

Year 10 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 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 (Fred Hollows) – 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 ('Do' 6).

The topic will be:

- 1975 Land March

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 (Literacy Connection).

The topic will be the **Dawn Raids**, a topic they have studied in class. Students will be provided with three generic questions to choose from in the exam. The questions will be based on 1) cause and significance, or 2) significance then vs now, 3) describe a social action and the significance of this action. 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 (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 (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 2024 to now.

Science

There are three sections to the Year 10 Mid-Year Examination:

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

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

Unit 2: Antibiotic Resistance (Microbiology)

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

Unit 3: Ocean Acidification (Atoms and Chemical Reactions)

- 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: 2 blue or black pens, pencil, ruler, calculator, eraser, and a sharpener.

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

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.
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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 MS Teams.

Short Answer Measurement Skills (25 marks)

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

Skills include:

- 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)
- Calculating area and perimeter of composite shapes
- Calculating volume of prisms and cylinders (formula will be provided)

Measurement Application Skills (22 marks)

This section includes word problems that require students to apply skills from the previous section to real life contexts.

Short Answer Number Skills (25 marks)

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

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).
- Percentages – converting %, fractions and decimals, % increases and decreases, % of an amount, % difference, finding the original amount, GST, rates and ratios.

Number Application Skills (22 marks)

This section includes word problems that require students to apply skills from the previous section to real life contexts.

Location and Transformations Section (12 marks)

Students will be required to use maps, grids and commands to demonstrate skills in the following.

- 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 and describe the translation using vectors

Angles (12 marks)

Students will be required to calculate missing angles and give the geometric reason (angle rule) that was used to solve the problem. Most questions will be one step problems but there will be a multi-step problem.

Angle rules to learn:

- Basic angles (straight line, 360° , vertically opposite angles, perpendicular angles)
 - Parallel lines
 - Exterior angles of polygons
 - Triangle angle rules
 - Sum of interior angles of polygons
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