KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 11

LIFE SCIENCES

MARKING GUIDELINES

PROVINCIAL STANDARDISED ASSESSMENT

MARCH 2026

Stanmorephysics.com

MARKS: 100

This marking guideline consists of 8 pages.

Copyright Reserved

PRINCIPLES RELATED TO MARKING LIFE SCIENCES MARCH 2026

1. **If more information than marks allocated is given**
   Stop marking when maximum marks are reached and put a wavy line and 'max' in the right-hand margin.

2. **If, for example, three reasons are required and five are given**
   Mark the first three irrespective of whether all or some are correct/incorrect.

3. **If whole process is given when only part of it is required**
   Read all and credit relevant part.

4. **If comparisons are asked for and descriptions are given**
   Accept if differences / similarities are clear.

5. **If tabulation is required but paragraphs are given**
   Candidates will lose marks for not tabulating.

6. **If diagrams are given with annotations when descriptions are required**
   Candidates will lose marks



7. **If flow charts are given instead of descriptions**
   Candidates will lose marks.

8. **If sequence is muddled and links do not make sense**
   Where sequence and links are correct, credit. Where sequence and links is incorrect, do not credit. If sequence and links becomes correct again, resume credit.

9. **Non-recognised abbreviations**
   Accept if first defined in answer. If not defined, do not credit the unrecognized abbreviation but credit the rest of answer if correct.

10. **Wrong numbering**
    If answer fits into the correct sequence of questions but the wrong number is given, it is acceptable.

11. **If language used changes the intended meaning**
    Do not accept.

12. **Spelling errors**
    If recognizable accept provided it does not mean something else in Life Sciences or if it is out of context.

Copyright Reserved

13. **If common names given in terminology**
Accept provided it was accepted at the National memo discussion meeting.

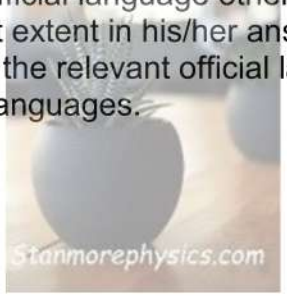
14. **If only letter is asked for and only name is given (and vice versa)**
No credit

15. **If units are not given in measurements**
Candidates will lose marks. Memorandum will allocate marks for units separately

16. Be sensitive to the **sense of an answer, which may be stated in a different way**.

17. **Caption**
All illustrations (diagrams, graphs, tables, etc.) must have a caption

18. **Code-switching of official languages (terms and concepts)**
A single word or two that appears in any official language other than the learners' assessment language used to the greatest extent in his/her answers should be credited, if it is correct. A marker that is proficient in the relevant official language should be consulted. This is applicable to all official languages.



Copyright Reserved

SECTION A

QUESTION 1

1.1 1.1.1 B✓✓
1.1.2 C✓✓
1.1.3 A✓✓
1.1.4 B✓✓
1.1.5 D✓✓
1.1.6 No answer (5 x 2) **(10)**

1.2 1.2.1 Chordata ✓
1.2.2 Bacteria✓/ Mycobacterium tuberculosis
1.2.3 Immunity ✓
1.2.4 pollination ✓
1.2.5 Asymmetry✓
1.2.6 Biotechnology✓
1.2.7 Photosynthetic✓/Autotrophic (7 x 1) **(7)**

1.3 1.3.1 A only ✓✓
1.3.2 B only ✓✓
1.3.3 A only ✓✓ (3 x 2) **(6)**

1.4 1.4.1 Bacteriophage✓ (1)
1.4.2 - parasitic ✓/host-specific/pathogenic
- acellular ✓ (2)
1.4.3 (a) C ✓ (1)
(b) A ✓ (1)
(c) B ✓ (1)
(6)

Copyright Reserved

1.5 1.5.1 (a) Annelida ✓ (1)

(b) Triploblastic ✓ (1)

(c) Through ✓gut (1)

1.5.2 (a) Ectoderm ✓ (1)

(b) Endoderm ✓ (1)

1.5.3 (a) B✓ Coelom ✓ (2)

(b) D✓ Mesoderm ✓ (2)
(9)

TOTAL SECTION A: [38]

SECTION B

QUESTION 2



2.1 2.1.1 Plantae ✓ (1)

2.1.2
- deforestation ✓
- urban development ✓ } Human activities ✓
- agriculture ✓
- increasing global temperature ✓ } Environmental changes ✓
- rising temperatures ✓

(Mark first TWO only) (2)

2.1.3
- dries up soil ✓
- prevents swimming of male gamete to female gamete✓
- prevents fusion of gametes ✓ Any (2)

(5)

2.2 2.2.1 Bird ✓ (1)

2.2.2
- has true roots, stem and leaves ✓/ non thallus
- leaves have a cuticle ✓
- vascular tissue ✓
- produce seed ✓
- water is not required for fertilisation ✓

(Mark first TWO only) Any (2)



2.2.3
- Produces and stores✓
- pollen grains ✓
- that contain male gametes ✓
- this is essential for fertilisation ✓ Any (3)

2.2.4

BIRD POLLINATED FLOWER	WIND POLLINATED FLOWER
- large ✓ petals	- small ✓ petals
- sweet scent ✓	- no scent ✓
- Brightly coloured ✓ petals	- petals are not brightly coloured ✓ / dull

Any (2 x 2) + 1 table (5)

2.2.5
- has long / feather-like stigma ✓
- with a large surface area ✓
- to easily trap the pollen grain ✓ (3)

(14)

2.3 2.3.1 Cladogram✓/ Phylogenetic tree (1)

