

IB ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP AGENDA

DP Biology (Level 2)

Sutera Harbour Resort, Kota Kinabalu, East Malaysia

11 – 13 September 2009, Friday - Sunday

Workshop Leader

Pam Carter

Pam Carter is British by birth and has been teaching IB Biology since 1984 in two schools in Singapore, also in two schools in Thailand and in India. Pam is an assistant examiner of both scripts and extended essays and has led previous workshops in Hong Kong in March 2007 and Mumbai in November 2008. She currently teaches Science and Biology at SJI International, a new school in Singapore, where she is IB Coordinator.

Pam has also taught Environmental Systems and taught Ecosystems and Societies as the pilot course. She has been instrumental in developing the IB diploma programme in two of her schools.

All participants are requested to bring with them the following:

- A copy of this agenda
- The Biology subject guide
- An overview of their school's Biology scheme of work or teaching schedule
- Thumb drive (not essential but useful for copying materials to take home!)
- Text highlighter (a couple of different colours might be useful)
- Your camera may be useful if you wish to take photos of Group 4 Project posters that participants have brainstormed
- The extended essay guide if you wish (not essential)

Participants are also invited to:

- bring copies of "favourite" practicals or activities (hard copies or in a form that can be projected)
 - be prepared to demonstrate or share IT based activities that they have found useful in their Biology teaching
 - be prepared to demonstrate or share favourite classroom strategies that they have found enhance their Biology teaching
 - bring samples of student IA work for participants to consider (ensure students have given permission)
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Please note: session topics are subject to change based on needs of the group

Friday, 11 September

0830 - 0900

Welcome & Introduction

0900 - 1000

Session 1: Introductions and aims of the workshop

The aim of this session is to find out about each other's backgrounds and experience and air questions and concerns – we want everyone to go home satisfied

- Introductions between members of the group
- Quick background to the diploma programme in IBAP – “who’s who”
- Our expectations – student attitudes to learning and the learner profile
- Opportunity to raise questions and main concerns participants wish to be addressed during the workshop

1000 - 1030

Morning Break

1030 - 1200

Session 2: Extended essay 1

The aim of the two extended essay sessions is to ensure that participants leave confident as to what is a good extended essay and what a good supervisor should, can and can't do

- Introduction – supervising an extended essay
- Good and bad titles, common pitfalls
- How much help can you give?
- Interpreting the assessment criteria
- The viva voce
- Commonly made mistakes – examiner's tips
- What would you do if?

1200 - 1300

Lunch

1300 - 1430

Session 3: Extended essay 2

- Applying the criteria - sample marking

1430 - 1500

Afternoon Break

1500 - 1630

Session 4: Enhancing the syllabus

The aim of this session is to share ideas and favourite strategies for enhancing the Biology syllabus

- Getting through the material – how do teachers do this?
- Activities to share and demonstrate

1630

End of Day 1

Saturday, 12 September

0830 - 1000

Session 5: The IA criteria

The aim of this session is to closely examine the criteria and how we interpret them

- guiding questions to help us break down the criteria and look at what we expect from the students for each aspect

1000 - 1030

Morning Break

1030 - 1200	<p>Session 6: Applying the IA criteria During this session we will analyse and mark some IA samples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student work • Teacher resource material from the OCC • Samples from participants (as appropriate)
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1430	<p>Session 7: Applying the IA criteria We will continue with our sample marking from this morning and evaluate our marking</p>
1430 - 1500	Afternoon Break
1500 - 1630	<p>Session 8: Putting IA into practice During this session we hope to be able to produce materials that can be used back at school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sharing or brainstorming ideas for good IA activities ▪ Designing the activities ▪ Making mark schemes
1630	End of Day 2

Sunday, 13 September

0830 - 1000	<p>Session 9: The examination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What happens after the students have sat the examinations? ▪ Samples of marked scripts from the workbook – what gained marks and what did not? ▪ Examiner's tips
1000 - 1030	Morning Break
1030 - 1200	<p>Session 10: The Group 4 Project (Hopefully we can arrange a joint session with other workshops so Chemistry, Biology and Physics specialists can brainstorm together)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Value of the Group 4 project ▪ Problems and dealing with them ▪ Organising the Group 4 project – do we think there is any one particularly good model? ▪ Brainstorming – ideas to take away and use back at school ▪ Assessing the personal skills criterion
1200 - 1300	Lunch
1300 - 1430	<p>Session 11: TOK The main aim of this session is to look at activities we can use in the classroom to integrate the TOK links into our teaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quick introduction – the nature of TOK ▪ What are our obligations as Biology teachers? ▪ Sample activities from workshop leader ▪ Sharing activity ideas amongst participants
1430 - 1500	Afternoon Break

1500 - 1600

Session 12: Online resources

1. Most experienced teachers will already be familiar with the OCC but this session will give you an opportunity to spend some uninterrupted time
2. Which of the other online resources and websites provided by IB do we use and find useful? How do people use them?

1600

Workshop Closes and Award of Certificates*

* An official "IB Certificate of Attendance" is awarded to participants who have attended all sessions of a workshop. Please ensure that travel arrangements do not preclude candidacy for a certificate.