# **SENIOR CYCLE**

# BIOLOGY

### LEVEL

# Higher & Ordinary

## CURRENT ARRANGEMENT

#### WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Paper divided into three sections; A, B and C. Total mark for the paper is 400 marks. Paper 3 hours in duration at both levels.

Section A – short questions (Q1 to Q6) – five questions to answer from six.

Section B – Mandatory practical questions (Question 7 to Question 9) – two questions to answer from three. (Course has 22 mandatory activities).

Section C – Long questions (Q10 to Q15) – four questions to do from six. Two of the long questions have internal choice, answer two of three parts. Questions are awarded 60 marks each.

## 2021 ADJUSTMENTS

#### WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Increased choice will be provided by provision of additional questions. Section A will comprise Questions 1 to 7 (previously 1 to 6). Section B Questions 8 to 10 (previously 7 to 9) and Section C Questions 11 to 17 (previously 10 to 15).

Section A – an additional short question will be included – Question 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Candidates will answer any five of seven questions.

Section B – each of the three questions will be aligned with a specific learning unit or part of a unit:

- Question 8 will assess activities from Unit 1, sub-unit 2.1 and 2.5 – total of 8 practicals.
- Question 9 will assess activities from subunit 2.2. – total of 7 practicals (1 Higher Level only).
- Question 10 will assess activities from Unit
  3 total of 7 practicals.

Section C – Increase choice by the inclusion of additional questions:

- An extra full long question will be introduced i.e. as well as Q13 there will be a similarly structured Q14.
- An additional part (d) will be added to both of the following questions Q16 and Q17 (formerly Q14 and Q15). In each of these two questions candidates will have a choice of four parts to answer any two.