

Breakdown of Bahamas Ministry of Education BGCSE Biology Syllabus (1996)

SECTION 1 (Characteristics, classification and Diversity of Living Organisms 5% teaching time)

1. Characteristics of living organism
2. Binomial System
3. Animal classification and Diversity
4. Plant Classification and Diversity

SECTION 2 (Relationships of Organism with One Another and with their Environment 20% teaching time)

5. Energy Flow
6. Food Chains and Food Webs
7. Nutrient Cycles
8. Effects of Man on the Ecosystem
9. Agriculture
10. Fishing
11. Pollution
12. Conservation

SECTION 3 (Organization and Maintenance of the Organism 50% teaching time)

13. Cell structure and organization

- (a) Levels of organization
- (b) Structure of plant and animal cells
- (c) Function of the parts of plant and animal cells
- (d) Differences in structure between plant and animal cells
- (e) Types of cells and their functions (f) Types of tissues and their functions (g)
Organs and organ systems

14. Diffusion and osmosis

- (a) Definition of diffusion and its importance
- (b) Definition of osmosis and its importance

15. Enzymes

- (a) Definition and types of enzymes
- (b) The effect of temperature and pH on enzyme activity
- (c) The use of enzymes in detergents

16. Nutrition and Nutrients

17. Animal Nutrition

18. Diet

19. Human Alimentary Canal

20. Plant Nutrition

21. Photosynthesis

22. Leaf Structure

23. Mineral Requirements

24. Mechanical and Physical Digestion

25. Chemical Digestion

26. Adsorption

27. Assimilation
28. Transport in Plants – Water Uptake, Transpiration, Translocation
29. Transport in Humans - Mammalian Heart, Arteries, Veins & Capillaries, Blood, Respiration, Aerobic Respiration, Gaseous Exchange, Excretion and Homeostasis.
30. Coordination and Response, Tropic and Taxic Responses, Hormones,
31. Nervous Control in Humans
32. Receptors
33. Nervous System
34. Effectors
35. Drugs

SECTION 4 (Development of the Organism and the Continuity of Life – 25 % teaching time)

36. Reproduction – Asexual and Sexual
37. Sexual Reproduction in Humans
38. Sex Hormones
39. Methods of Birth Control
40. Sexually Transmitted Diseases
41. Growth and Development
42. Inheritance
43. Chromosomes

44. Mitosis

45. Meiosis

46. Monohybrid Inheritance

47. Variation

48. Selection

49. Hormones and Chemical Control

(a) The chemical control of metabolism by insulin and adrenaline

(b) Drug use and abuse – cocaine, alcohol, steroids

50. Biotechnology (Additional Topic)

(a) Definition of biotechnology

(b) The economic importance of biotechnology

(c) Applications and examples of biotechnology: food technology, mariculture, cloning and hydroponics

(d) Detailed study of one method of biotechnology.

Text Book Listing

Biology for Life – M.B.ZV Roberts (Nelson)

The Conch – Kathy Orr (MacMillian)

Marine Life of the Caribbean (MacMillian)

Work out Biology “O” Level and GCSE – O.F.G Kilgour (MacMillian)

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for your Biology exam visit;*



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