



University of Glasgow | Student Learning Service

# The Student Learning Service and the PeerWise Self Directed Learning Assignment

*Dr Lesley Nicolson*

*Biomolecular Sciences*

*and*

*Dr Amanda Sykes*

*Student Learning Service*





**This is your assignment...**

**You have to write and answer and comment on multiple choice questions on topics relating to biomolecular science.**

**There are deadlines**

**There are penalties**

**There might even be prizes too !!!**



**...answered MCQ questions...?**

**...written MCQs?**





**Eight questions, and you should be able to get them all right... just think about how MCQs are written**

Nora Mogey, Phil Race and Roger Lewis

**1. The usual function of a Grunge-prowker is to remove:**

- A: Grunges**
- B: Snarts**
- C: Trigs**
- D: Grods**



## Antigrottification occurs...

**A: on summer mornings**

**B: on summer evenings provided there is no rain before dusk**

**C: on autumn afternoons**

**D: on winter nights**



**Lurkies suffer from trangitis because...**

**A: their prads are always underdeveloped**

**B: all their brizes are horizontal**

**C: their curnpieces are usually imperfect**

**D: none of their dringoes can ever adapt**



**Non-responsive frattling is usually found in an:**

- A: Gringle**
- B: Janket**
- C: Kloppie**
- D: Ukerpod**



## Which are exceptions to the law of lompicality?

**A: The miltrip and the nattercup**

**B: The bifid pantrip**

**C: The common queeter**

**D: The flanged ozzer**



**Which must be present for parbling to take place?**

**A: Phlot and runge**

**B: Runge**

**C: Stuke and runge**

**D: Runge and trake**



**One common disorder of an overspragged ukerpod is:**

- A: Copious vezzling**
- B: Intermittent weggerment**
- C: Non-responsive frattling**
- D: Uneven yurkation**



**Which is the correct answer?**

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**



**How do you think you got on?**

**Swap with your neighbour...**





The usual function of a grunge-prowker is to remove:

**A: Grunges**

**B: Snarts**

**C: Trigs**

**D: Grods**



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Which are exceptions to the law of lompicality?

**A: The miltrip and the nattercup**

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Which must be present for parbling to take place?

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**One common disorder of an overspragged ukerpod is:**

- A: Copious vezzling**
- B: Intermittent weggerment**
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- D: Uneven yurkation**

**4. Non-responsive frattling is usually found in an:**

- A: Gringle**
- B: Janket**
- C: Kloppie**
- D: Ukerpod**



Which is the correct answer?

A

B

C

D

(ABCDABCD)



**Don't give a clue in the stem (an, plural)**

**Don't give the answer in another question**

**Don't mix definite responses and qualifications**

**Do make all distractors approx same length**

**Do use A and E**

**Don't use a distractor that is 100% implausible**

**Do be sure the correct answer is unique**



**So, the quiz gives you some ideas for rules to think about when writing multiple choice questions**

**But, what would a biomolecular science question look like...?**



**Which amino acid is formed by modification after its parent amino acid has been incorporated into a peptide linkage?**

- a) threonine
- b) arginine
- c) histidine
- d) proline
- e) hydroxyproline**

**This is a poor question.**

**You could guess hydroxyproline as it is the only answer where the amino acid name is modified.**



**In serum protein electrophoresis at pH 7, albumin moves to the anode and immunoglobulin moves to the cathode. Which of the following correctly explains this phenomenon?**

- a) Immunoglobulin has more hydrophobic amino acids than albumin
- b) Albumin has more hydrophobic amino acids than immunoglobulin
- c) Albumin is a larger protein than immunoglobulin
- d) Albumin has more basic amino acids than acidic amino acids
- e) Immunoglobulin has more basic amino acids than acidic amino acids**

**This question requires you know the feature of proteins that fractionates them during electrophoresis (charge) AND what type of charge would propel a protein to the cathode.**

**You are required to deduce the answer based on the information provided in the stem and your knowledge of electrophoresis.**



What is the reverse complement of DNA sequence 5'-ATTGGCTCT -3'?

