# Online summative assessment : ExamOnline

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School of Biological Sciences

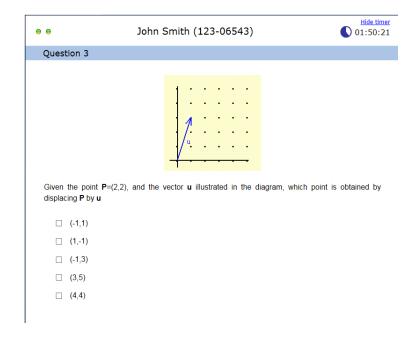
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### Online Examinations (e-Assessment)

#### Advantages of e-Assessment

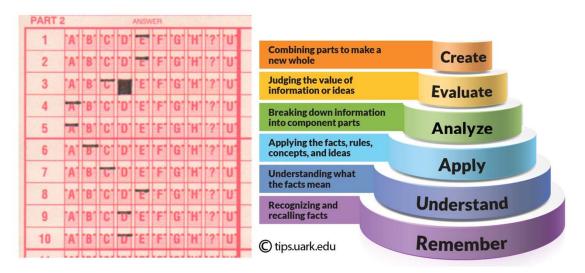
- Automatic marking
- Immediate feedback
- Increased flexibility

#### Question types:



Item-banked, closed form, very often MCQ





# **University Examinations**

- Often consist of essay / extended answer / short answer questions
- Some questions require drawings and calculations as part of the process
- Require detailed human marking, often involving multiple markers

So there is a disconnect between e-Assessment platforms and the requirements of University examinations

#### THE ANSWER - EXAMONLINE

- Online assessment system specifically designed to deliver high stakes summative assessments
- Computer marked question types (multiple choice, true/false, best/worst, multiple answer, gap-fill etc.) ... plus
- Specific support for University exams: human-marked extended answer questions, with sketches/diagrams.

2016

2017

2018

2019

#### August

ExamOnline identified and purchased

#### November

ExamOnline trial mock exam (n=16)

#### December

IMMU10003 Exam taken online (n=23)

#### **Spring**

Plant Sciences (n=3) Immunology (n=23) MSc Biotech (n=15)

#### Nov/Dec

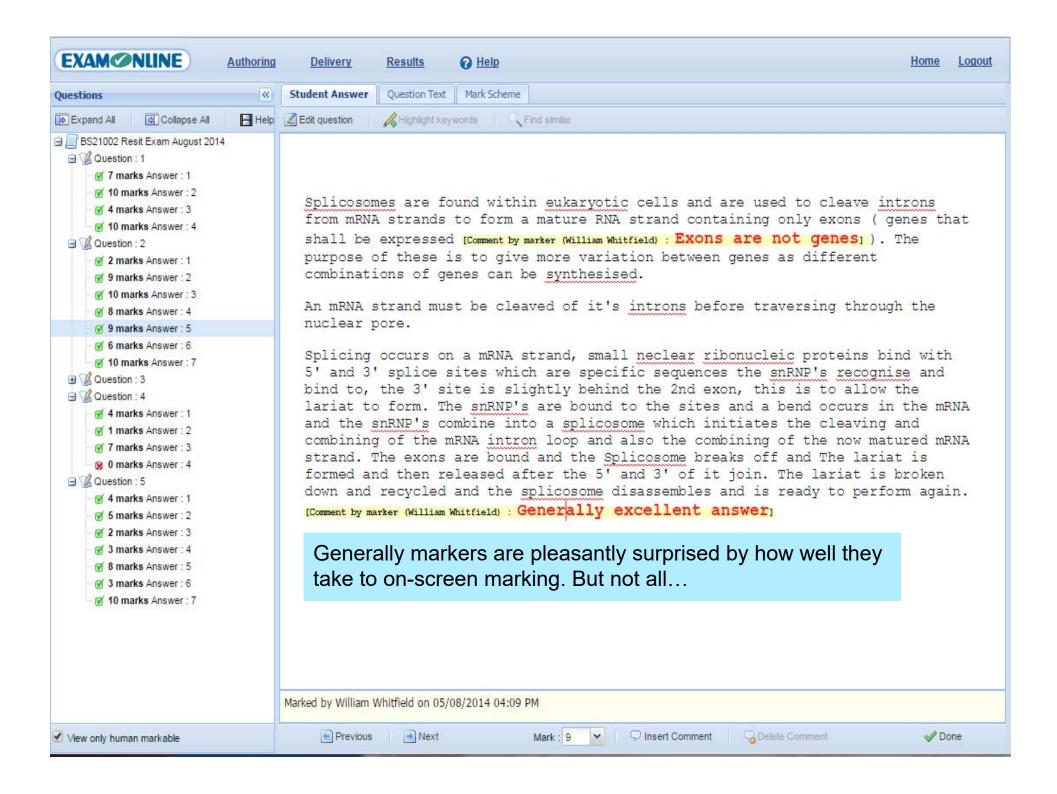
Immunology 3
practical test
(n=107)
All Immunology
Honours S1
courses (n= 20 x 4)

