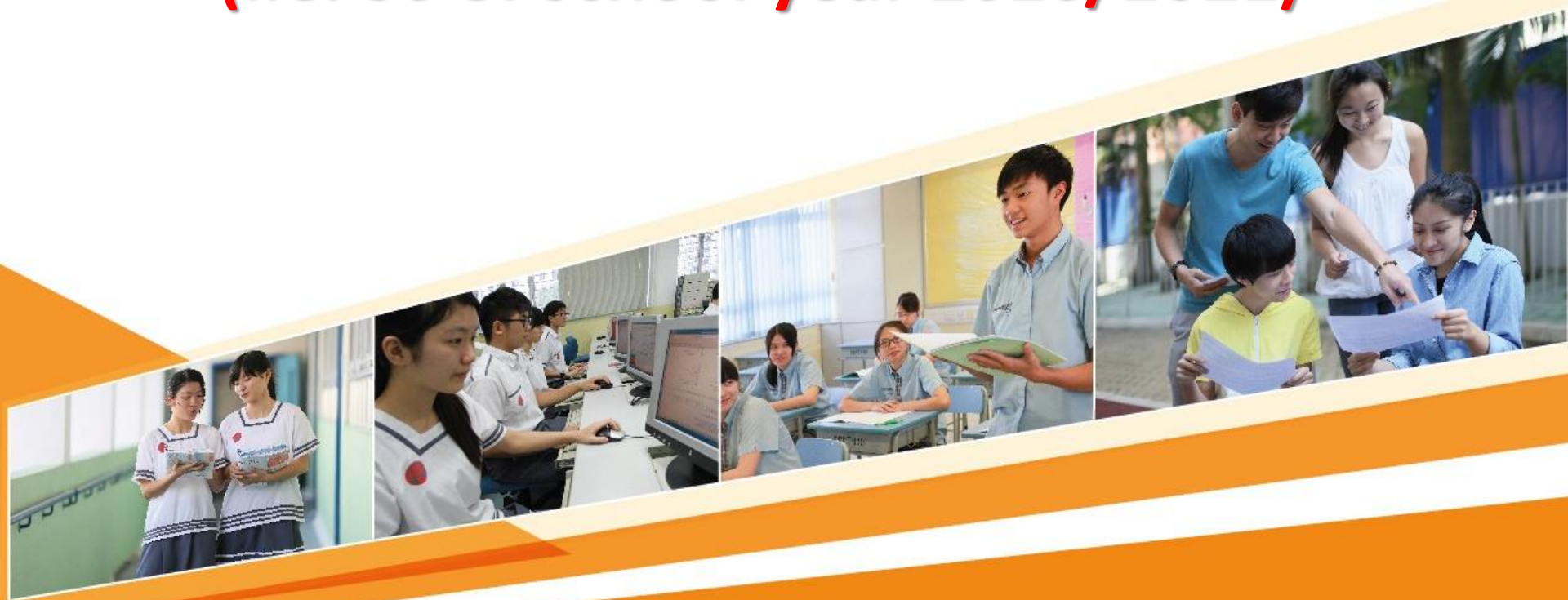
Exam Year	Paper 1	Paper 2
2016	0.74	0.69
2017	0.76	0.70
2018	0.75	0.71
2019	0.76	0.70
2020	0.77	0.73

# SBA work plan for 2020-2021

Month/Year	Events
November 2020	SBA annual conference
Sep 2020 – Jun 2021	S5 SBA activities to be conducted by schools
<b>May – Jun 2021</b>	<b>Email ‘S5 Lists of experiments for 2022 Exam’ to District Coordinator</b>
<b>21 Jul 2021 (tentative)</b>	<b>Release of 2021 HKDSE results</b>

# 2021 Exam

(i.e. S6 of school year 2020/2021)



# 2021 Exam

- SBA has been cancelled for Biology and CS Biology
- The weighting of Paper 1 and Paper 2 will be adjusted proportionally.

Paper	Weighting
Paper 1 Compulsory part	60% → 75%
Paper 2 Elective part	20% → 25%



# 2022 Exam Requirements

(i.e. S5 of school year 2020/2021)



# Biology

- Area A (40%)
  - Best two marks for area A across years
- Area B (60%)
  - **Best two marks for area B across years**, and the two marks should be coming from two different topics

## CS Biology

- Area A (40%)
  - Best mark for area A across years
- Area B (60%)
  - Best mark for area B across years

# SBA Requirements

	Minimum Number of Assessment Per Student			
Bio	S5*		S6*	
	Practical Skills (A)	Report Writing (B)	Practical Skills (A)	Report Writing (B)
	1	1	1	1
CS (Bio)	S5 & S6			
	Practical Skills (A)		Report Writing (B)	
	1		1	

# SBA requirements for repeater / transfer candidates

- There might be School Repeaters, Switching of Courses / Transfer Students for S6 submission, i.e. minimum 1 A mark and 1 B mark for both Bio and CS Bio. For details, please see Chapter 2 of the SBA Teachers' Handbook.

# Final SBA Mark – System Check

In SBA system, the following checks will be done during mark submission:

## Biology:

- At least 1 A mark and 1 B mark per student in S5
- At least 1 A mark and 1 B mark per student in S6
- The two best marks selected for Area B are of different topics

## CS Biology:

- At least 1 A mark and 1 B mark per student

# Assessment rubrics

Mark range	Performance
9-10	Most basic performance + many good performance
6-8	Most basic performance + some good performance
3-5	Some basic performance + a few good performance
1-2	A few basic performance

- Both full report and guided report share the same rubrics
- Marks awarded based on the performance shown by the report
  - If only simple and straightforward questions and responses are observed, the reports will only fulfill basic performance and will not score high marks.
- Guiding questions should allow the demonstration of good performances

- Please refer to 2022 SBA Teachers' Handbook.

