

AS Biology revision guide.

1. Use the exam café disk in your textbooks. This will run on any PC but not a Mac. It has a lot of useful resources to help you revise.

2. This page is the main location for AS Biology resources. Go to the bottom section where there are Candidate style answers for F212 at medium and high band. Download them, study them and use them to improve your exam technique.

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/gce/science/biology/documents/index.html>

3. Since your syllabus is new, there are limited past papers available for F212 on line. I suggest you use the previous syllabus and look at these areas. The link is below:

2801 for Biochemistry and enzymes.

2802 for diet, and immunity

2804 for biodiversity, classification and evolution.

http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/l_gce/science/biology/documents/index.html

This will give you a wide range of questions and give you a chance to study the style adopted by this exam board. The answers are also in the same place.

Use www.s-cool.co.uk to provide additional revision material.

4. Use the questions at the end of each chapter to give you practice in exam style questions.

5. Remember you cannot treat AS in the same way as GCSE. The questions are unlikely to be simple memory tests, they require you to understand the material and be able to apply it in unusual situations.

6. I suggest revising with someone else studying the same module. In this way you can question each other and identify areas where you have weaknesses and need to revise more thoroughly.

7. Prepare flow diagrams, memory maps and summarise your notes – reducing a mass of material to key words and phrases is very beneficial. When it comes to the actual exam you can recall the outline and this will help you to recall the rest of the material more effectively.

8. Biology is very much “story time” – you do not just recall single facts, but must be able to tell the whole story. Eg. Malaria – what organism is involved, what is the vector, how is it transmitted. What is the effect on the human with malaria. What factors are involved in controlling the disease locally, nationally and internationally. What are the social and economic impacts of malaria.

9. Use diagrams to help your revision – practice labelling diagrams from the book. You will not be asked draw diagrams but must be able to label them.

10. Can you draw the biological molecules – α glucose, β glucose, amino acid, triglyceride and phosphoglyceride from memory. Can you then draw the polymers of α glucose and amino acids. Why makes amino acids different, and what makes proteins so different?

Finally – make use of your teachers for advice and guidance. If you do not understand something – ask for an explanation. By understanding one idea, you may find a lot of related material suddenly makes more sense.