

**SYLLABUS FOR PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE
POSTS OF ASSISTANT MASTER/ASSISTANT MISTRESS IN LIFE SCIENCE**

SUBJECT : BOTANY

Full Marks : 100

Time : 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Module – 1 : The Gateway of Life Sciences :

1. The science of Life - Definition of Life; Origin and Evolution of Life on the Earth (overview).
2. Basic Technology associated with the study of Botany - Concept of simple, compound and electron microscopy; cell fractionation and centrifugation; colorimetry; tracer techniques.
3. Cell Structure and Function - Differences between prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells; ultra structural components and functions of the cell wall, plasma membrane, nucleus, mitochondria, plastids, endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi bodies, ribosomes, lysosomes and peroxisomes.

Module – 2 : Cell Biology and Genetics :

1. Morphology of chromosome; autosomes and sex chromosomes; differences between euchromatin and heterochromatin; basic methods of chromosome study; concept of gene; physical structure and chemical properties of nucleic acids (DNA and RNA).
2. Cell cycle; cell division (mitosis and meiosis) in plants.
3. Mendel's laws and experiments of heredity; linkage and crossing over; concept of mutation and mutagens; polyploidy.

Module – 3 : pH, Buffer, Water and Biomolecules :

1. Concept of pH; pH scale; Justification for pH value (7.0) of pure water; concept of buffer.
2. Diversification in structures of different carbohydrates (monosaccharides, disaccharides and polysaccharides); differences between reducing and non-reducing sugars.
3. Concept of structural, functional aspects and basic classification of proteins and lipids; types and classification of vitamins.

Module – 4 : Plant Physiology :

1. Concept of cell physiology - imbibition, diffusion, osmosis and plasmolysis; ascent of sap; translocation of solutes; types of transpiration and mechanism of stomatal transpiration; types of micro and macro elements required by plants.
2. Phases and factors of plant growth; precursor(s), structure and physiological roles of auxins, gibberellins, cytokinins, ethylene and abscisic acid.
3. Concept of photoperiodism and vernalization; physical and chemical nature of phytochrome; mechanism of seed dormancy and germination.

Module – 5 : Biochemistry :

1. Enzymes – Definition; basic architecture (holoenzyme, apoenzyme, coenzyme, cofactor); properties; nomenclature and classification (6 major classes with examples indicating name and reaction at least one for each class) according to IUBMB; concept of enzyme action.
2. Respiration - Definition; differences between aerobic & anaerobic respiration; metabolic pathways (by means of schematic presentation only) of glycolysis, oxidative decarboxylation of pyruvic acid, TCA cycle; concept of electron Transport System & Oxidative Phosphorylation; concept of RQ.
3. Photosynthesis - Definition; major photosynthetic pigments; concept of the spectrum of visible light; Hill reaction; concept of light-dependent & light-independent phases; Z-scheme of light reaction; biosynthetic reactions (by means of schematic presentation only) of CO₂ - fixation in C₂, C₃ and C₄ cycles/pathways.

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SUBJECT : BOTANY

Module – 6 : Molecular Biology and Plant Biochnology :

1. Gene structure and function; genetic code; concept of DNA replication; concept of protein synthesis (outlines only).
2. Outlines of recombinant DNA technology (preliminary concept of vectors, plasmid, restriction enzymes, DNA and CDNA libraries, nucleic acid sequencing and PCR).
3. Definition and agricultural application of Plant Biotechnology; outlines of Plant tissue culture and its applicationsl concept of totipotency; basic concept and objectives of cloning and transgenic plants.

Module – 7 : Microbiology :

1. Concept of microbial world; structure of a typical phage virus; structure of a bacterial cell.
2. Basic types of bacterial on the basis of morphological features; concept and difference between Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria; reproduction of bacteria.
3. Concept of nitrogen-fixing bacteria; concept of pathogenic bacteria; concept of antibiotics.

Module – 8 : Plant morphology and Anatomy :

1. Root-Morphology and functions of tap and adventitious roots; different modified roots; Stems-Morphology and functions of stem different modified stems; Leaf-morphology and functions of leave phyllotaxy, stipule, modified leaves.
2. Flower – Different parts of a typical flower, flower as a modified shoot, principal types of inflorescences, types of lower (regular irregular, actinomorphic and zygomorphic), morphology and androecium and gynoecium; Fruit – definitions and types; basic morphology of seed.
3. Plant Anatomy - Concept and types of meristematic and permanent tissues; epidermal, ground and vascular tissue systems; types of stele; primary anatomical structures of root (monocot and dicot), stem (monocot and dicot) and leaf (dorsiventral and isobilateral).

Module – 9 : Plant Taxonomy :

1. Taxonomy - Definition, importance, relations of taxonomy with classification of plant groups.
2. Rules of Binomial nomenclature; basic types of classification (artificial, natural and phylogenetic).
3. Classification of plant kingdom; salient features of different plant groups (algae, fungi, bryophyte, pteridophyta, gymnosperms and angiosperms).

Module – 10 : Plant groups :

1. Life cycle pattern with special reference to alteration of generations in thallophyta (algae and fungi) and Bryophyta.
2. Life cycle pattern with special reference to alternation of generations in Pteridophyta and Gymnosperms.
3. Morphological description pattern of any angiospermic plant for its taxonomic identification; economically important angiosperms - bamboo, jute, lemon and tea.

