

KS5 Biology : Independent Study Guide

At KS5 Biology there is a limitless amount of independent work which students can complete to supplement their learning .

The Independent Study that students are required to complete each week is as follows :

1. Read the chapter sections from the text book that were covered in the lesson , use this to add to your class notes. Complete and self correct all summary and application questions.
2. Complete Doodle presentations and quizzes that have been set related to the topic.
3. Complete Knowledge Organisers for topics that have been covered .
4. Complete and self correct assessed HS questions for the topic being studied – these are large collections of questions, organised by topic , available on Microsoft Teams.
5. Complete academic reading around the topic being studied . Articles may have been provided for this but if not students should search for these themselves. Great sources include periodicals such as Biological Sciences Review, Nature, New Scientist and Scientific American, as well as news reports from reputable media outlets eg BBC Science . Students should read these , highlight key points , and share articles of interest with other students via the class folder on Teams. Articles will then be discussed within lessons.
6. Students should **always** pre- read the relevant content in the text book before the following lesson, and make notes on this.
7. Other preparatory activities may also be set by teachers , eg revision questions of GCSE content in yr 12 .
8. Students should read appropriate non fiction Biology related books alongside their studies ; specific titles may be recommended by teachers , but a reading list (which is regularly updated) is below:

KS5 Biology Recommended Non fiction books:

Other Minds - Peter Godfrey-Smith
Y: The Descent of Man - Steve Jones
The Red Queen - Matt Ridley
Genome - Matt Ridley
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks - Rebecca Skloot
The Epigenetics Revolution - Nessa Carey
The Emperor of all maladies - Siddharta Mukharjee
Sapiens - Yuval Noah Harari
Explaining Humans- Camilla Pang
Transcendence - Gaia Vince
The end of Bias - Jessica Nordell
Entangled Life - Merlin Sheldrake
Science Fictions - Stuart Ritchie
The Selfish Gene – Richard Dawkins
The Blind Watchmaker – Richard Dawkins

Essential Reading for Prospective Applicants for Medicine/ Dentistry/ Veterinary Science:

When breath becomes air - Paul Kalanithi
Do no harm- Henry Marsh
This is going to hurt- Adam Kay
The patient will see you now- Eric Topol
War Doctor- David Nott