#### Spring

Plant Sciences (n=6) Immunology (n=20) Biochemistry (n=7) MSc Biotech (n=16)

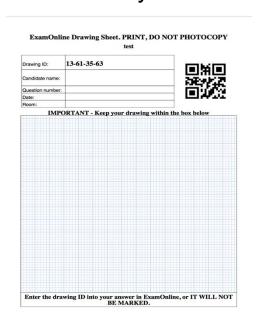
#### November

ExamOnline trial mock exam (n=16)



# Hand Drawn Sketches/Diagrams

- Pre-printed sheets, each with a unique ID number, downloaded from ExamOnline
- Sheets are provided to candidates
- Candidates click on a button in the interface to insert a sketch, enter the ID from the paper.
- The number is checked for validity (Modulo 97,10 check digits) and then embedded in the answer.
- When the test is finished, the drawings are scanned, uploaded, and automatically matched to the candidate's answer – using QR code.



Drawing ID:	13-61-34-66	
Candidate name:		
Question number:		— ( <b>=12</b> 0€)
Date:		
Room:		
IMPO	ORTANT - Keep your drawing w	ithin the box below

Drawing ID:	13-61-33-69	
Candidate name:		23(80
Question number:		<b>(100</b> )
Date:		E1983:
Room:		

Test1 Student (2012001)

Hide timer

00:44:26



4.





























Ubiquitin (Ub) is a small, globular protein, found throughout all eukaryotic cells, with its name derived from the word 'ubiquitous'.

- a) Draw a sketch of a protein substrate attached to a chain comprising two ubiquitins, which are linked to each other via a Lys63 linkage.
- b) Protein ubiquitylation is catalyzed via E1, E2 and E3 enzymes. Outline the reactions catalyzed by the E1 ubiquitin-activating enzyme.

[21 marks]

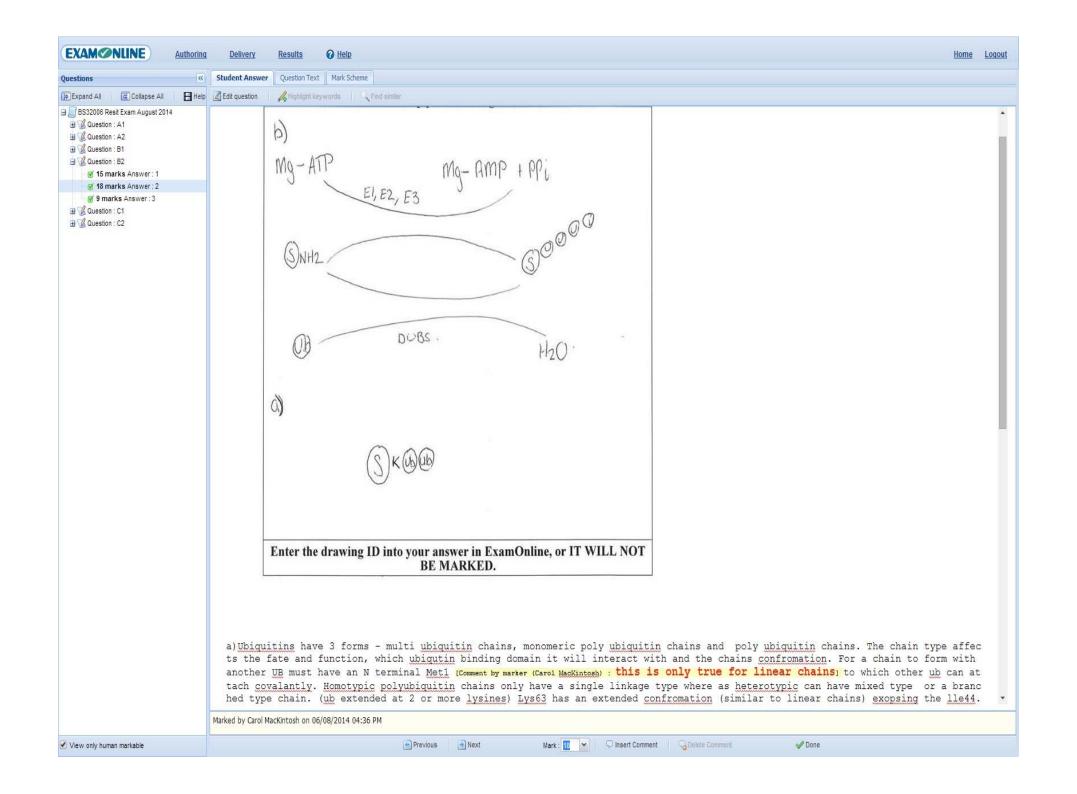
#### [See drawing labelled 16-18-48-39 when marking this answer] Delete

