

Chapter 1 : CliffsAP Biology, 3rd Edition - Phillip E Pack - Google Books

Score higher with this new edition of the bestselling AP Biology test-prep book Revised to even better reflect the AP Biology exam, this AP Biology test-prep guide includes updated content tailored to the exam, administered every May.

Laboratory experience contributes a very important component to the AP biology course. So that all students taking the AP exam have appropriate laboratory preparation, the College Board provides a laboratory manual with 12 laboratory exercises. The exercises accompanying these labs provide valuable skills in experimental design and collecting and analyzing data. About 10 percent of the multiple-choice questions and usually one essay question are devoted to evaluating your laboratory knowledge. While reading the questions in the booklet, feel free to cross out answers you know are wrong or underline important words. Mark only your answers on the answer sheet. Since unnecessary marks can produce machine-scoring errors, be sure to fill the bubbles carefully and erase errors and stray marks thoroughly. Some specific strategies for answering the multiple-choice questions follow. The multiple-choice questions range from easy to difficult. On one exam, 92 percent of the candidates got the easiest question right, but only 23 percent got the hardest question right. If you come across what you think is an easy question, it probably is. Budget your time by skipping hard questions. You have 80 minutes to answer questions, 48 seconds per question. If you can eliminate some of the answer choices, mark those also so that you can save time when you return. If you have time at the end of the test, you can always go back. Since the test is designed to obtain a mean score of 50 percent, it is not unusual for a student to leave some answers blank. Make only educated guesses. You make an educated guess when you can reduce the answer to two or three choices. If you get an answer right, you receive one point. If you leave it blank, you receive no points. One-fourth point is deducted for each wrong answer. The one-fourth point deduction for wrong answers adjusts for random guessing. Since each question has five choices, you have a one-in-five chance that you can randomly select the correct answer. If you choose five answers randomly for five questions, probability predicts that you will guess one correct answer and four wrong answers. By deducting one-fourth point for each of the wrong answers, your total score would be zero. But if you can reduce your choices to two or three, the odds are in your favor that the number of questions you get right will exceed the number of points deducted. Carefully answer reverse multiple-choice questions. In a typical multiple-choice question, you need to select the choice that is true. On the AP exam, you will find many reverse multiple-choice questions where you need to select the false choice. It is equivalent to correctly answering five true-false questions correctly to get one point; if you get one of the five wrong, you get them all wrong. To avoid confusion, do the following: After reading the opening part of the question, read each choice and mark a T or an F next to each one to identify whether it is true or false. In these cases, you can concentrate on the uncertain choices until you can make a decision. Hints for Taking the Essay Section Four questions are on the essay section of the test. One of the four questions also evaluates your ability to design experiments or to analyze experimental results. Each of the four questions can earn a maximum of 10 points. The 40 points on this section of the exam count as 40 percent of your total test score. During the minute reading period, read the questions thoroughly, circling key words. Next, write a brief outline using key words to organize your thoughts. When the writing period begins, begin writing your answer on the answer sheets that are provided separately. Strategies for answering the essay questions follow. Most students approach the essay section of the exam with more anxiety than they have when approaching the multiple-choice section. However, in terms of the amount of detail in the knowledge required, the essay section is easier. On essay questions, you get to choose what to write. You can get an excellent score without writing every relevant piece of information. A general answer that addresses the question with a limited number of specifics will get a good score. Additional details may or may not improve your score, but the basic principles are the most important elements for a good score. Give specific information in your answer. You need to give specific information for each essay question. Give more than just terminology with definitions. You need to use the terminology to explain biological processes. The combination of using the proper terminology and explaining processes will convince an AP exam reader that you understand the answer. The reader is looking for specific

information. If you say it, you get the points. Answer each part of an essay question separately. Many of the AP essay questions ask several related questions. A single question, for example, might have two or three parts, each requesting specific information. You should answer each part of the question in a separate paragraph, which helps the reader recognize each part of your answer. Some questions are formally divided into parts, such as a, b, c, and d. Again, answer these questions separately, in paragraphs labeled a, b, c, and d. Answer all parts of an essay question. When you answer the essay questions, it is extremely important that you give a response for each part of the question. Each part of the question is apportioned a specific number of points. If you give abundant information on one part, and nothing on the remaining parts, you receive only the maximum number of points allotted to the part you completed. You have 90 minutes for four questions, about 23 minutes each. If you reach the last question with five minutes remaining, for example, use that time to write as much information as possible. One or two points is a lot better than zero. What if you write something that is incorrect? The AP exam readers look for correct information. They search for key words and phrases and award points when they find them. If you use the wrong word to describe a process, or identify a structure with the wrong name, no formal penalty is assessed unlike the deduction for guessing on the multiple-choice test. They are interested in content. However, if your grammar, spelling, or penmanship impairs your ability to communicate, then the readers cannot recognize the content, and your score will suffer. Just dive right into your outline and answer the question directly. On the other hand, your essay response cannot be an outline; it must have complete sentences written in paragraph form. Drawings can improve your score. Drawings and diagrams may sometimes add as much as 1 point to your essay score. But the drawings must be explained in your essay, and the drawings must be labeled with supporting information. If not, the AP exam reader will consider them doodles, and you will get no additional points. Pay attention to direction words. A direction word is the first word in an essay question that tells you how to answer the question. The direction word tells you what you need to say about the subject matter that follows. Here are the most common direction words found on the AP exam: Specialized direction words are used for the laboratory essays. These words include design an experiment, calculate a value, and construct and label a graph. These words have specific meanings for laboratory analyses and are discussed in the lab section later in this book. A new scientific discovery or research that receives a Nobel Prize might suggest an AP question. Unfortunately, guessing questions in this way is very unreliable. Here is a better way. Questions on the essay section of the AP exam generally address fundamental principles or processes in biology. Here is a list of the most important principles—the ones on which questions keep reappearing on AP exams. Being able to answer these questions is an absolute requirement for being prepared. So, at the very least, know this material. Sample responses to questions on these topics appear at the end of the appropriate subject area reviews and in the answer sections following each practice exam. Additional responses appear at the end of each practice exam in CliffsAP: Cell structure, especially structure and function of the plasma membrane 2. Respiration and mitochondria 3. Photosynthesis and chloroplasts 4. Mitosis and meiosis Topic 7:

