

Assessment program audit tool

For Authority subjects

Biology (2004, Amended 2006)

The purpose of this audit tool is to enable schools to compare the requirements of their assessment program to the minimum assessment requirements of the syllabus, and to subsequently consider possible amendments to their school work program.

Assessment instruments required in Year 12 (including objectives/dimensions assessed)	Conditions required by the syllabus — e.g. word length, time, genre	School assessment instruments (including objectives/dimensions assessed)	Conditions in school work program	Variations
Refer to syllabus verification and post-verification requirements. (Note: the number of instruments will vary with syllabuses.)	Refer to the syllabus assessment section	Refer to the school's approved work program	Refer to the school's approved work program	How does the school's assessment program differ from syllabus requirements?
Verification requirements: Minimum 4 instruments and a maximum of 6 instruments demonstrating a range of techniques including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> extended experimental investigation supervised assessment extended response. One instrument presented must include an analysis of field work primary data. Each instrument must assess more than 1 criterion and may include all 3. Up to a maximum of 6 instruments with no more than	Syllabus p. 21			

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2 from each category.				
Assessment categories Extended experimental investigation (EEI) Must assess 2 criteria and may include all 3. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding biology (UB) • Investigating biology (IB) • Evaluating biological issues (EBI). 	Instruments must allow students to produce a response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to an open-ended practical research question • and may include laboratory-based or field work experiments. Conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written report or assignment: 1000–1500 words • oral and/or multimodal: 8–10 minutes • evidence of authentication of research. Syllabus pp. 23–24	School assessment program 1.		
Written task (WT) Must assess 2 criteria and may include all 3. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UB • IB • EBI. 	Forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • short response • short response to stimulus • short response under test conditions • essay. Conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supervised conditions • 1½–2 hours 	2.		

<p>Extended response (ER) Must assess 2 criteria and may include all 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UB • IB • EBI <p>One other instrument from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extended experimental investigation • written task • extended response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responses up to 500 words (max per item) • essay 600–800 words. <p>Syllabus p. 28</p>	3.		
	<p>Instruments must allow students to produce a response to an open-ended practical research question</p> <p>Conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written report or assignment: 1000-1500 words • oral and/or multimodal: 8–10 minutes • evidence of research. <p>Syllabus pp. 25–27</p>	4.		
	<p>As above</p> <p>Syllabus pp. 23—28</p>	5.		

Must assess 2 criteria and may include all 3 (UB, IB, EBI)		6.		
Verification				
One assessment instrument from the following: EEI, WT or ER. Must assess 2 criteria and may include all 3 (UB, IB, EBI).	As above Syllabus pp. 23–28 and p. 29			

Summary

What changes could be made to the school's work program?

More information

If you would like more information, please email qau@qsa.qld.edu.au or phone 3864 0375. The moderation and quality assurance pages of the QSA website can be accessed at <www.qsa.qld.edu.au/586.html>.