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Introduction

Written by experienced teachers and authors, Macmillan Education’s CSEC® Revision Guides provide a clear route to exam success. Inside this book you’ll find complete, concise revision notes on all key syllabus topics, in addition to practical advice on how to approach your revision and tackle the exams themselves, helping you to prepare effectively for your examinations.

Having reviewed the key points of each topic, you can refresh your knowledge and build your confidence with in-text practice questions, before moving on to sample practice exam papers at the end of the book. Questions are written in CXC examination style so that you will become familiar with exam wording and know exactly how to achieve your best possible grades.

Answers to questions are available online at www.macmillan-caribbean.com.

How to Use This Book

Self Check

Tick the box that shows how confident you feel

Yes | Maybe | No

Each section begins with a checklist so you can rate your confidence in each topic and prioritise your revision effectively.

Test Yourself with these quick fire questions to monitor your progress.

Revision Tips provide you with interesting ways to make sure you retain all of this information.

Whenever you find a keyword highlighted like this, you can find out its meaning in the glossary at the back of the book.

Remember boxes contain handy nuggets of key information. If you don’t understand these, go back to your Student’s Book and refresh the topic.
Revision and Exam Tips

The content in this revision guide has been carefully written to make sure you have all of the key information needed for CSEC success at your fingertips. It has already been broken down for you into manageable chunks, based on the official CXC syllabus and exam structure.

Here are some tips to help you get the best out of this material:

- Start preparing ahead of the exams so you can give yourself enough time to get through all your work.
- Set long-term and short-term goals to help break up the work into manageable chunks.
- Write out a revision plan to help you stay on track; make sure to include breaks as learning is much more effective when spaced out over stretches of time.
- Remove all distractions from your study area.
- Make sure you have all the resources you need – this guide, a pen and extra paper.
- Use practical memory aids where you can; make flash cards, and use tables and mind maps like the ones in this guide.
- Try explaining all of the key words to another person without looking at the glossary.
- Test yourself and ask someone to test you.
- Recognise your revision milestones using the self-check boxes provided.

In the exam:

- Spend the first 10 minutes reading through the paper carefully, and work out a rough schedule to make sure you complete all the questions.
- Read each question before trying to answer it.
- Check your work and presentation carefully.
- Make sure you understand what the questions mean, so you can apply your knowledge properly:
  - **Analyse**: study something in detail and identify characteristics of each piece of information
  - **Assess**: make a judgement based on the facts provided
  - **Calculate**: work out the value
  - **Comment**: give your opinion
  - **Compare**: give similarities
  - **Contrast**: give differences
  - **Define**: give the meaning
  - **Describe**: give the characteristics
  - **Discuss**: give the key points
  - **Estimate**: give a value based on rough working
  - **Explain**: give reasons
  - **Identify**: name/characterise
  - **Illustrate**: give examples
  - **Justify**: support your answer with evidence
Self Check

Tick the box that shows how confident you feel

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Maybe</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I can describe the characteristics of living organisms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I can compare structure of unspecialised plant, animal and bacterial cells.</td>
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<td>I can state the functions of cell structures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I can identify selected cells which make up the human body.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I can explain the importance of cell specialisation in humans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I can distinguish between osmosis and diffusion, and describe diffusion and cell membranes.</td>
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<td>I can explain the process of photosynthesis.</td>
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<td>I can investigate the effect of light and chlorophyll on starch production.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I can explain the principles of food chains and construct food chains from selected habitats.</td>
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