- a) 5'-CTCTAACCT -3'
- b) 5'-GCCAATCTC-3'
- c) 5'-TCTCGGTTA- 3'
- d) 5'-AGAGCCAAT -3'**
- e) 5'-TAACCGAGA- 3'

This question is good. Concepts covered: 1) base pairing is A:T and G:C 2) DNA double strand is antiparallel so 5'-3' top strand, 3'-5' bottom strand 3) reverse complement means opposite strand sequence AND the distractors deal with common misconceptions

d) is the correct answer:

the sequence that would base pair with stem sequence

5'-ATTGGCTCT -3'

3'-TAACCGAGA-5' so the answer is: 5'-AGACCAAT-3'

- a) and b) Misconception – A:G pairs and C:T pairs (sequence is 'reverse complement'/'reverse')
- c) Reverse of stem sequence – not complementary
- e) Each base is complement of base in stem sequence BUT would not base pair with it as direction is 5'-3' (not 3'-5')



## Bad Questions...

- ...are too simplistic
- ...don't explore complex subjects
- ...don't anticipate topics/nuances others find tough

## Bad Distractors...

- ...signal what the answer is (think quiz)
- ...are too different
- ...aren't plausible enough
- ...cannot be explained



**For you as author:**

**Check your understanding**

**Highlight confusions**

**Increases your learning**

**For someone else as student:**

**Check their understanding**

**Explain their confusions**

**Increases their learning**



**It's anonymous (you need to create a username)**

**You write MCQs based on the course ILOs  
and write explanations for the answer and  
why the distracters are incorrect  
and tag them (why?)**

**Your peers answer them  
and comment on them  
and rate them for difficulty (easy-hard) and  
quality (0 to 5)  
and 'follow' you (why?)  
and tag your question (why?)**



**PeerWise**  
University of Glasgow

### Welcome to PeerWise

PeerWise supports you and your peers in the creation, sharing, evaluation and discussion of assessment questions relevant to your studies.

- You design the questions**  
Creating a question requires you to reflect on what you are learning in a course. Explaining the answer to your question in your own words helps to reinforce your understanding. *If you teach it, you understand it.*
- See what everyone thinks**  
Attempt questions written by your peers, and see how everyone else has answered! Feedback is immediate, you have access to explanations and you can participate in discussions. *See what others think is important.*
- Learn from your peers**  
Search by quality, difficulty and topic to find questions of interest to you. Follow authors who contribute questions that you like, and request help when you need it. *Help your peers, and let them help you.*

PeerWise is simple to use - you can access it anywhere and anytime. **New to PeerWise?** Find out [all you need to know](#).

Welcome to PeerWise for University of Glasgow

Already joined? Welcome back...

username:

password:

[Forgotten your password? Get a new one](#)

Like to join? Please register ...

[Registration is very simple](#)

[http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?gla\\_uk](http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?gla_uk)



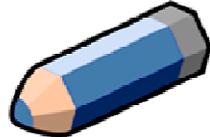
**PeerWise**  
University of Glasgow

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### Registration

Welcome to PeerWise! Registration is very simple, and consists of the following 4 steps:

- Step 1: choose a name
- Step 2: choose a password
- Step 3: enter the "Course ID" for the course you would like to join
- Step 4: enter your "Identifier" to join the course



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### What do I need to know before I start?

Before you start the registration process, you need to know details of the first course that you are going to join. Make sure you know the following **two** things. Your course instructor should have given you this information.

-  **Course ID** this number identifies the course that you are going to join
-  **Identifier** this is the information about you that will help your instructor identify you

**5679** ←

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### I'm ready!

Begin registration >>

**Your registration number** →



**Also, register your student email account**



# What does it look like?

## Main Menu

Questions you've contributed

Questions you've answered

Questions you've not answered yet

Questions by authors you're following

**PeerWise**

**Biomolecular Sciences 1 (2011-12)**

You are logged in as **amanda**. [Logout](#)

[Home](#) | [Main menu](#)

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**Your questions**

[view »](#) You are currently contributing **0** questions  
You have deleted **0** of your questions

---

**Answered questions**

[view »](#) You have answered **0** questions (of these, **0** have been deleted by the author)  
You have written **0** comments about these questions

---

**Unanswered questions**

[view »](#) *All questions* There are currently **0** unanswered questions you may answer

[view »](#) *Followed questions* There are **0** unanswered questions by authors you are currently following

---

[View leaderboards](#) [View my badges](#) [Provide feedback](#)

Your score

1

Questioning: 0

Answering: 0

Rating: 0

Your score



**Provide the following:**

1. Question text (ILO-based)
2. Correct answer (only one!!!)
3. Four plausible distracters
4. Explanations for all answers
5. A tag