a) Ubiquitins have 3 forms - multi ubiquitin chains, monomeric poly ubiquitin chains and poly ubiquitin chains. The chain type affects the fate and function, which ubiqutin binding domain it will interact with and the chains confromation. For a chain to form with another UB must have an N terminal

b) E1(2 forms)actavating enzyme: The C terminal of carboxyl group of Ub is activated by E1 forming a mixed anhydride with AMP. The ub adenylate transfers Ub on to the cystein residue of El creating a UB-El thiloester. There is now an area free for a secound ub to de adenylatedThe E1 must transfer the first E1 onto an E2 to continue with congugation.

Causes the MG-ATP to fold up onitself creating a 2 lobed structure. E1 causes the transfer of Mg-ATP to a serine or theronine residue in the substrate. Specifity is given by the C termial at 3+ position.

Submit



## A typical Edinburgh Biology student's written answer...

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#### ...and his answer in ExamOnline

Candidate :B0 (Page 3 of 13)

**Question: Question 3:** Discuss the importance of the antigen processing pathways used to present self and pathogen antigens to T cells, on both MHC and MHC-like molecules.

MHC encoded genes make up for roughly 0.1% of the genome, approximetaly 4Mb of DNA, and present antigen to activate CD4 and CD8 T cells. [comment by marker David Cavanagh marker: MHC proteins present, not the genes! Firstly, MHC-1 genes which are encoded on all nucleated cells encode comment by marker Matt Taylor: unclear phrasing cytosolic, antigens to CD8 T cells in order to activate their cytoloytic killing. [comment by marker David Cavanagh marker: I think you mean that MHC1 is expressed on all cells, and that they present cytosolic antigens, but the way you have written it is unclear These consist of 3 alpha subunits and a B2M, tramsmemrabne apha and membrane distal alpha 1/2 have an enclosed peptide binding pocket, which preferentially present 9 (also peptidesd between 8-10) peptides[comment by marker Matt Taylor: unclear phrasing] . [comment by marker David Cavanagh marker: Again, I think you mean 3 alpha domains, with 1 and 2 distal from the membrane and involved in peptide binding, but this is also written in a confused way these are also associated wiht the presentation of croos-presented antigens in the case of APCs, particularly DCs which uptake via macropinocytosis or phagocytosis to present and activate naive CD8 T cells. MHC-II mleculs consist of a heterodimer of alpha and beta chains, with alpha/beta 2 membrane prximal both transembrane, and alpha/beta-1 having an open peptide binding cleft apable of presenting 13-18 amino acid peptides to CD4 T cells. [comment by marker David Cavanagh marker: almost right - although again could have been phrased better These are rstricted to antigen presenting cells, highly upregulated on DCC activation, preented at intermediate levels on macrophages (more to show the cotinued presence of antigen at tissue) and B cells for T cell licensing, as well as the brain microglia, thymic epithelial cells. Finally, antigen presentation canbe done by non-classical MHC-ib molecules on the MHC locus (Chr6p21.2) and also non-MHC encoded molecues, such as the lipid-presenting CD-1 molecules on Chr1q23.1[comment by marker David Cavanagh marker: good

Firstly I shall discuss MHC-I presentation in the endogenous pathway. This has been found to be intercepted at pretty much every stage by viruses. Firsty, MHC-1 heavy chain is synthesised de novo in the ER and is membrane bound by the alpha3 domain. This is firstly glycosylated by Gls1/2, wich facilitates the binding of calnexin, maintaining it in a partially folded and stable state. Upon this, beta2microglobulin binds, which causes a conformational

