



Independent Learning in A Level Biology



After each lesson, in addition to completing any set work, a pro-active, independent learner would...

- Ensure that notes are completed and filed suitably in a folder.
- Read the relevant textbook chapter and annotate lesson notes with additional, relevant content.
- Make a list of things not fully understood and discuss with a peer or a teacher *before* the next lesson.
- Try to summarise the content of the lesson in note, flow chart or diagrammatic format to diagnose lack of understanding.
- Try to commit factual information to memory immediately, rather than leaving it until revision.
- Annotate a copy of the specification using marked and assessed work to show areas of weakness.
- Attend the lunchtime Biology Surgery with pre-prepared questions.
- Apply factual information to novel situations by seeking out sources of extra questions.
- Read the textbook chapter on the next topic before the next lesson.

3

2

1

Effort grade

Resources to help you study

Some resources to help you are as follows:

Resource	Description
https://thebiologist.rsb.org.uk/biologist	A great resource for up-to-date Biology research.
Biology Surgery, D1.03 Friday 13.30	A space to work and discuss ideas with other Biology students. This is not a lesson, but a time to use your peers to answer your questions.
A-Level Biology: Essential Maths Skills by CGP	Practice your Maths skills that will be essential for scoring maximum marks in the exam.
Kerboodle.com	Use your login to access exam style questions and then challenge yourself with the "stretch and challenge" tasks.
Handouts\Science\Y13\Biology\Past paper questions by topic	Hundreds of past paper questions arranged by topic area. The marks schemes will be as important to you as the questions.
Biosheets	Find these in Handouts. Good summary sheets on all the major Biology ideas with summary questions and answers.
Biology101	Also found in Handouts, these summary notes could be used as check sheets for your understanding.

Stretch yourself

Subscribe to *Biological Sciences Review* (<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/life-sciences/outreach/biological-sciences-review/>) and read up on the latest research that is relevant to your A Level course, or borrow a copy of this magazine or *New Scientist* from the Biology Department.