

PSLE FOUNDATION SCIENCE

For examination from 2017.

PURPOSE OF THE EXAMINATION

The PSLE Foundation Science Paper assesses students' attainment in science as stated in the [2014 primary school science syllabus](#). The assessment includes recall of scientific facts and concepts, and the application of process skills in various contexts.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The objectives describe the skills and abilities which students are expected to demonstrate at the end of the course.

I. Knowledge with Understanding

Students should be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific facts, concepts and principles.

II. Application of Knowledge and Process Skills

Students should be able to

- a. apply scientific facts, concepts and principles to new situations.
- b. interpret information (including pictorial, tabular and graphical) and investigate using one or a combination of the following process skills:
 - Inferring
 - Predicting
 - Analysing
 - Evaluating
 - Generating possibilities
 - Formulating hypothesis
 - Communicating

EXAMINATION FORMAT

Format of Paper

The examination consists of one written paper comprising two booklets, Booklet A and Booklet B.

Table 1

Booklet	Item Type	Number of questions	Number of marks per question	Marks
A	Multiple-choice	18	2	36
B	Structured	6 - 7	2 - 3	14
	Open-ended	5 - 6	2 - 4	20

- (a) Booklet A consists of 18 multiple-choice questions with *three* options. Each multiple-choice question carries 2 marks.
- (b) Booklet B consists of two parts.
The first part consists of 6-7 structured questions, e.g. 'Fill in the blanks', 'Matching', etc. Each question carries 2-3 marks.

The second part consists of 5-6 open-ended questions with varying mark allocation (2-4 marks).

Candidates are required to answer all the questions in the two booklets.

Duration of Paper

The duration of the paper is 1 hour 15 minutes.

Provision of Word List

The Foundation Science paper focuses on assessing students' grasp of basic scientific knowledge. A word list is provided during the examination to allow students to display their knowledge and understanding without being unduly disadvantaged by their weakness in the English language. It should be appreciated that the list is not exhaustive.