

# BIOLOGY Level 3

## Common Assessment Task

### Work Requirements:

Research task

### Assessment Type:

Extended response

### Criteria being assessed:

- Criterion: 3 – elements 1, 3, 4 and 5.
- Criterion: 4 - elements 1, 2 and 3.

### Suggested conditions:

- This task should take no more than two and a half hours class time.
- The report should be no longer than 800 words maximum.
- The report should be submitted electronically.
- This task requires an individual response by each learner.

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### Task Description:

You will research and discuss the causes and impacts of one pandemic.

### What you need to do:

The world has experienced many pandemics throughout history, such as cholera, typhus, smallpox, measles, tuberculosis, leprosy, malaria, yellow fever and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

However, in recent times, one of the most common forms of pandemic is influenza (flu). Influenza is a potentially life-threatening illness causing disease of the respiratory system.

Currently, we are living through a major pandemic caused by the Novel Coronavirus, or COVID-19 which is also a virus that affects the respiratory system. This is being monitored by the World Health Organisation (WHO) who note:

- A pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan, China was first reported to the WHO Country Office in China on 31 December 2019.
- The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30th January 2020.

There have been many different pandemics that have occurred throughout history. You may select any one of these and research and write a scientific report on the pandemic of your choice.

## Short Report

Your short report must be fully referenced (in-text referencing, image attribution and a bibliography or reference list) and written in the scientific genre. This report should discuss the causes and effects of the pandemic.

Below are some questions to help you research and develop your task – but depth of information using examples is key. You can also add anything that you find interesting:

- What is a pandemic?
- What caused your chosen pandemic?
- What were the symptoms and effects?
- How was it transmitted? How was it (or will it be) contained?
- Which parts of the world's population were (or are) most affected?
- How many people died? How many were affected? (You can reference at a particular point in time)
- Discuss the connections between the issue and one relevant ethical, political, cultural, social, economic, or scientific influence

### Teacher use only - What needs to be submitted for assessment?

Learners respond to the questions in a separate electronic document, clearly identifying each question number they are responding to.

Teachers can choose an appropriate referencing system, for example, APA or Harvard.