**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.