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SUBJECT : ZOOLOGY

Full Marks : 100

Time : 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Section – I :

1. Classification of Protozoa up to Phyla.
2. Structural organization and reproduction in Paramecium.
3. Classification upto subclass ; Porifera to Echinoderm.
4. Coral reef : Types and formation.
5. Locomotion in Protozoa.
6. Canal system in Porifera.
7. Nervous system in Mollusca
8. Respiration in Arthropoda.
9. Affinities in Onychophora, Balanoglossus.
10. Classification of Chordata upto order.
11. Structural organization of Lates.
12. Axolotl Larva and its importance.
13. Difference between poisonous and non-poisonous snakes.
14. Migration of birds.
15. Dentition in mammals.
16. Comparative anatomy of Heart, Aortic arches, and Kidney in Vertebrates.

Section – II :

1. Principles of optical and electron microscopes.
2. Ultra structure and functions of Plasma membrane, Mitochondria, golgi complex, Endoplasmic reticulum and Lysosome.
3. Physico-chemical properties of DNA and RNA, Nucleosome concept.
4. Sex determination in Drosophila and Man.
5. Replication, Transcription and Translation.
6. 3-point gene mapping in diploid.
7. Inborn metabolic errors : Albinism, Haemophilia, thalassaemia.
8. Gametogenesis.
9. Fertilization.
10. Histological organization of Pituitary, Thyroid, Pancreas and Liver.

SUBJECT : ZOOLOGY

Section – III :

1. Geological time scale.
2. Origin of life.
3. Origin and Evolution of Horse.
4. Theories of Evolution : Darwinism & Neo Darwinism.
5. Hardy-Weinberg principles (application in autosomal alleles).

Section – IV :

1. Taxonomy, Systematics and classification.
2. Mode of speciation.
3. Biological species concept.
4. Concept of Energy flow, Food chain and food Web.
5. Ecological succession.
6. Concept of biodiversity : Types of biodiversity, biodiversity and human welfare.
7. Life cycle, Pathogenicity, clinical features and control of : Taenia, Ascaris, Plasmodium, Leishmania and Wuchereria bancrofti.

Section –V :

1. Structure of mammalian nephron and mechanism of Urine formation.
2. Propagation of nerve impulse.
3. Transport of CO₂ and O₂ in mammals.
4. Structure of eye and mechanism of vision in mammals. Structure of ear and mechanism of hearing in mammals.
5. Aquaculture : Induced breeding in carp culture. Fresh water and brackish water prawn culture, Pearl culture.
6. Sericulture : Mulberry silk worm culture; diseases of silk worm and their control.
7. Apiculture : Apiculture technique; diseases of honey bees and their control.

SUBJECT : PHYSIOLOGY

Full Marks : 100

Time : 1 Hour 30 Minutes

1. Units of Human Systems : Structure – function relationship of cell and tissues.
 2. Basic Biophysical Principles : pH, Osmosis, buffers, Gibb's Donnan equilibrium, electrophoresis.
 3. Conservation of matter and energy in human systems : Digestion, Elementary Biochemistry and metabolism, vitamins and minerals principles of nutrition, nutritional deficiencies, nutrition and health, enzymes and isozymes, inborn errors of metabolism.
 4. Blood and Body fluids : Functions of blood, Hemoglobin, Plasma proteins, Erythropoiesis, Coagulation of blood, Blood-groups, Blood transfusion - rational use and transfusion related diseases. Basic principles of immunology - auto immune diseases.
 5. Heart & Circulation : Structure & functions of heart, properties of cardiac muscle, origin & spread of cardiac impulse, Cardiac cycle, Cardiac output - regulation & determination, innervation of heart, reflexes, regulation of circulation, Electrocardiography, Non invasive cardiac assessments.
 6. Respiratory System : Basic physiology, carriage of oxygen & carbon dioxide, Lung volumes & capacities, regulation of respiration, High altitude and under water physiology.
 7. Renal Physiology : Structure & functions of nephron, formation of urine, micturition, non excretory functions of Kidney, dialysis, artificial Kidney.
 8. Nerve-Muscle Physiology : Structure & functions of muscles & nerve, classification of nerve fibres, different types of muscles, neuromuscular junction, N-M transmission, synaptic transmission, origin and propagation of nerve impulse, degeneration and regeneration in nerve fibres.
 9. Nervous System : Gross organization, tracts - ascending and descending, reflex arc, classification of reflex - properties, autonomic nervous system, functions of sympathetic & para-sympathetic system, Higher functions of CNS – sleep, memory, learning.
 10. Sensory physiology : vision - structure and functions - specially of retina, colour vision, accommodation, defects of vision. Olfaction, gustation and audition - noise and its effects.
 11. Skin and Body temperature regulation : Basic physiology.
 12. The Endocrine System : Structure of endocrine glands, Hormone classification, different hormones - their functions : hypothalamus, pituitary, thyroid, parathyroids, pancreas, adrenal cortex and medulla Diseases associated with hypo and hyper secretion of hormones.
 13. Reproductive physiology : Histology of male and female reproductive system, menstrual cycle - hormonal regulation, ovarian and testicular hormones, Pregnancy, Placenta - formation and function, lactation, contraceptives.
 14. Basic principles of Work Physiology & Ergonomics : Static and dynamic work, PFI, doping, role of anthropometry, somatotyping, Role of ergonomics in industry and agriculture. Exercise and Health.
 15. Environmental Physiology : Pollutants and pollution, classification of pollutant according to physiological mechanism of action, Bio-transformation, dose-response curves/relationship, teratogens, mutagens, neurotoxins, corrosive agents, Heavy metal toxicity, Pesticidal Hazards.
 16. Social Physiology : Basic principles, mass immunizations, ORS, Safe drinking water, communicable and non-communicable diseases.
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