

New Zealand Scholarship Assessment Specifications

Performance Standard

Science

Mode of Assessment

Written Examination

For Year

2012

Format of the assessment

There will be four resource-based questions, some of which may be open ended or structured in a step-wise fashion. Some questions may have long passages to read and consider. Individual questions will cover the content of more than one Level 3 Science achievement standard.

Candidates will be required to answer ALL questions.

Content/context details

Questions will be asked within a variety of contexts, most of which will be unfamiliar. Each question will be based on a context covering one or more of the four curriculum strands: Living World, Material World, Physical World, and Planet Earth and Beyond. Knowledge required will be drawn from the relevant explanatory notes of the Level 3 Science standards. The skills required for achievement standards 90727 (Practical Investigation) and 90728 (Scientific Controversy) will also be assessed, such as the discussion of aspects of a given scientific controversy, discussions of the collection and reliability of data, sources of error, and validity of conclusions drawn.

All necessary formulae, constants and data will be provided. Calculations should show appropriate use of significant figures.

Equipment to bring

A calculator is required.