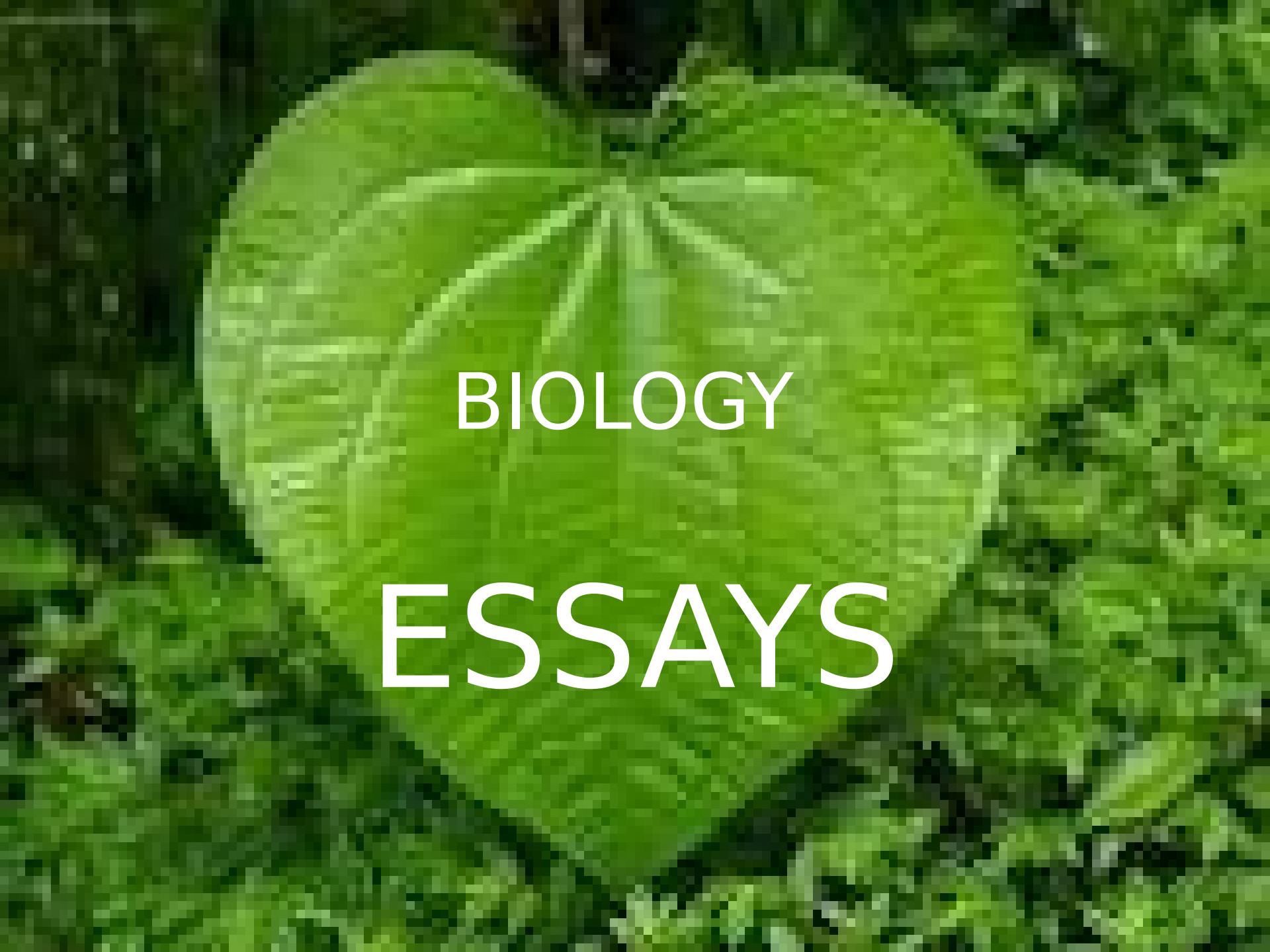

BIOLOGY
ESSAYS

Definition of Biology Essay

A biology essay is made of;

- full sentences
- with facts well connected and arranged.