HKEAA will inform schools requesting teachers to email to District Coordinators the '*List of Experiments Performed in S5 and task sheets*' around May 2021.



# 2023 Exam Requirements

(i.e. S4 of school year 2020/2021)





## Changes in Area B

- Two types of tasks: Experimental Design (B1), results and discussion (B2)
- Teachers should decide if the experiment is suitable for assessment of B1, or B2 or both
- Writing up of procedure is not required
- 10 points scale
- Equal weighting for B1 and B2

# Task for B1 only

- Students complete B1 under teacher's supervision
- After submission of B1, teacher provides the procedures to students to conduct the experiment
- The date for conducting the experiment shall be stated in the student's work
- Teachers may consider using the results collected for the learning and teaching of how to write up B2

## Task for B2 only

- Teacher provide procedures for students to conduct the experiment and collect results
- Students may either complete B2 at school or at home
- Teachers may consider using the given procedure for the learning and teaching of B1

## Task for B1 and B2

- Students complete B1 under teacher's supervision
- After submission of B1, teacher provides procedures to students to conduct the experiment and collect results
- Student may either complete B2 at school or at home

## Points to note

- B1 must be completed under teacher's supervision
- **Hands-on experience is a must!**
  - Students should conduct the experiment no matter the task is for B1 only, B2 only or for both
- Teachers have the discretions to decide whether the task sheet are to be provide before the date of assessment or on the date of assessment

# Biology

- Area A (40%)
  - Best two marks for area A across years
- Area B (60%)
  - Best two marks for B1 across years and best two marks for B2 across years; the best two marks come from different topics

## CS Biology

- Area A (40%)
  - Best mark for area A across years
- Area B (60%)
  - Best mark for B1 across years and best mark for B2 across years

	Minimum Number of Assessment Per Student					
Bio	S5*			S6*		
	Practical Skills (A)	Report Writing		Practical Skills (A)	Report Writing	
		B1	B2		B1	B2
	1	1	1	1	1	1
CS (Bio)	S5 & S6					
	Practical Skills (A)			Report Writing		
				B1	B2	
	1			1	1	

# SBA requirements for repeater / transfer candidates

- There might be School Repeaters, Switching of Courses / Transfer Students for S6 submission, i.e. 1 A mark, 1 B1 mark and 1 B2 mark for both Bio and CS Bio. For details, please see Chapter 2 of the SBA Teachers' Handbook.



- Please refer to 2023 SBA Teachers' Handbook for the details of the updates.

# New Assessment Guidelines for B1

- Included new descriptors for basic, good and excellent performances for B1 (experimental design)
- Teachers are encourage to design worksheet with specific questions which address those performance

Mark range	Performance
9-10	Most good performances + a few excellent performances.
6-8	Most basic performance + some good performance
3-5	Some basic performance + a few good performance
1-2	A few basic performance

- Both B1 and B2 share the same rubrics
- Marks awarded based on the performance shown by the student work
  - If only simple and straightforward questions and responses are observed, the reports will only fulfill basic performance and will not score high marks.

# For students with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

- **Accommodation**
- **Applying for exemption (if applicable)**

# Accommodation

- Provide necessary **assistance** to the student concerned and perform a **FAIR assessment**
- e.g. assigning a technician / classmate / teacher to tell the student the colour of the reacting mixture
- Provide **alternative task** (but **same level of difficulty**) and perform a **FAIR assessment** (e.g. making reference to School's SEN policy, soliciting advice from school management / Psychologist / Therapist)

# Exemption

- Formal approval from the HKEAA required
- Application form:  
<https://www.hkdse.hkeaa.edu.hk>
- Apply at the beginning of school year

# Supporting documents

- School's recommendation for exemption
- Relevant Medical supports
  - Psychologist's supports
  - Attendance record (such as record of extended sick leaves)

# Reminder:

- Contact the SBA Team of the HKEAA for questions related to logistical arrangements
- Discuss with your District Coordinator for subject-related questions
- Explain to the student the accommodation, or why no accommodation is necessary
- Mark in the student work the kind of accommodation / exemption involved if being selected to be submitted to the HKEAA



# Suggestions for conducting experiments during pandemic

- Observe the [safety guidelines](#) from EDB
- May consider some simple and safe experiments which can be done at home, e.g.
  - Growth conditions of plants
  - Alcohol production in anaerobic respiration (by putting grape juice with skin in a sealed container)
- To save time, for experiments involving repeated measurements (e.g. effect pH / temperature / light intensity on X), may consider having one group working one measurement and then pool the data for whole class

## For assessment of area A

- If necessary, have limited number of groups per session, and run several sessions in the afternoon for area A
- May conduct individual assessment on the use of microscope for area A, a limited number of students each time
- May consider assess drawing skills for area A

## For area B

- May consider experiments involving repeated measurements, each group work on one measurement to provide hands-on experience, then pool data for results and discussion
- May consider provision of data for results and discussions, supplemented with videos showing how the experiment was conducted

# Important dates for public exam

Event	Date
Markers Recruitment	Mid Nov – Mid Dec, 2020 (tentative)
Exam Day	10 May, 2021 (tentative)
Markers' Meeting	18 May, 2021 (tentative)
OSM Training	19 May, 2021 (tentative)
Marking Period	20 May – 15 June, 2021 (tentative)

# Feedbacks and Evaluations

- Please complete the feedbacks and evaluation online: <https://forms.gle/sTTjMnzxiYWAakKs5>