# Writing questions

The screenshot shows the PeerWise interface for creating a question. The interface includes sections for 'Question text', 'Alternatives', 'Explanation', and 'Topics'. Blue callout boxes point to these sections with the following instructions:

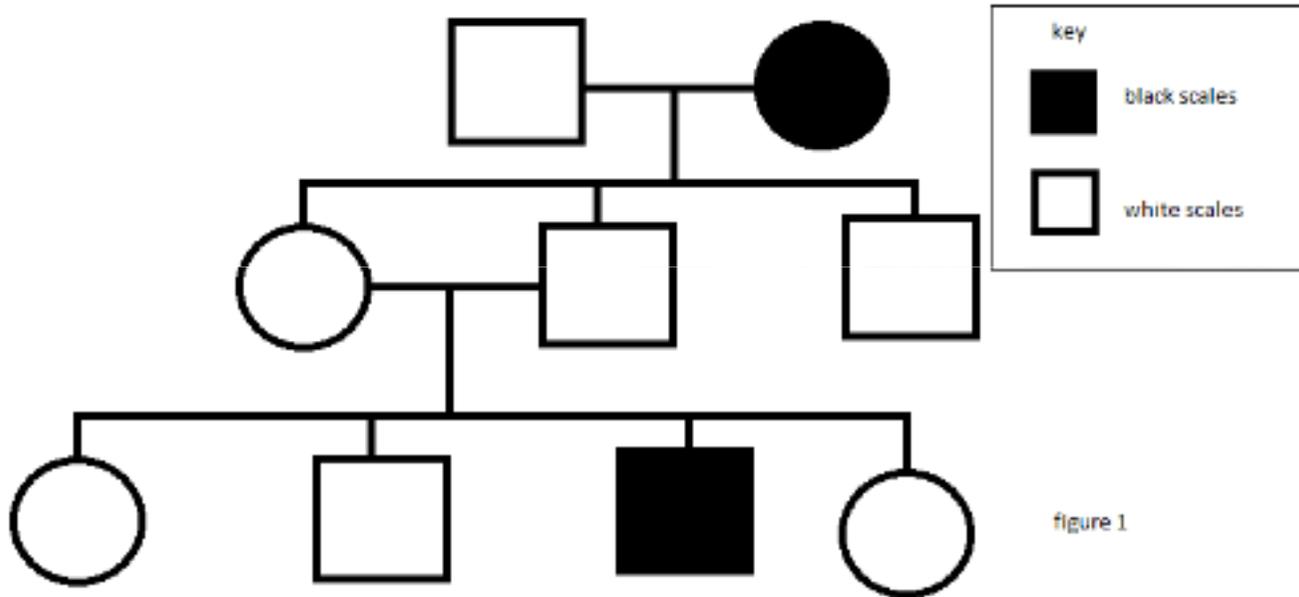
- Provide the question text**: Points to the 'Question text' field.
- Provide the alternatives**: Points to the 'Alternatives' list.
- Indicate the correct answer**: Points to the 'Correct answer' dropdown menu.
- Provide an explanation**: Points to the 'Explanation' text area.
- Associate "topics" or "tags"**: Points to the 'Topics' list.

The screenshot also shows a list of topics and a 'Correct answer' dropdown menu with options A, B, C, D, and E. Option B is selected as the correct answer.



# Use diagrams too...

A cross of two homozygous lizards produces a pedigree shown in figure 1 in this black scales are:



**NB: max size 50k**



## Alternatives

You selected **B** when answering this question  
The contributor suggests **E** is the correct option

OPTION	ALTERNATIVE	RESPONSES
A	I. homozygous, phenotype cannot fly II. heterozygus, phenotype cannot fly	5 (11.36%)
<b>B</b>	I. heterozygous, phenotype can fly II. heterozygous, phenotype cannot fly	4 (9.09%)
C	I. homozygous, phenotype can fly II. homozygous, phenotype cannot fly	3 (6.82%)
D	I. heterozygous, phenotype can fly II. homozygous, phenotype can fly	3 (6.82%)
<b>E</b>	I. heterozygus, phenotype can fly II. heterozygous, phenotype can fly	29 (65.91%)

## Explanation

The following explanation has been provided relating to this question:

Heterozygous refers to any genotype consisting of two different alleles. This will hide any recessive traits in the pair.  
Homozygous refers to any genotype consisting of two identical alleles. This will allow a pair of recessive traits to be expressed.