2.3.2 (a) Pteridophytes ✓ (1)

(b) Spermatophytes ✓ (1)

2.3.3
- Seed **A** is naked ✓
- Seed **B** is covered by/enclosed in a fruit ✓
- Seed **A** has papery wing – wind dispersed ✓
- Seed **B** eaten and dispersed by animals ✓ Any (2)

2.3.4
- have true stem, roots and leaves✓
  to grow to greater heights✓/ direct absorption of water and sunlight
- have vascular tissues ✓ / xylem and phloem
  to transport water and food✓
- have (waxy) cuticle ✓
  to reduce water loss✓
- reproduce by spores ✓
  no dependency of water✓ Any (2)

2.3.5 No answer

(7)
[26]

QUESTION 3

3.1 3.1.1 (a) Plasmodium ✓ (1)

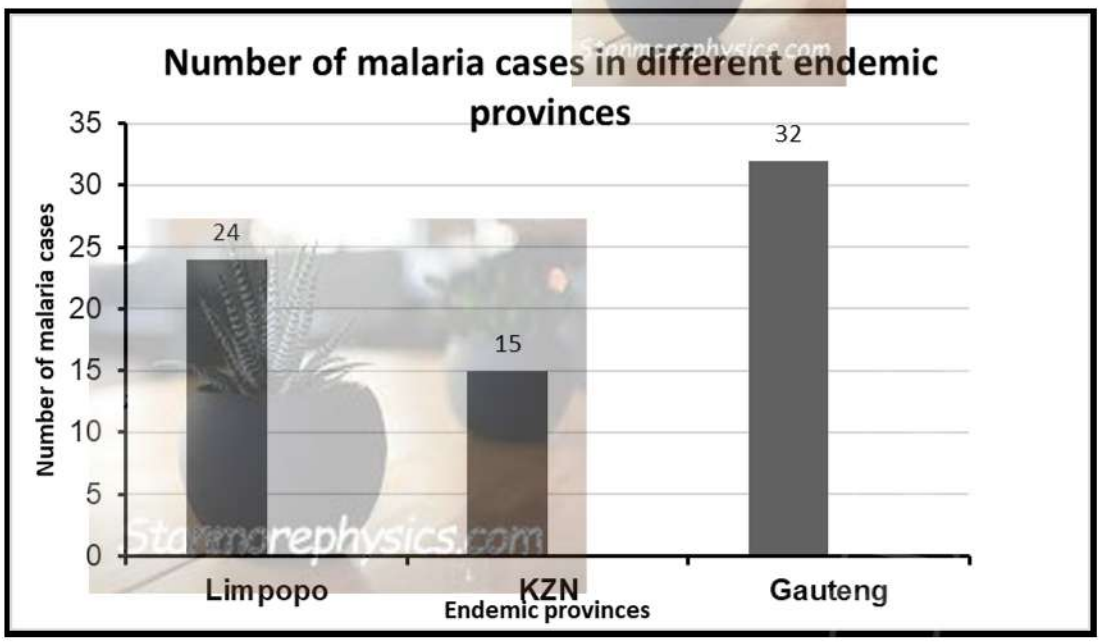
(b) Female Anopheles Mosquito ✓ (1)

(c) - Limpopo ✓
- Gauteng ✓
(Mark first TWO only) (2)

3.1.2 - high fever ✓
- chills ✓
- headache ✓
- muscle aches ✓
- sweating ✓
- diarrhoea ✓
(Mark first TWO only) (2)

3.1.3 - cold weather /lower temperature ✓ breeding becomes unfavourable
- for parasite development ✓mosquito infections / causes mosquitos to become inactive
- less rain ✓ / dry conditions decreases mosquito reproduction✓ Any (2)

3.1.4



Criteria for marking the graph:

Criteria	Mark allocation
Bar graph is drawn (**T**)	1
Caption of the graph includes both variables (**C**)	1
Correct labels on the X-axis and Y-axis **(L)**	1
Correct scale for X-axis and Y-axis (**S**)	1
Plotting (**P**) correctly done for: 1 – 2 bars All bars plotted correctly	1 2

(6)
(14)

Copyright Reserved

3.2 - algae produce their own organic nutrients ✓
- role as producers in the food chain ✓
- role as decomposers ✓
- saprophytic protists and fungi breakdown dead organic matter ✓
- role in maintaining balance between oxygen and carbon dioxide ✓
- algae use carbon dioxide and release oxygen during photosynthesis ✓ Any **(5)**

3.3 3.3.1 (a) Degree of Cephalisation ✓/ presence/absence of cephalisation (1)

(b) Survival chances ✓ (1)

3.3.2 - 50 jellyfish and 50 catfish were used ✓
- investigation was conducted for 4 months ✓ (2)

3.3.3 $\left.\frac{50 - 36}{50}\right\}$ ✓ x 100 ✓

= 28% ✓ (3)

3.3.4 There is a decrease of Jellyfish and Catfish from January to April✓✓

OR

- The number of surviving jellyfish decrease from **50** to **17** ✓
- The number of surviving catfish decrease from **50** to **47**✓ (2)

Stanmorephysics.com

3.3.5 - To improve the validity of the investigation ✓
- by ensuring that the cephalisation is the only independent variable✓
- that affects the survival of the fish✓ Any (2)

(11)

[30]

TOTAL SECTION B: 56

GRAND TOTAL: 94

CONVERSION TABLE

MARK OBTAINED	MARK ADDED
1 – 7	0
8 – 23	+1
24 – 39	+2
40 – 54	+3
55 – 70	+4
71 – 86	+5
87 – 94	+6

Copyright Reserved