Candidate :B (Page 8 of 13)

Finally the non-MHC encoded CD01 family, Ch1q23.1, which have alpha1/2/3 subunits and are B2M associated, include group 2 (CDld) and group 1 (CD1a/b/c/e) which are associated with binding different glycolipids in their partially enclosed but larger than MHC-I peptide binding cleft. The lipids they bidn vary but are generally acoiatd with being amphipathic, but a flexible aliphatic hydrocarbon chain bining the cleft and a hydrophilic head being extruded out to bind alpha/beta, gamma/delta and NKT TCRs. these TCRs don't ppear to be any different from normal TCRs, but CD1 restricted TCRs have been found both C4+/- and CD8+/-. CDla/b/c are asociated with binding to lipids frokm bacterial membranes. CD1 molecules are loaded in the ER with self-lipid by microsomal triglyceride transfer protein, where they get trafficked to the PM, and then recycled. CDla is associated with recyling to a sorting endosome, CD1b/mCD1d to MIICs/lysosomes, and indeed CD1c to both, whereby they exchange their lipids for microbial ones by sapsonins.

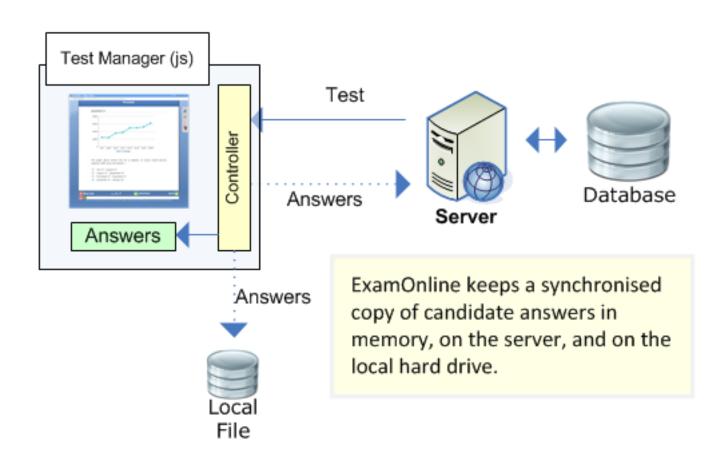
[comment by marker David Cavanagh marker: Good detail, comprehensive knowledge and understanding. Directly addresses question. Clear style, although occasional unclear phrasing. Evidence of critical grasp of topic and independent reading. (MT).

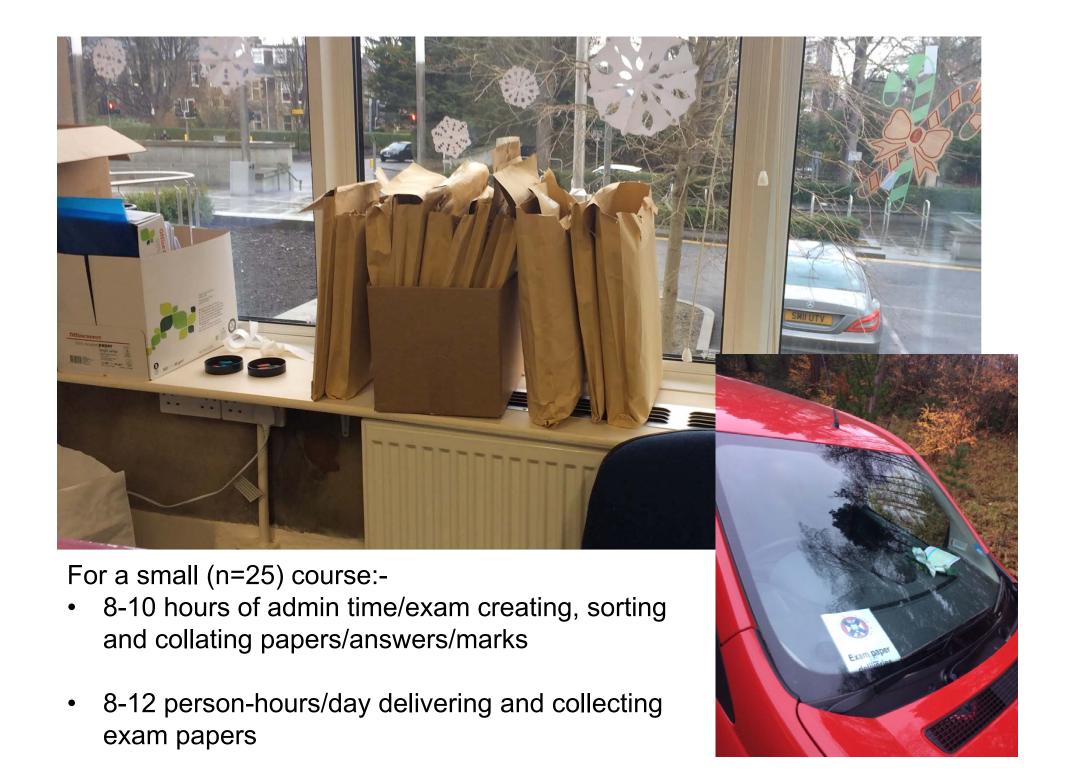
Generally excellent, with a comprehensive knowledge of the topic. Let down in some minor areas by misunderstandings and/or omissions. Directly addresses the question, and shows evidence of independent reading in places. Clearly written mostly, but occasionally areas which could have been better expressed. Relates different items together and gives relevant examples. (DC).

