

General information about practical exams

Centres must follow the guidance on science practical exams given in the *Cambridge Handbook*.

Safety

Supervisors must follow national and local regulations relating to safety and first aid.

Only those procedures described in the question paper should be attempted.

Supervisors must inform candidates that materials and apparatus used in the exam should be treated with caution. Suitable eye protection should be used where necessary.

The following hazard codes are used in these confidential instructions, where relevant:

C	corrosive	MH	moderate hazard
HH	health hazard	T	acutely toxic
F	flammable	O	oxidising
N	hazardous to the aquatic environment		

Hazard data sheets relating to substances used in this exam should be available from your chemical supplier.

Before the exam

- The packets containing the question papers must **not** be opened before the exam.
- It is assumed that standard school laboratory facilities, as indicated in the *Guide to Planning Practical Science*, will be available.
- Spare materials and apparatus for the tasks set must be available for candidates, if required.

During the exam

- It must be made clear to candidates at the start of the exam that they may request spare materials and apparatus for the tasks set.
- Where specified, the supervisor **must** perform the experiments and record the results as instructed. This must be done **out of sight** of the candidates, using the same materials and apparatus as the candidates.
- Any assistance provided to candidates must be recorded in the supervisor's report.
- If any materials or apparatus need to be replaced, for example, in the event of breakage or loss, this must be recorded in the supervisor's report.

After the exam

- The supervisor must complete a report for each practical session held and each laboratory used.
- Each packet of scripts returned to Cambridge International must contain the following items:
 - the scripts of the candidates specified on the bar code label provided
 - the supervisor's results relevant to these candidates
 - the supervisor's reports relevant to these candidates
 - seating plans for each practical session, referring to each candidate by candidate number
 - the attendance register.

Specific information for this practical exam

During the exam, the supervisor (**not** the invigilator) must do the experiment in Question 1 and record the results on a spare copy of the question paper, clearly labelled 'supervisor's results'.

Apparatus and chemicals

Each candidate will require the following:

Question 1

- (i) 50 cm³ of 5% sucrose solution in a small beaker labelled **5% sucrose**
(5 g of sucrose dissolved in distilled water and made up to 100 cm³ makes a 5% solution.)
- (ii) 50 cm³ of distilled water in a small beaker labelled **distilled water**
- (iii) 4 small packets, made from paper or aluminium foil, each containing 1 g of dried active yeast and labelled **yeast**
- (iv) 4 large test-tubes
- (v) test-tube rack to hold 4 test-tubes
- (vi) 2 × 10 cm³ syringes or small measuring cylinders
- (vii) large beaker labelled **water-bath** to hold 4 large test-tubes
- (viii) supply of hot water at approximately 50–55 °C

Candidates have been instructed to raise their hands when they require hot water, which you should pour into their water-baths.
- (ix) cold water for regulating temperature of water-bath, in a beaker labelled **cold water**
- (x) glass rod for stirring
- (xi) water-resistant marker for labelling large test-tubes
- (xii) 30 cm ruler with mm markings
- (xiii) thermometer
- (xiv) timer or view of a clock showing seconds
- (xv) paper towels.

You should trial adding 1 g yeast to 15 cm³ of 5% sucrose solution in a large test-tube. In a water-bath at approximately 40 °C, the mixture should rise significantly up the height of the test-tube after 10 minutes. To ensure that this happens you are advised to use yeast from a newly opened container.

Questions 2 and 3

- (i) 30 cm ruler with mm markings

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Supervisor's report

Syllabus and component number

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Centre number

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Centre name

Time of the practical session

Laboratory name/number

Give details of any difficulties experienced by the centre or by candidates (include the relevant candidate names and candidate numbers).

You must include:

- any difficulties experienced by the centre in the preparation of materials
- any difficulties experienced by candidates, e.g. due to faulty materials or apparatus
- any specific assistance given to candidates.

Declaration

- 1 Each packet that I am returning to Cambridge International contains all of the following items:
 - the scripts of the candidates specified on the bar code label provided
 - the supervisor’s results relevant to these candidates
 - the supervisor’s reports relevant to these candidates
 - seating plans for each practical session, referring to each candidate by candidate number
 - the attendance register.
- 2 Where the practical exam has taken place in more than one practical session, I have clearly labelled the supervisor’s results, supervisor’s reports and seating plans with the time and laboratory name/number for each practical session.
- 3 I have included details of difficulties relating to each practical session experienced by the centre or by candidates.
- 4 I have reported any other adverse circumstances affecting candidates, e.g. illness, bereavement or temporary injury, directly to Cambridge International on a *special consideration form*.

Signed (supervisor)

Name (in block capitals)