

AP Biology score calculator: the worksheet and the conversion table (May 2027 format)

How the exam is scored

Section	Questions	Time	Share	Points
I: multiple choice	60	1 hour 30 minutes	50%	60, one each, no penalty for wrong answers
II: Question 1 (long)				9 points
II: Question 2 (long, with graphing)				9 points
II: Question 3 (short)				4 points
II: Question 4 (short)				4 points
II: Question 5 (short)				4 points
II: Question 6 (short)				4 points
II: free response total	6	1 hour 30 minutes	50%	34
Total		3 hours	100%	composite as a percentage

The worksheet

1. Multiple choice correct (out of 60):

2. Line 1 / 60 x 50 = multiple-choice share (%):

3a. Question 1 (long) (out of 9):

3b. Question 2 (long, with graphing) (out of 9):

3c. Question 3 (short) (out of 4):

3d. Question 4 (short) (out of 4):

3e. Question 5 (short) (out of 4):

3f. Question 6 (short) (out of 4):

4. Free-response total (out of 34):

5. Line 4 / 34 x 50 = free-response share (%):

6. Composite = line 2 + line 5 (%):

The conversion table (estimates; the College Board sets the real cut points after each exam)

AP score	Composite	For example	Means
5	67% and up	40 of 60 multiple choice and 23 of 34 free response	Extremely well qualified
4	55% to 66%	33 of 60 multiple choice and 19 of 34 free response	Well qualified
3	42% to 54%	25 of 60 multiple choice and 14 of 34 free response	Qualified
2	30% to 41%	18 of 60 multiple choice and 10 of 34 free response	Possibly qualified
1	under 30%		No recommendation

Worked example: 44 of 60 multiple choice and free-response scores of 6, 6, 3, 3, 3, 3 (24 of 34) give a composite of 72.0%, a 5 on the table. A composite within three points of a cut is on the line, not over it.

What the scores say, where the points are lost, and the plan

The May 2025 results (College Board)

Score	5	4	3	2	1	3 or higher	Mean
Share of 287,232 students	18.9%	24.1%	27.4%	21.0%	8.6%	70.4%	3.24

What the free-response questions ask

- [] The two long questions each give an experiment with data: describe the method, identify the variables and the control, construct or complete a graph with labelled axes and units, analyse the data, justify a conclusion, and predict what happens in a changed condition
- [] The four short questions each take one skill: design a step of an investigation and state a hypothesis; explain a biological concept and apply it to a scenario; read a model or a diagram and describe what it shows; analyse a table or graph and draw a conclusion

Where the points are lost: tick the ones that are yours

- [] The graph: axes unlabelled, units missing, the wrong variable on the x-axis, no error bars when the data has them, or a bar chart where a line graph is asked for
- [] 'Describe' and 'explain' answered the same way: explain needs the mechanism (how the enzyme's shape changes the rate), not a restatement of the result
- [] A prediction with no justification, or a justification that does not use the data in the question
- [] The control group and the independent variable confused in the investigation questions
- [] Writing too much: a 4-point short question needs four scoring points, not a page

From a practice composite to the exam

Practice composite	Likely score now	What moves it most
under 42%	1 or 2	content first: the units with the most multiple-choice misses, then one free-response question a week marked to the scoring guidelines
42% to 54%	3	the free response: every lost point is a specific missing thing on the rubric; fix the pattern, not the question
55% to 66%	4	timing and the hardest question type; a full timed paper every two weeks
67% and up	5	keep it: a timed paper every two weeks and the questions that score under 70 percent

From

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