The vestigle wing was coded for by a recessive allele, thus required a homozygous genotype i.e gg for it to be expressed.



[Request help](#)  
[Improve explanation](#)



# Difficulty, rating and commenting on questions

## Rating:

Is it good enough for the final exam?

Is the explanation enough that someone who got it wrong would understand why?

## Things to remember:

1. An easy question can still be excellent
2. Rate fairly
3. Justify poor ratings with comments
4. Comments must be constructive
5. Usual online etiquette applies
6. It's anonymous BUT we can track your contributions

Please rate this question:  
Please rate this question as fairly and accurately as you can - your rating will help others to find questions of interest.

Difficulty **Easy** Medium Hard

Quality **very poor** poor fair good very good excellent  
0 1 2 3 4 5

Comment

Previous comments There is 1 comment written about this question.

*All feedback*

WHEN	COMMENT (SCORE BY COMMENT AUTHOR)	AGREE WITH COMMENT	DISAGREE WITH COMMENT
4:52pm, 06 Dec	1923 v easy question	★ ○	✗ ○

<< Prev | 1 | Next >>  
(Displaying 1 - 1 of 1)

**Report this question.**  
 All questions should assess material relevant to your course, and should not contain any inappropriate or potentially offensive material. If you are concerned about the content of this question, you may report the question to your course administrator.

**Follow author?**  
 If you liked this question, you might also like other questions written by the same person. You are not currently "following" this question author - if you would like to, select this option.

Previous comments  There are 29 comments written about this question.

All feedback

WHEN	COMMENT (SCORE OF COMMENT AUTHOR)	AGREE WITH COMMENT	DISAGREE WITH COMMENT
8:37pm, 10 Jan	<p>★★★★★★★★★★★★</p> <p>316</p> <p>Good queastion, made me think twice wether the head or tail was hydrophilic or hydrophobic.</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
5:24pm, 11 Jan	<p>★★★★★★★★★★★★</p> <p>4660</p> <p>Good question! I always think of the head being hydrophilic as it enjoys getting its hair washed :L, just a wee memory aid there :)</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
8:20pm, 10 Jan	<p>★★★★★★★</p> <p>5150</p> <p>C and D don't answer the question, don't seem related to 'why' they form bilayers. Do phospholipids do disulfide bonds? Explanation is good for answers A and E, which were great answers to make you doubt- that's good in multi choice.</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
5:42pm, 11 Jan	<p>★★★★★★</p> <p>3795</p> <p>Keeping E as the 'phosphate' head like in A would have made me think even more about hydrophobic and hydrophilic, because I wouldn't have been able to make the link between water being attracted to polar. Good question and explanation!</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
7:53pm, 10 Jan	<p>★★★</p> <p>2944</p> <p>Good question, made me doubt which one was hydrophobic and which was hydrophilic.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>Author's reply:</b> that was my intention :P</p> </div>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
7:58pm, 10 Jan	<p>★★★★</p> <p>5119</p> <p>Good question, really good test of accurate knowledge.</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
8:54pm, 10 Jan	<p>★★★★</p> <p>3739</p> <p>Interesting question, agreed that C and D seem most irrelevant</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
10:20pm, 10 Jan	<p>★★★★</p> <p>2760</p> <p>Good question to make you think about your answer. I liked the way the question made me think about the structure of a phospholipid! Well done!</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
2:12pm, 11 Jan	<p>★★★★</p> <p>4456</p> <p>Good question with having both suggested hydrophilic &amp; hydrophobic.</p>	<p>★ <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>✗ <input type="radio"/></p>
	<p>★★★★</p>		

<a href="#">4 »</a>	The cell signalling pathway usually involves how many steps?	5:14pm, 28 Feb	54		0	7:17pm, 03 May	9	easy / medium	1.61
<a href="#">5 »</a>	What is GSH's role in the red blood cell?	4:56pm, 28 Feb	78		0	3:38pm, 07 Mar	16	easy / medium	2.87
<a href="#">6 »</a>	Which of these molecules needs a transporter?	4:56pm, 28 Feb	94		0	12:20pm, 07 Mar	14	easy	2.68
<a href="#">7 »</a>	Which enzyme is incorrectly matched to its secretion and function?	4:50pm, 28 Feb	58		0	4:02pm, 07 Mar	10	easy / medium	2.40
<a href="#">8 »</a>	Haemoglobin is the heme-containing oxygen and iron bindin protein ...	4:29pm, 28 Feb	73		0	7:20pm, 17 Jun	16	easy / medium	2.49
<a href="#">9 »</a>	Whis of the following IS true about vitamin E?	4:25pm, 28 Feb	63		0	3:42pm, 07 Mar	9	easy	2.63
<a href="#">10 »</a>	Which of the following is not true for adult ...	3:58pm, 28 Feb	90		0	8:20pm, 22 Mar	15	easy	2.51

