

To: Parents/Caregivers of Year 10 Students 2023

Re: Junior Examinations: Wednesday 8 June to 14 June.

Please find below information regarding the topics to be assessed during the upcoming examinations in the four 'core' subjects for junior students. Further assessment information, and copies of previous examination papers for some subjects, can be found on subject Stratus pages - <http://stratus.pnbhs.school.nz/>, your son will need to use his school username and password to log in.

10 English

There are three sections to the exam:

Literary Essay - Written Text

- Students are expected to write on a written text e.g. poetry, short story, novel or biography that they have studied in class this year.
- All questions begin with "Describe....and Explain..." The essay will need an introduction and one extended paragraph.
- Essays are marked on the ideas presented by students, supporting examples and their relevance to the question, and the depth of understanding demonstrated in a student's explanations.
- Students should expect to spend around 45 minutes planning and writing their essay.
- The essay represents 40% of the overall mark.

Unfamiliar Text

- Students will read pieces of short fiction and poetry texts. They will answer a variety of short answer questions that focus on:
 - surface comprehension and inference skills
 - parts of speech and sentence types
 - identifying and explaining the effects of language features
 - demonstrating understanding of ideas
- Students should expect to spend approximately 40 - 45 minutes on this section.
- This section represents 40% of the overall exam mark.

Punctuation and Grammar

- This section assesses students' knowledge of basic punctuation and grammar including:
 - full stops, commas, apostrophes.
 - capital letter use.
 - complete and incomplete sentences, dependent and independent clauses.
 - homophones, parts of speech.
 - subject-verb agreement.
- This section represents 20 % of the overall exam mark. Students should expect to spend 15-20 minutes in this section.

10 Mathematics

Students are expected to have a ruler, calculator and pens. **Your son will be at a huge disadvantage without a calculator.**

The examination will look slightly different to previous years, but students can use previous examinations to prepare if they focus on the content outlined below. **Note: there is no formal Algebra in the mid-year examination.** Your son's Mathematics teacher will be able to share additional study material on MSTeams on Monday 22 May.

Short Answer Section

This section includes knowledge, (not application questions) relating to Number and Measurement.

The Number and Measurement section will be integrated. Students will be required to apply skills within Number and Measurement.

Skills covered include:

Number

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division equations and application problems involving whole numbers and decimal numbers
- Fractions - simplifying, mixed/improper, ordering of, converting to decimals, adding/subtracting/multiplying and dividing), application problems
- Percentages – converting %, fractions and decimals, % increases and decreases, % of an amount, % difference, finding the original amount, GST, rates and ratios
- Applying Number understanding to real-life situations

Measurement

- Identifying appropriate units of measurement, making reasonable estimations and measurement unit conversions
- Reading scales
- Time (12 and 24 hour) and calculating elapsed time
- Reading timetables
- Calculating perimeter of shapes, including circumference of circles
- Calculating area of squares, rectangles, triangles, trapeziums, parallelograms, and circles. (formula will be provided in the exam)
- Calculating area and perimeter of composite shapes
- Calculating surface area
- Calculating volume of prisms (formula will be provided)

Statistics and Probability Section

- Calculating mean, median and mode
- Interpreting graphs (read information from graphs to answer questions)
- Calculating probability from tables of information or graphs (shown as a fraction, % or decimal)

Transformations and Orientation Section

- Use compass points to describe a route from one location to another
- Use grid reference coordinates to describe a location
- Estimate distance using a scale
- Identify reflectional and rotational symmetry
- Reflect an object on a mirror line and label correctly
- Rotate an object around a point
- Translate an object

Linear Patterns and Graphs Section

- Identify, describe and continue linear patterns (eg. 1, 4, 7, 10,...)
- Identify, describe and continue linear patterns in a table and plot on a graph
- Use a linear graph or table to find unknown values

10 Social Studies - Treaty of Waitangi

There are 4 sections in this examination. This examination is worth 90% of the mid-year report grade. The sections are:

1. Resource Interpretation (25%)
2. Paragraph Writing (25%)
3. Data Skills (30%)
4. Current Events (10%)
5. *Common Assessment (NZ Wars) – already completed in class (10%)*

Section 1: Resource Interpretation (25%)

Students will be assessed on their ability to make sense of written texts and interpret sources, including those with different perspectives and views, and provide evidence-based conclusions.

This will involve

- Identifying the difference between primary and secondary sources
- Explaining the reliability and usefulness of the source (e.g., where it came from, purpose, trustworthiness, what it is telling us)
- Interpreting historical sources about New Zealand's involvement in World War II and providing answers that are supported with evidence

Section 2: Paragraph Writing (25%)

Students will be assessed on their ability **to demonstrate an understanding of significance through the creation of two PEEL paragraphs**. This means they will be writing meaningful text for the purpose of formal writing.

- The topic will be a **turning point or conflict** they studied in class. Students will be provided with three generic questions to choose from. The questions will be based on 1) cause and significance, 2) significance then vs now, 3) event and significance. There is no expectation to write an introduction or conclusion.

In the end-of-year examination, this will transition to students being expected to write a full essay with an introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.

Section 3: Data Skills (30%)

Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate information using social science practises. Specifically, this means their ability to

- identify key features of a bar graph AND draw a bar graph
- read and interpret data from graphs and tables (*e.g. recognise basic patterns, relationships and/or trends*)
- Provide evidence-based conclusions

Section Four: Current Events (10%)

This section will involve students answering multichoice-style questions, cartoon interpretation, and short-answer questions. The purpose is to assess student understanding of important current events.

- The current events will be from early 2023 to now.

10 Science

Materials needed: 2 blue or black pens, pencil, ruler, calculator, eraser and a sharpener. Total marks available 120.

Stratus Science Year 10 course page has past examinations, vocabulary lists, a detailed breakdown of the units, and plenty of resources for revision.

Students will learn and be tested on the following three units:

Unit 1: Should we Lower the Speed Limit? (Forces and Motion)

- (30 Multiple Choice,
- 1 Literacy Question (5 Marks),
- 1 Public Science Issue Question (5 marks),
- 1 Experimental Approaches Question (5 Marks))

Total 45 Marks

Unit 2: Healthy Lifestyle (Medical Science) (30 Multiple Choice

- 1 Literacy Question (5 Marks),
- 1 Public Science Issue Question (5 marks),
- 1 Experimental Approaches Question (5 Marks))

Total 45 Marks

Unit 3**: Ocean Acidification (Atomic Structure) (20 Multiple Choice

- 1 Literacy Question (5 Marks)
- 1 Experimental Approaches Question (5 Marks)

**The Midterm will not cover Acids and Bases.

Total 30 Marks

Grand Total: 120 Marks