

Resource Review

Biology in Context: The Spectrum of Life 3rd Edition – Oxford

Eileen Kennedy, Peter Aubusson, Peter Hickman

Biology in Context is accompanied by an e-book CD-ROM which makes it easier for students to reformat information for presentations, while allowing teachers the opportunity to create worksheets and activities around the detailed content and excellent illustrations.

The advantage of having the Preliminary and HSC course content in one book is obvious; not only does it save money but it enables students to review prior knowledge and understandings, and skills that underpin the HSC course.

The book includes two of the more popular Options: Communication and Genetics: Code Broken, while the accompanying ebook includes the other three Option topics; this makes Biology in Context a truly flexible resource for teacher and student use. The information is presented in detail but not complex making it a suitable textbook for the majority of Biology students.

As has been the tradition with previous editions of this book, each topic includes a summary of the main points, revision questions, comprehensive investigations (with questions) that address most of investigative skills that form a mandatory part of the preliminary and HSC courses. Students are also provided with multiple choice and extended response questions that should help them with assessment tasks and with their preparations for final examinations.

Biology in context does not aim to provide students with all the answers and information they require for the course. Students are provided with the necessary background from which they can conduct their research – the textbook provides scaffold material, while the ebook provides detailed answers to all multiple choice, extended response and practice examination questions.

Reviewed by
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