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## Topics

There are currently questions on the following topics that you may answer (darker topics are more popular):

["Allosteric Effects"](#) ["Amino Acids"](#) ["Beta Oxidation"](#) [Biostatistics](#) [Blood](#) ["Carnitine Shuttle"](#) ["cell biology"](#) ["Cell Cycle"](#) ["Cell Death"](#) ["Cell Division"](#) ["Cell membranes"](#) ["Cell Signaling"](#) ["cell signalling"](#) ["Cell Structure"](#) ["Cellular Organelles"](#) [Cholesterol](#) [ChromosomalDisorder](#) [Chromosomes](#) ["Citrate shuttle"](#) [Classification](#) [correlation](#) [cytogenetics](#) [Digestion](#) [Disease](#) ["Disruption Ox Phos"](#) ["DNA replication"](#) ["DNA RNA"](#) ["Endocrine System"](#) [endocrinology](#) ["enzyme inhibitors"](#) ["Enzyme Kinetics"](#) [Enzymes](#) ["Fatty Acid Breakdown"](#) ["Fatty Acid Synthesis"](#) [Genetics](#) [Gluconeogenesis](#) [Glycolysis](#) ["Glycolysis and GNG"](#) [Hemoglobin](#) [Heritability](#) [Hormones](#) [Karyotypes](#) ["Ketone Bodies"](#) ["lipid bilayer"](#) [Lipids](#) ["lipids metabolism"](#) [Lipoproteins](#) [Meiosis](#) [Metabolism](#) [Minerals](#) [Mitosis](#) ["Mode of Inheritance"](#) [Myoglobin](#) [nitrogen](#) ["Nitrogen Metabolism"](#) [Nutrition](#) ["Ox Phosphorylation"](#) ["Peptide Bonds"](#) [Phosphofructokinase](#) ["Phospholipid bilayer"](#) [Plasma](#) ["Primary Structure"](#) [Prions](#) ["Prophase I"](#) ["Protein Separation"](#) ["Protein Trafficking"](#) [Proteins](#) [Proteomics](#) [Receptors](#) ["Red Blood Cell"](#) [regression](#) ["structural proteins"](#) ["TCA cycle"](#) [Telomeres](#) ["Trace Elements"](#) [Transcription](#) [Translation](#) [Translocation](#) [Transportation](#) ["Urea cycle"](#) [Vitamins](#) ["X ch inactivation"](#)

