**INFORMATION ON THE NYS LIVING ENVIRONMENT REGENTS**

The Living Environment Regents Examination is a standardized assessment given to students enrolled in New York State schools. The examination is based on the Living Environment Core Curriculum which is based on Standard 1 and 4 of the New York State Learning Standards for Mathematics, Science, and Technology. These content-based questions test your ability to apply, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information from the Living Environment core curriculum.

**When is the Biology Regents exam offered?**

The Biology Regents is offered in January, June and August of each year.

**How is the Biology Regents Test structured?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Examination Part/Component | Point Value |
| Part A | 30 |
| Part B | 25 |
| Part C | 17 |
| Part D (lab portion – required labs) | 13 |

**Part A:** This section consists of 30 content-based multiple-choice questions. These questions are worth 1 credit each, for a total of 30 credits.

**Part B:** This section consists of 25 content- and skill-based questions assessing your ability to apply, analyze, and evaluate material from the core curriculum. The items from Part B may be either multiple-choice or short constructed response questions (CRQ). CRQs are a new item type for this exam, and require that students write out the answer to a question. The answer to each CRQ question may come from a document provided on the exam, or may require that you incorporate outside information that you learned while studying this subject.

**Part C:** This section consists of 8-9 content and application questions designed to assess your ability to apply your knowledge of science concepts and skills to address real-world situations. The items in this section are worth a total of 17 credits. The items from Part C may be either short constructed response questions (CRQ) or extended CRQs.

**Part D:** Questions concerning the concepts and skills learned while performing the four lab activities that New York State requires: **Making Connections, Diffusion through a Membrane, Beaks of Finches** and **Relationships and Biodiversity.** Multiple choice and open-ended questions (similar to the questions in Part B and C), will assess the concepts, content, and process skills associated with laboratory experiences in Living Environment that are aligned to the New York State Living Environment Core Curriculum.

**Which is the subject matter included in the Biology Curriculum?**

**1. Organization of Life**  
    A. Living vs. Nonliving  
    B. Population Diversity  
    C. Organizational Levels  
    D. Cell Structure  
    E. Life Functions  
    F. Cellular Communication

**2. Heredity and Genetics**  
    A. DNA  
    B. Asexual v. Sexual Heredity  
    C. Protein Synthesis  
    D. Genetic Engineering

**3. Evolution: Change Over Time**  
    A. Natural Selection  
    B. Mutations  
    C. Variation

**4. Reproduction and Development**  
    A. Asexual Reproduction  
    B. Sexual Reproduction  
    C. Human Reproductive System  
    D. Development

**5. Homeostasis**  
    A. Biochemical Processes  
    B. Disease  
    C. Feedback Mechanisms

**6. Ecology**  
    A. Biotic vs. Abiotic  
    B. Energy Flow  
    C. Material Cycles  
    D. Organism Relationships  
    E. Biodiversity  
    F. Ecological Succession

**7. Human Impact on the Environment**  
    A. Interrelationships  
    B. Technological Developments  
    C. Improvements

**8. Scientific Inquiry and Laboratory Techniques**  
    A. Scientific Methods  
    B. Organization and Analysis of Data  
    C. Safety  
    D. Instrumentation  
    E. Measurement  
    F. Indicators  
    G. Dichotomous Keys  
    H. Dissection  
  
  
**How is the subject matter weighted on the Living Environment Regents Exam?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content** | **Approximate Weight** |
| Standard 1   Laboraotry Checklist | 10-20% |
| Key Idea 1 | 13-17% |
| Key Idea 2 | 9-13% |
| Key Idea 3 | 8-12% |
| Key Idea 4 | 6-10% |
| Key Idea 5 | 13-17% |
| Key Idea 6 | 10-14% |
| Key Idea 7 | 11-13% |

<http://www.nysedregents.org/livingenvironment/>

Old Regents exams with answer keys can be found on this website.