

KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL KCSE, 2014

ANALYSI: BIOLGY PAPER 1

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3.3 BIOLOGY (231)

This was the eighth time the revised KCSE Biology syllabus was tested.

3.3.1 CANDIDATES' GENERAL PERFORMANCE

The performance of the candidates in the three Biology papers is given in the table below. The performance of the candidates in the years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 is also given for comparison.

Table 11: Candidates' Overall Performance in the years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014

Year	Paper	Candidature	Maximum score	Mean score	Standard Deviation
2009	1		80	20.14	12.31
	2		80	18.41	10.30
	3		40	15.86	8.43
	Overall	299,302	200	54.29	28.80
2010	1		80	20.14	13.76
	2		80	18.41	10.82
	3		40	15.86	8.31
	Overall	317,135	200	58.39	30.44
2011	1		80	22.74	12.41
	2		80	23.31	13.04
	3		40	18.84	8.10
	Overall	363,817	200	64.87	31.05
2012	1		80	19.77	12.84
	2		80	20.70	12.09
	3		40	11.97	6.59
	Overall	389,523	200	52.41	29.43
2013	1		80	28.03	14.49
	2		80	22.36	12.70
	3		40	12.88	7.64
	Overall	397,319	200	63.26	32.06
2014	1		80	23.91	14.49
	2		80	18.92	11.83
	3		40	20.82	8.39
	Overall	432,977	200	63.65	32.57

From the table it can be observed that:

- There has been an increase in candidature for the past five years.
- There was a slight improvement in performance in the year 2014 compared to 2013 as indicated by the mean scores of the papers.
- The standard deviation values indicate that the papers adequately discriminated learners of different abilities.

ANALYSIS OF POORLY PERFORMED QUESTIONS

The questions that were performed poorly by the candidates are discussed below.

3.3.2 Biology Paper 1 (231/1)

No difficult questions were reported in this paper.