Veterinary Sciences Tripos Part IB
MARKING AND CLASSING SCHEME 2022

The following marking and classing scheme has been approved by the Faculty Board of Biology for VetST Part IB in 2022.

MARKING

1. The maximum marks allocated under Regulation 22 (*Statutes & Ordinances 2020*, page 438) to each subject are:

Biology of Disease (BOD)	100
Mechanisms of Drug Actions (MODA)	100
Neurobiology with Animal Behaviour (NAB)	100
Veterinary Reproductive Biology (VRB)	80
Comparative Vertebrate Biology (CVB)	80
Total	**460**

2. Within these totals, the allocation of marks will be:

Exam	**Section I**	**Section II**	**Section III**
BOD	MCQs	Practical	Three essays
	30	20	50
MODA	MCQs	Data analysis: two questions	Three essays
	30	20	50
VRB	Combined MCQ and practical		Two essays
	50		50
NAB	Short answers	Practical	Two essays
	25	25	50
CVB	Combined short answers and practical		Two essays
	25	25	50

The mark book will show each section, and the marks shown for each section should be out of the total shown above.

CLASSING

3. The minimum percentages and marks for various classes within a subject shall be:

Maximum subject mark		100	80
Class I	70%	70	56
Class II.i	60%	60	48
Class II.ii	50%	50	40
Class III	40%	40	32

4. Under normal circumstances the following is the expected distribution of candidates between classes in individual subjects. For subjects in which medical and veterinary students take the same exam, these ranges apply to the combined medical/veterinary cohort:

Class	Number of candidates taking the paper	Range (% of candidates)
I	51 and above	15.0 – 25.0
IIi	>25	32.5 – 65.0
IIii	>25	20.0 – 57.0
III & Fail	>25	0.0 – 17.0

5. Where scaling of marks is necessary to meet the expected distribution, and to allow examiners to combine exam sections with substantially different distributions, it is expected that examiners will use the method of linear scaling introduced in 2008. Senior Examiners should use the spreadsheets and instructions provided by the Faculty Office to carry out the scaling. These will scale marks between certain boundaries. If Senior Examiners are unable to scale subject marks to an appropriate distribution using the default boundaries, they may need to amend the boundaries used. Senior Examiners may be asked to justify their marking at the Final Meeting of Examiners. Senior Examiners are urged to use the full range of marks available.

6. In drawing up a provisional mark book for the Tripos, the following class boundaries will be applied (see note):

Class	%	Aggregate mark
I	70%+	322.00+
IIi	60-69%	276.00 – 321. 99
IIii	50-59%	230.00 – 275.99
III	40-49%	184.00 – 229.99
Fail	<40%	<183.99

The Final Meeting of Examiners for 2022 will retain discretion in considering the class of individual candidates at the boundaries.

7. The actual mark boundaries for classes applied in previous years were:

Year	**Minimum total out of 460 required for class**			
	I	**II.i**	**II.ii**	**III**
2005 - 2007	313	276	230	184
2008 and 2009	315	276	230	184
2010	317	276	229	184
2011	315	276	230	184
2012	311.5	275	230	184
2013	314	276	230	184
2014	319	274	230	184
2015	320	275.5	230	184
2016	317.5	276	230	184
2017	316.5	281	230	184
2018	322	276	230	184
2019	316.5	276	230	184
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	320	276	230	184

8. The percentage distribution between classes for MVST IB (VetST IB from 2020) over the last 20 years may also be taken into account:

Year	I	II.1	II.2	III	Fail	No of candidates classed
1997	18.2	47.4	30.7	2.7	0.9	329
1998	17.8	47.6	28.2	5.7	0.7	298
1999	18.5	45.2	32.5	3.2	0.6	314
2000	17.7	44.1	32.8	4.5	0	311
2001	17.7	42.0	36.5	3.2	0.6	345
2002	20.6	34.3	40.8	4.0	0.3	321
2003	15.9	49.9	31.3	2.0	0.9	345
2004	16.4	50.3	29.1	4.2	0	330
2005	17.3	45.5	30.4	6.0	0.9	336
2006	16.9	43.3	36.5	2.0	1.2	353
2007	20.5	46.4	29.2	2.1	0	333
2008	17.9	53.1	25.8	2.1	1.2	341
2009	18.8	47.5	31.6	1.9	0.3	320
2010	16.7	56.3	24.7	2.3	0	348
2011	15.2	55.4	26.2	3.0	0.3	335
2012	17.4	48.5	29.7	2.3	2.0	344
2013	19.3	42.8	32.5	4.5	0.9	332
2014	15.8	54.0	26.1	3.7	0.6	324
2015	17.6	56.9	23.6	1.6	0.3	313
2016	21.8	51.8	25.5	0.9	0.0	326
2017	22.5	48.9	26.7	1.9	0.0	311
2018	23.1	52.1	20.8	2.6	1.3	303
2019	22.7	48.8	26.1	2.0	0.3	299
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	13.1	54.1	31.1	1.6	0.0	61