

Year 9 Examinations Thursday, 13 June to Wednesday, 19 June 2024

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.

Social Studies

There are 4 sections in this examination. This examination is worth 100% of the mid-year report grade. The sections are:

1. Resource Interpretation (30%)
2. Identify and Demonstrate parts of a Paragraph (25%)
3. Data Skills (30%)
4. Current Events (15%)

Section 1: Resource Interpretation (30%)

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 ('Do' 6).

The topics will be:

- **How Māori identify and interact with the land**
- **How mana whenua of the Manawatū identify with the region** (*through historical events and significant locations*)

Section 2: Identify and Demonstrate parts of a Paragraph (25%)

Students will be assessed on their ability **to identify and demonstrate the components of a PEEL paragraph**. (Literacy Connection).

The topic will be **PNBHS Old Boys involvement in World War I**. However, students will be provided with content and resources which they must then demonstrate the skill of identifying or writing an appropriate Point, Evidence, Example, and/or Link **sentence** based on the resources given. It is an assessment of the skill.

In the end-of-year examination, this will transition to students being expected to write a scaffolded paragraph. Note: students will not be expected to write a full paragraph.

Section 3: Data Skills (30%)

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

- identify key features of bar graph and create a bar graph using a table of data (CI 6)
- read and interpret data from graphs and tables (*e.g. recognise basic patterns, relationships and/or trends*) ('Do' 13)
- provide evidence-based conclusions (PI 3)

Section Four: Current Events (15%)

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 2024 to now.

Science

There are three sections to the Year 9 Mid-Year Examination:

Unit 1: Why is Science, Science? (Introduction to Science)

- 25 Multiple choice questions (25 marks)
- Two written response questions (15 marks) – literacy, public science issue or investigative approach based questions.

Unit 2: Sea-Level Rise (Separation and Matter)

- 25 Multiple choice questions (25 marks)
- Two written response questions (15 marks) – literacy, public science issue or investigative approach based questions.

Unit 3: Healthy Lifestyle (Human Biology)

- 25 Multiple choice questions (25 marks)
- Two written response questions (15 marks) – literacy, public science issue or investigative approach based questions.

Examination Total: 120 Marks

Materials needed: Pen, pencil, eraser, ruler

Stratus Science Year 9 course page has past examinations, Learning Outcomes, and plenty of resource materials and questions for students to study from.

English

There are two sections to the exam:

Unfamiliar Text

Students will read a number of short fiction, non fiction and poetry texts.

- They will answer a variety of short answer questions that focus on;
 - surface comprehension and inference skills
 - identifying and explaining the effects of language features
 - summarising main ideas
- Students should expect to spend approximately 80 minutes on this section.
- This section represents 70% of the overall 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, sentence types
 - homophones, parts of speech
 - subject-verb agreement
 - alphabetical order
- This section represents 30 % of the overall grade.
- Students should expect to spend 40 minutes in this section.

Mathematics

Calculators should be used in this examination. Students will be at a disadvantage without one. Students also require pens and rulers.

Space: 35 marks

There will be short answer and application questions that may use the following skills:

- Shape recognition
- Drawing nets
- Isometric Drawings
- Basic angles (straight line, 360° , vertically opposite angles, perpendicular angles, acute, obtuse, reflex and revolution)
- Parallel lines
- Interior and exterior angles of polygons
- Triangle angle rules
- Sum of interior angles of quadrilaterals

Measurement: (35 marks)

There will be short answer and application questions that may use the following skills:

- 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
- Calculating area of squares, rectangles, triangles, trapeziums, and parallelograms. (Formula will be provided)
- Calculating area and perimeter of composite shapes
- Calculating surface area
- Calculating volume of prisms (formula will be provided)

Number: (50 marks)

This section covers basic mathematical calculations, fractions, use of order of operations, place value, integers, and word problems.

Skills include:

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division equations involving whole numbers and decimal numbers.
- Order of operations (BEDMAS)
- Fractions - simplifying, mixed/improper, ordering of, converting to decimals, adding/subtracting/multiplying and dividing).