Chapter 2 : PDF File: Cliffs Ap Biology

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I will go through each part of the book and explain what information is covered. Introduction The introduction will cover a review of the AP exam format and scoring which can be skipped. There are some test-taking strategies for multiple choice questions which may be helpful for the DAT. There are also hints for the essay questions of the AP exam which are not necessary to know. Lastly, it contains 14 principles of Biology which are good to know. Subject Area Reviews This section covers 14 subject areas of Biology and includes practice questions and answers at the conclusion of each subject. There are outlines for each subject that offer a clear overview of the subject. The important terms and concepts will be bolded throughout each subject which makes it easier to spot them and know which items are important to know. It is written in a straightforward, easy to read format that is clear and concise. There are images and diagrams throughout the book to illustrate concepts. However, I found several of these images and diagrams to be lacking in detail. They could have been more useful if they were more detailed. The questions at the end of each subject will be multiple choice and essay questions. It is up to you whether or not you want to do the essay questions since the DAT only consists of multiple choice questions, but these might be beneficial to you as they will test your understanding of Biology concepts by making you process the information that you studied and explain it in answer format. Laboratory Review This section contains a review of all 12 AP laboratory exercises. Your studies should focus on the Subject Area Reviews of the book. There are also answers and explanations for all of the questions. These practice questions can be helpful in order to test your understanding of the material, however, it is more beneficial to do practice questions that have been formatted in the manner that the DAT will present them. Any specific DAT review material would have questions like this. It is cheap, affordable, but also well-written so I would suggest it as a material to use for studying Biology. It is very succinct and to the point, it reads like an encyclopedia. It contains all you need to know to prepare for the DAT. But I would suggest using both review guides for your Biology study. That way you will fill in all the gaps of information that you need to know for the DAT Biology section. They are both affordable review guides to purchase and both complement each other to adequately prepare you for the test. If you have a weak Biology background then you might want to consider purchasing a more thorough review source like Campbell Biology to use in addition to the AP review guides. This way when you encounter material that you cannot understand from the review guides alone you will have a more thorough source to look to for understanding. They are a great study aid when used in tandem with the AP review guide. They are divided into topics with each topic identified at the head of the card. Flash cards provide students with a different style of learning which some prefer. It also would be helpful to use them for reviewing concepts and testing your understanding of Biology. Like the book, these flash cards are cheap and affordable.

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Chapter 4 : Phillip E. Pack (Author of Cliffs AP Biology)

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Cliffs Notes AP Biology is a great review guide to help you prepare for the Biology section of the DAT. It is cheap, affordable, but also well-written so I would suggest it as a material to use for studying Biology.

Chapter 6 : Cliffs AP Biology: The Rave | Dental DAT Prep

Cliffs AP Biology by Phillip E. Pack, Phillip Pack A comprehensive review guide to help you refresh your study. This guide is particularly useful for midterms and final exams, condensing a semester's worth of information into one concise volume.

Chapter 7 : CliffsAP Biology - Phillip E. Pack, Ph.D. - Google Books

Cliffs AP Biology has 80 ratings and 10 reviews. Stephanie said: Read the 3rd edition to prepare for the DAT. The book was very thorough but extremely dr.

Chapter 8 : Cliffs AP Biology by Phillip E. Pack

Score higher with this new edition of the bestselling AP Biology test-prep book. Revised to even better reflect the AP Biology exam, this AP Biology test-prep guide includes updated content tailored to the exam, administered every May.

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I'm also trying to self-study AP Bio using only the Cliffs book. But I'm only halfway through (+ 2 practice tests left to go). I've took Honors Biology two years ago and recognize a lot of the material, and remember it well enough for multiple choice, but I can't remember most of the details needed for FRQ.