

HIGHERS IN A NUTSHELL

The National Parent Forum of Scotland Summary of Higher Human Biology

HUMAN
BIOLOGY
SCIENCES

CfE
HIGHER

4
UNITS

**HUMAN CELLS
PHYSIOLOGY AND HEALTH
NEUROBIOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION
IMMUNOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

+
COURSE
ASSESSMENT

ASSIGNMENT + QUESTION PAPER



Skills

Learners will be able to:

- apply knowledge and understanding of human biology
- understand human biology's role in scientific issues and relevant applications of human biology, including the impact these could make on society and the environment
- develop scientific inquiry and investigative skills and work independently
- develop scientific analytical thinking skills, including scientific evaluation, in a human biology context
- use technology, equipment and materials, safely, in practical scientific activities, including using risk assessments
- plan and problem-solve in a human biology context
- use and understand scientific literacy to communicate ideas and issues and to make scientifically informed choices



Opportunities for Learners

Learners will be able to:

- investigate the applications of human biology
- acquire a deeper understanding of cellular processes, physiological mechanisms, communication between organisms, and the biology of populations as they apply to the human species
- apply skills and knowledge to experiments and practical investigations
- adapt their learning to new situations
- make decisions based on evidence
- evaluate the impact of science developments on their own health and wellbeing, society and the environment



Assessment

- To gain Higher Human Biology, learners must pass the four Units and the Course Assessment (an Assignment and a Question Paper for 120 marks)
- Units are assessed as pass or fail by the school/centre and are quality assured by the SQA. Achievement of Units is recorded on the learner's qualifications certificate
- The SQA has provided examples of Unit assessments that teachers/lecturers can use as they are, or adapt to suit the needs of their learners
- The Course Assessment consists of an Assignment (20 marks) and a Question Paper (exam for 100 marks) which is in two sections (see below). These are marked externally by the SQA
- Higher Human Biology is graded from A to D or as No Award.



Question Paper Section 1: multiple choice questions (20 marks)
Section 2: has extended response questions (80 marks)

2 hours 30 minutes
100 marks

Specimen Paper www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/HumanBiologySQPH.pdf

Assignment Learners will investigate a relevant human biology topic, first researching and then writing up findings in a report under timed conditions. 20 marks



Progression Higher courses can stand alone or follow on from National 5 qualifications and may lead to Advanced Highers, the Scottish Baccalaureate and a range of qualifications within Further and Higher Education.



For course information, specimen question papers and past paper guidance visit:

Higher Human Biology: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47915.html

Curriculum for Excellence Key Terms and Features Factfile

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CfEFactfileOverview_tcm4-665983.pdf

Further Information for Parents and Learners Information on assessment, skills,

progression, revision resources and summaries of National Qualifications

www.parentforumscotland.org



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