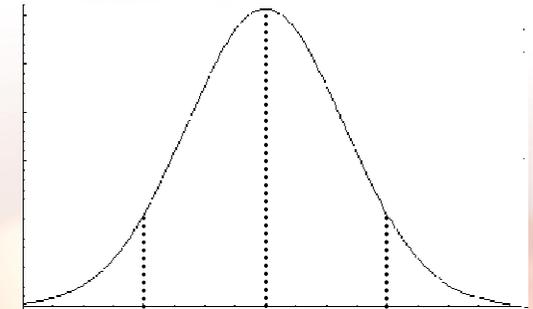
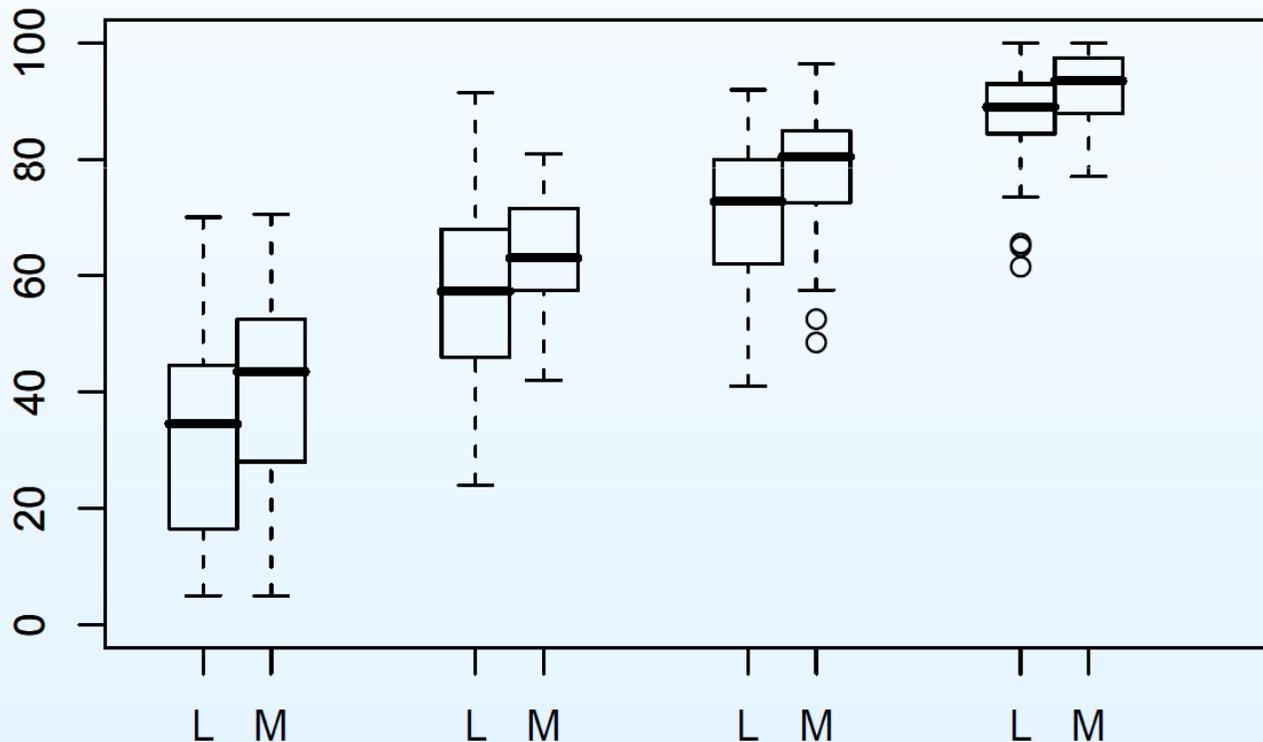
Select a topic to see all the questions on that topic only.

[Show questions on all topics](#)



## Participation improves grade:

Exam performance by quartile, LPA v. MPA  
LPA = Least PeerWise Active, MPA = Most PeerWise Active





## Things you need to know to register:

Address: [http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?gla\\_uk](http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?gla_uk)

Course ID: 5679

Your identifier: your registration (matriculation)  
number



# Term One Assignment Deadlines

<b>Mon <u>24<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b> <b>17:00</b>	<b>Submit 1 good quality question (minimum)</b> <b>cell biology / proteins / enzymes / molecular biology</b>
<b>Mon <u>31<sup>st</sup> Oct</u></b> <b>17:00</b>	<b>Answer 10 questions (minimum)</b>
<b>Mon <u>21<sup>st</sup> Nov</u></b> <b>17:00</b>	<b>Submit 1 good quality question (minimum)</b> <b>Metabolism / biostatistics / genetics</b>
<b>Fri <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Dec</u></b> <b>17:00</b>	<b>Answer 10 questions (minimum)</b>