Mark: 72

Marked by David Cavanagh on 11/01/2018 02:29 PM

# Redundancy and fault tolerance





#### Students love ExamOnline!

Begin forwarded message:

From: <xxxxx@sms.ed.ac.uk>

Subject: Exam

Date: 11 December 2018 at 13:47:41 GMT

To: CAVANAGH David < David. Cavanagh@ed.ac.uk >

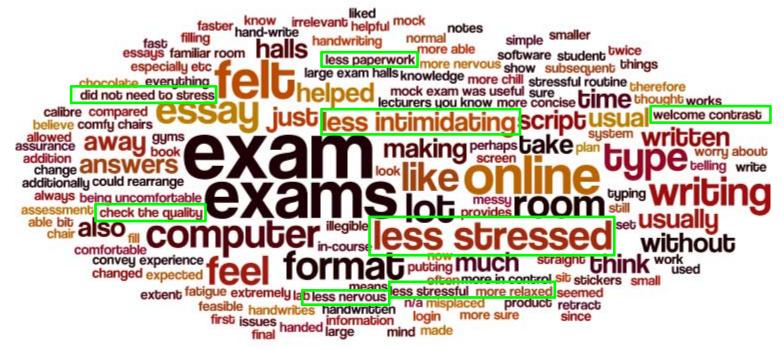
Hello David!

I don't really know if you are looking for feedback but I just wanted to say the typed exam worked really well for me personally. Having the clock there, being able to type in a quiet room with a comfortable seat proved to work so well, I could focus and I didn't notice other people typing away at all! The system works great and I'm glad we got to use it. Best wishes.

# Summary

- ExamOnline fulfils the role we asked for
  - Clear text quicker marking
  - Allows hand-drawn diagrams/equations to be integrated into each answer
  - Online marking two markers can view/mark simultaneously (soon)
  - Quicker feedback possible release of marked script without mark
  - Online monitoring of markers progress easier for COs and admin
- Students welcome the use of it
  - Editing text
  - More relaxed surroundings
    - Students can enter exam hall well in advance and sit at any desk
    - Biology staff less scary than university invigilators
  - Most report quicker typing speeds than writing
- The 5 P's are important especially in scheduling tests
  - Consistent rules about candidate ID, logins, passwords \*MUST\* be enforced
  - Paper back-up needed in room (extended power failure?)
  - Run practice tests for 10 mins before real test

It's just a much better and more comfortable and more practical format for exams in the 21st century The ExamOnline system definitely helped reduce my exam anxiety overall- although I was initially sceptical about whether I'd be able to type fast enough/ if keyboard sounds would be distracting etc, I found the whole experience a lot more bearable than sitting in a drafty exam hall, and I was surprised by how easy it was to adapt to typing exam answers.



I unequivocally endorse the use of ExamOnline in the future. It greatly enhanced my exam experience and I feel that I would have done better on previous exams if its use had been allowed.

This form of examination makes sense in this modern age; In my previous 3 years of University I would never hold a pen unless sitting an exam. Instead, typing the exam was a much more natural, modern and appropriate form of examination.

Its simply brilliant. I cannot believe other students from different courses are not benefitting from this excellent technology. In our current society exams are timed and sadly the essay you write under those conditions doesn't reflect your knowledge of the time. This technology alleviates that pressure as a majority of students are faster typers.

# **END**