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Contents

What is the format of the SAT Biology E/M Subject Test?

The SAT Biology E/M Subject Test contains two sections: core and options. There are 60 questions in the core section which is followed by 20 questions in either section E (ecology) or M (molecular). Therefore, every student has to answer in total 80 questions in 1 hour.

The contents of the test come mainly from five subject areas: cell and molecular biology, ecology, classical genetics, organismal biology, and evolution and diversity. However, as mentioned above, section E contains questions which are more related to ecology (e.g. population and energy flow), while section M is related more to molecular biology (e.g. biochemistry and cellular processes). The percentage of each subject area is summarized in the following table.

Content	Approximate % of E Test	Approximate % of M Test
Cell and molecular Biology e.g. cell structures, mitosis, photosynthesis, cell respiration and biochemistry	15	27
Ecology e.g. energy flow, nutrient cycles, population, ecosystems, biomes and effects of human impact on the environment	23	13
Genetics e.g. meiosis, genetic inheritances and molecular genetics	15	20
Organismal Biology e.g. structure, function and development of plants and animals, and animal behavior	25	25
Evolution and Diversity e.g. origin of life, evidence of evolution, natural selection and classification	22	15

Table 1.1 Differences between E test and M test

Students can choose the section that they want to take on the test day, by indicating the option on the answer sheet.

How is the test scored?

Students earn one point for each correct answer. No mark is given for any unanswered questions. However, 0.25 points is deducted for a wrong answer. The raw score is then converted to a scale of 200 to 800.

Obtaining a score of 800 is excellent, but 750 is considered a good score. However, the scores from SAT Subject Tests are just one of many factors determining which college a student is admitted to.

Are calculators allowed for the test?

NO calculators are allowed for the SAT Biology E/M Subject Test!

Should I take the test?

It is recommended to have at least one-year's experience in Biology in a U.S. high school curriculum or equivalent. It would be an additional advantage if students have laboratory experience. However, for students from British and IB systems, it would be better to finish at least AS level Biology or the first year of IBDP (HL) Biology respectively.

How do I register for the test?

Students can either send a hard copy of the registration form to the College Board for registration or register online through the College Board website (www. collegeboard.com).

Why choose NTK's SAT Biology E/M Study Guide?

- This book is specially designed for students who come from various education backgrounds and school systems.
- In depth reviews for **BOTH** Section E AND Section M
- **TWO** full-length practice tests are included for students to assess their ability before taking the test.
- Full explanation for the questions in the practice tests.