**Minimum requirement: Author two good quality questions  
Answer 20 questions**



**Timely and (hopefully) useful feedback**

**Deeper understanding (passing exam/better grade)**

**Kudos (albeit anonymous!!)**

**Revision**

**Critical thinking**

**Deconstructing assessment**

**The chance to see lots of questions and to see other people's answers to, and comments on them**

**Excellent questions *might* be used in assessments (they were last year)**



## **Student feedback (positive)**

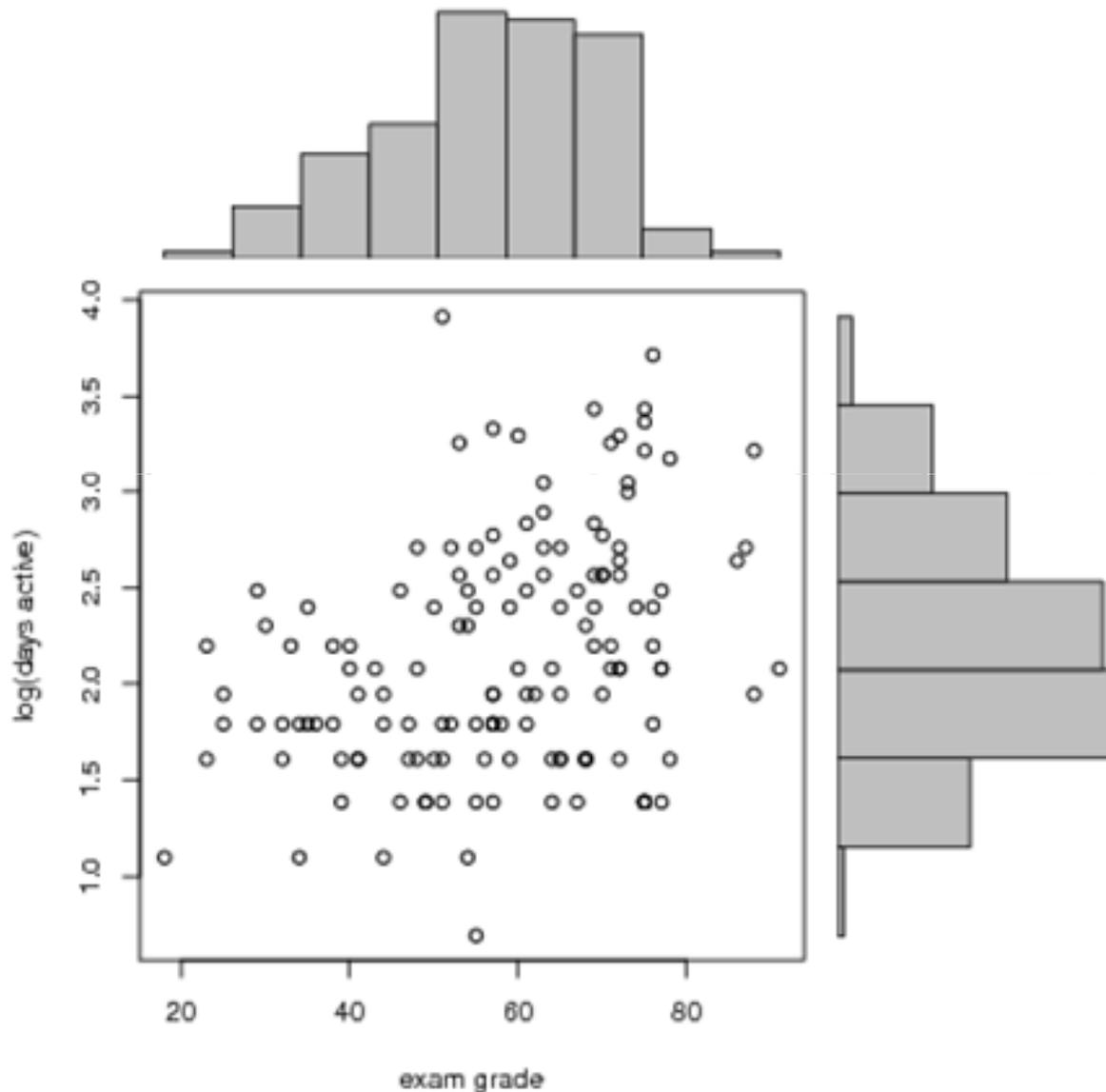
**75% agreed that writing and answering Qs  
aided their understanding/revision**

**Great revision and feedback tool**



## Areas identified by students as 'issues' :

- 1. Accuracy of database - YOUR responsibility**
  - commenting on Qs by all, and editing of Q by author
- 2. Relevance of some questions - use ILOs**
- 3. 'Unconstructive comments' - provide useful feedback to question author/community & BE NICE**
- 4. Lack of effort by some students - by the class FOR the class so your effort impacts everyone else**



**Medium strength relationship between number of PW Qs answered and class exam grade**

**And between number of days active and grade**



## **Self directed learning assignments :**

**4 PeerWise deadlines and 2 Aropa deadlines  
each term**

**You will receive up to 5% towards your professional  
mark for Biomolecular Science 1:**

**2.5% for meeting ALL PW and Aropa deadlines  
in term 1**

**2.5% for meeting ALL PW and Aropa deadlines  
in term 2**

**If you miss one, or more than one, deadline in  
term 1 your carryover for term 1 will be 0%.**