TYPES OF BIOLOGY ESSAYS

Block essay. This is a question given just in one statement

E.g. Describe the role of hormones in the human menstrual cycle

Spilt essay; This is an essay that consists of two or more parts

E.g. (a). What is meant by the term digestion?

(b). Describe how the mammalian intestines are adapted to perform their functions.

WRITING GOOD BIOLOGY ESSAYS

- A good essay has a logical flow of points therefore choose an essay that there is a good flow of points.

First

- **Read through the two given choices of essays carefully to understand each question as you underline the key words or phrases in each question.**

Then choose carefully by first

- **Making an outline to be able to determine how much material is recalled and settle on an essay with the most material.**
- **The outline is a list of points presented in the form of statements, phrases or sentences**

Example of an outline of "Describe the cell structure & its functions"

1. *Presence of cell membrane;*
2. *Cytoplasm;*
3. *Lysosomes;*
4. *Mitochondria;*
5. *Rough endoplasmic reticulum;*
6. *Smooth endoplasmic reticulum;*
7. *Ribosomes; protein synthesis;*
8. *Centrioles / centrosomes;*
9. *Chloroplasts;*
10. *Golgi bodies / apparatus;*
11. *Nucleus;*

Example two; Describe how xerophytes are adapted to living in their habitat.

Outline

1. **Deep roots,**
2. **fleshy stems,**
3. **needle-like leaves,**
4. **reduced number of stomata,**
5. **sunken stomata,**
6. **waxy,**
7. **impermeable cuticle,**
8. **small sized stomata,**
9. **short life cycle,**
10. **shallow and extensive root system,**
11. **reversed stomatal rhythm**

Organizing & writing paragraphs

- Write the essays in **paragraphs** form with full sentences and facts well connected.
- Avoid illustrations (drawings or diagrams unless demanded in the question clearly) e.g. Describe the nitrogen cycle.
- Avoid writing hanging or incomplete statements.

Avoid Contradicting statements

- **Avoid using contradicting statements in the essay by use of biological terms correctly.**
- **E.g. cell develops high osmotic pressure & osmotic potential**

Avoid crossing out responses

- **Never cross out a response before completing writing the alternative.**

Avoid using brackets

- Avoid using brackets when writing Biology essays, because the word in the bracket must be the equivalent and if it is not then the point is penalised.
- E.g. nucleus (nucleolus)
- Correct use; Plasma membrane (cell membrane)

Using “and”

- **Use the word “and” only when the two words or statements being joined biologically agree and are biologically true.**
- **Incorrect use of “and”. “An incisor tooth is used for cutting and grinding of food “**

Using “or”

- Use the word “or” when the statement before and after the word are alternatives,
- Wrong use; Examples of plants are yeast or garden peas.
- Correct use; Insects life cycles are classified either as incomplete metamorphosis or complete metamorphosis.

Avoid teaching the examiner

- **Avoid teaching the examiner. For example avoid statements like. *”Excess amino acids are broken down in the process, called deamination to form compounds called amino group and organic compound ”*.**
- **In the response remove the word “called”.**

Adjectives in biology

- **Use adjectives intensively in your essays to improve on your score board,**
- **e.g. deep, fleshy, photosynthetic, reduced, sunken, waxy, small, numerous, lignified,**

