

# ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT



John Smith / Year 11 / Combined Science

# 1 Overview

It was a pleasure to meet John for his academic assessment meeting, and to hear about his keen interest becoming a professional athlete. He is clearly motivated with his training and spends a lot of time improving his athletic ability. He admits that this might have had an impact on his schoolwork and has missed several days due to athletic events.

Reviewing John's school reports revealed that his teachers felt that he struggled with concentration in the school classroom, and as a result John has substantial gaps throughout his science knowledge. His teachers recognised that John has a natural aptitude for science, and has the capability to exceed his predicted flightpath, should he put the effort in.

# 2 Assessment

Our subject assessment confirmed this analysis, as John scored 143/300, with each science scoring approximately the same, with Biology being slightly weaker than the other two. The following table shows a break-down of John's marks across the 3 science unit topics:

	<b>PHYSICS</b>	<b>CHEMISTRY</b>	<b>BIOLOGY</b>
<b>UNIT 1</b>	8/15- Energy	11/25 - Periodic Table	10/30 Cell Biology
<b>UNIT 2</b>	11/20 - Electricity	13/25 - Bonding	8/20 Organisation
<b>UNIT 3</b>	17/35- Particle model	10/25- Quantitative	10/20 Infection
<b>UNIT 4</b>	12/30 - Radiation	5/10 - Chemical Changes	18/30 - Bioenergetics
<b>UNIT 5</b>	N/A	10/15 Energy Changes	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48/100</b>	<b>49/100</b>	<b>46/100</b>

## 3 Strengths

John's strongest topics were Energy Changes in Chemistry, and Bioenergetics in Biology. These are both the last topic taught out of the Paper 1 topics, and it may be that John remembers these subjects best. However, all topics need a lot of revision and John's current recall of these subjects needs improvement.

## 4 Weaknesses

John's weakest topics were both in Biology and are Cell biology and Organisation. Cell Biology contains lots of facts about the function of each part of the cell. There are a lot of facts to remember and requires constant refreshing to commit these to memory. The topic of Organisation is about linking the role of different organs to their respective organ systems, which requires a more logical approach to understanding the impact of each organ. These two topics are fundamentally based on fact recall, which we have established is a key area for John to work on.

## STUDY PLAN



John spends a lot of time training and working out at the gym, and clearly this is important to him. Our recommendation would be for John to use this time more effectively, to both train for athletics, but also to train his brain at the same time.

Through the use of revision podcasts, documentaries and videos, John can swap his music for revision to effortlessly refresh his memory of his science subjects whilst at the gym or going for a run. Additionally, by linking his biology class work to his athletic interests, John can help to bring his Biology studies to life by concentrating on the relevance to his training. John knows the effect of exercising on his body, and some focussed study on Human Biology can help improve his knowledge to aid training and his GCSE.

Another idea for John to try would be to use revision apps on his phone, to revise while he's on the go. 5 minutes on the bus, in the car or even waiting for the kettle to boil can all add up and is flexible enough to fit around John's daily commitments. We have written personalised GCSE science quizzes designed to be short, impactful, and flexible. Daily use of the quizzes will also help John to recall facts and cement important key terms and phrases in his memory.

These techniques, along with weekly tuition sessions to focus on exam technique and understanding of topics, should really boost John's academic scores, if he is willing to put the effort into daily practice, just as he does with his athletic training.



We have drawn up a shortlist of recommended tutors, based on John's personality, interests and academic ability. Here are our suggestions:

1. Stephanie Green- Stephanie trained as a Physiotherapist and has a Master's Degree in human biology. She has a special interest in training for marathons and uses examples from her work to make her biology classes relevant and interesting.
2. Thomas Clifton - Thomas is a highly experienced tutor who has helped many young people to achieve their true potential. He specialises in using alternative methods to help students revise and practise their skills.
3. Andy Tomsett- Andy works as a science teacher at a high school in Ashbourne. He has a great sense of humour and builds an excellent rapport with the students. In his spare time, he teaches Tennis at his local club.