Do not leave out some points

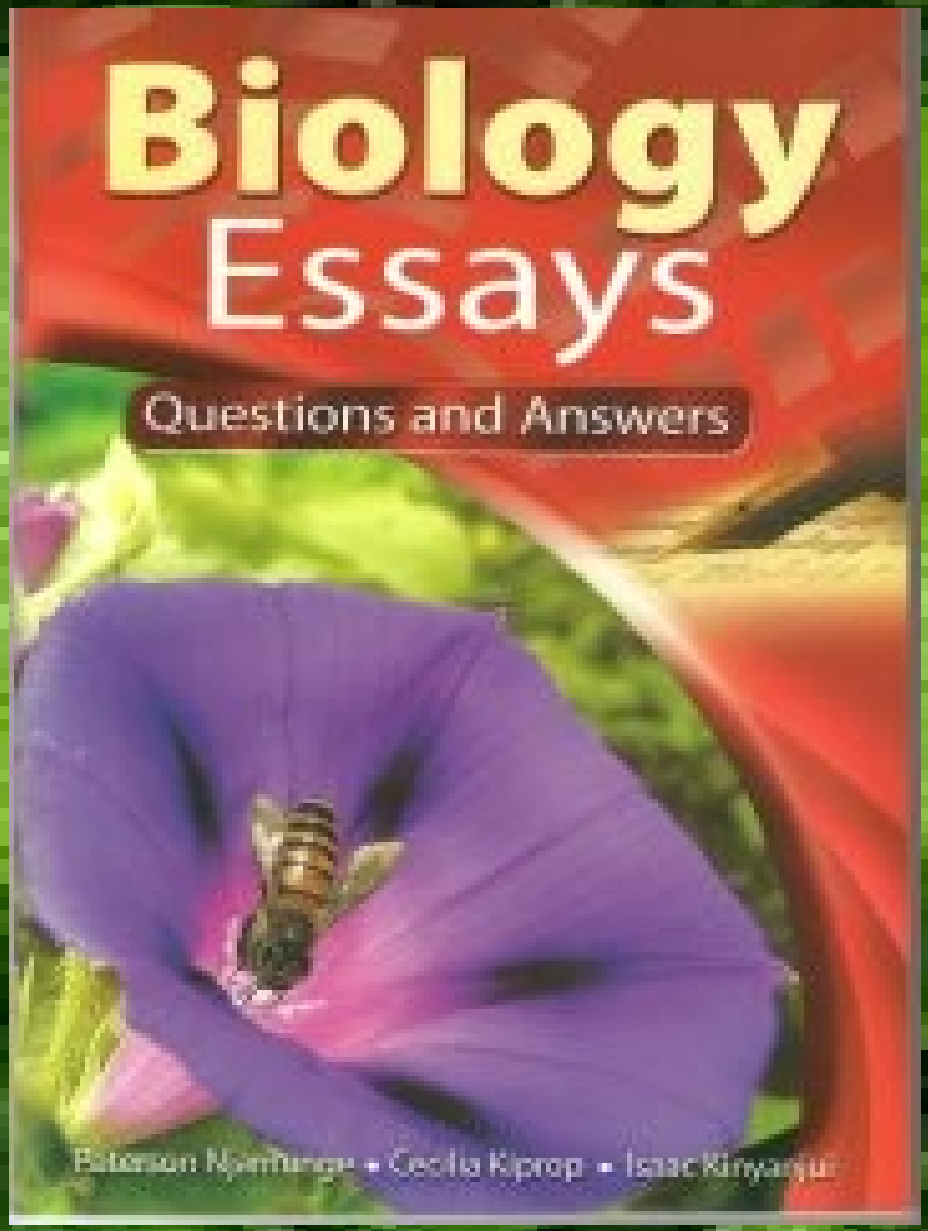
- **Make sure to include in the essay points that made in the outline.**

Biological lies

- **Avoid using Biological lies in the essays. Write only biological truth all the time in the essay.**
- **E.g.** Plant root hairs absorb water and minerals from the soil,
- Strong heating kills enzymes

Time for essays is 30 minutes

- **Manage time well so at to complete writing the essay in less than thirty minutes.**
- **Attempt only ONE essay!!!!**


Biology
Essays
Questions and Answers
Paterson Njenga • Cecilia Kiprop • Isaac Kinyanjui


THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
TIME