

#### VILNIAUS UNIVERSITETO MEDICINOS FAKULTETAS

## FACULTY OF MEDICINE, VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

# The Entrance Examination

#### General information

In 2026 the entrance examination will be conducted on the following dates:

January 22, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+2) February 26, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+2) March 19, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+2) April 16, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+3) May 14, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+3) June 18, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+3) July 16, 2026 14:00 (EET, UTC+3)

The examination will be conducted online, via Zoom platform. An applicant must register for an examination and choose the suitable date (Registration form:

https://forms.office.com/e/47P1djban6). An applicant can take an examination **only once** per one application period.

Entrance examination fee: 200 EUR. IMPORTANT! Entrance examination fee must be paid at least 48h prior to the examination time and is not refundable!

Please note that Non-EU citizens must take the entrance exam no later than May 14, 2026, at 14:00 (EET, UTC+3).

The duration of an examination is 60 minutes. The examination will consist of mixed-type questions: 20 test-type questions (single choice questions (SCQ)/multiple choice questions (MCQ)) evaluated by 1 point each, 20 short open-ended questions evaluated by 1 point each and 5 essay-type questions evaluated by 2 points each.

**Important!** The identity of the applicant will be confirmed prior to the exam. The answers to the essay-type questions will be checked with the plagiarism detection software.

Examination will be considered as passed if an applicant scores at least 60% (30 out of 50 points). Examination will be considered as failed if an applicant scores 59% or lower and the application of such applicant will be declined. If an applicant scores 80% or over (40 points and over) he/she will be accepted to the study programme (considering he/she successfully passes other admission steps). Applicants scoring between 60% and 80% percent (30-39 points) will be placed on the waiting list and accepted depending on the number of places remaining (considering he/she successfully passes other admission steps).

The following conditions must be guaranteed for taking the entrance examination:

- Proper computer capable of successfully running the required software
- Good internet connection
- Zoom platform
- Good lighting to make sure the applicant is well visible
- Silent space/room where an applicant could take an exam undisturbed
- Valid passport

## **Topics**

#### **CHEMISTRY**

- 1. Masses of atoms and molecules. Amount of substance. Mole calculations. Chemical formulations and chemical equations. Balancing chemical equations.
- 2. Solutions and concentration. Preparation of solutions. Percentage and molar concentrations.
- 3. Common types of chemical reactions: synthesis, decomposition, combustion, single replacement (displacement), double replacement (displacement), neutralization and precipitation reactions.
- 4. The Periodic table: physical and chemical properties of main and transition group elements.
- 5. Structure of molecules. Intermolecular forces. Electronegativity. Bond polarity and molecular polarity.
- 6. Types of chemical bonding: ionic, covalent, metallic bonding.
- 7. States of matter: the gaseous, the liquid, and the solid-state.
- 8. Acids and bases. Reactions between acids and bases.
- 9. Redox reactions. General principle. Redox and electron transfer. Oxidation numbers. Balancing chemical equations by oxidation numbers.
- 10. Structure of organic molecules: alkanes, alkenes, alcohols, esters, and carboxylic acids; aldehydes and ketones. Amines and amides. Functional groups and common classes of organic compounds. Naming organic compounds. Bonding in organic molecules.
- 11. Polymerization. Polymers: natural and synthetic macromolecules.

# **BIOLOGICAL MOLECULES**

- 1. Carbohydrates. Describe the structure and function of the following:
  - Monosaccharides: glucose, galactose, fructose, ribose, deoxyribose.
  - Disaccharides: maltose, saccharose, lactose.
  - Polysaccharides: starch, glycogen, cellulose, chitin.
- 2. Lipids. Describe the structure and function of the following:
  - Fats: saturated fat, unsaturated fat.
  - Phospholipids.
  - Steroids: cholesterol, vitamin D, steroid hormones.

#### 3. Protein:

- Describe the structure of amino acids.
- Define polypeptides. Describe the formation of peptide bond. Describe four levels of protein structure.
- Describe enzyme action mechanism. Explain how changes in pH and temperature affect enzyme structure and function.

- Describe the process of denaturation.
- 4. Nucleic acids:
  - Describe the structure of nucleotides.
  - Describe the structure and function of DNA.
  - Describe the structure and function of RNA.

# **CELLS**

- 1. Prokaryotic cell:
  - Describe the structure and function of the following subcellular components: plasma membrane, cell wall, capsule, nucleoid, plasmid, ribosomes, fimbriae, flagella.
- 2. Eukaryotic cell:
  - Animal cell. Describe the structure and function of the following subcellular components: plasma membrane, nucleus, endoplasmic reticulum, ribosomes, Golgi apparatus, lysosome, mitochondrion, centrosome.
  - Plant cell. Describe the structure and function of the following subcellular components: plasma membrane, cell wall, nucleus, endoplasmic reticulum, ribosomes, Golgi apparatus, mitochondrion, chloroplast, central vacuole.

# MOVEMENT ACROSS THE MEMBRANE

- 1. Membrane:
  - Describe the structure and function of cell membrane.
  - Explain main functions of membrane proteins.
- 2. Passive transport:
  - Define diffusion, facilitated diffusion.
  - Define osmosis. Explain isotonic, hypotonic, hypertonic solutions effect on animal and plant cells.
- 3. Active transport:
  - Explain active transport through membrane transport proteins.
  - Define exocytosis.
  - Define endocytosis.

# THE CELL CYCLE

- 1. Cell cycle:
  - Describe phases of the cell cycle.
  - Describe the process of replication.
- 2. Mitosis:
  - Describe phases of mitosis.
  - Describe mitosis role in growth, repair and regeneration of tissues, reproduction.
- 3. Meiosis:
  - Describe phases of meiosis.
  - Describe meiosis role in sexual reproduction.

### **GENETICS**

- 1. Autosomal inheritance:
  - Interpret and depict monohybrid and dihybrid crosses.
  - Interpret and depict family trees. Distinguish between autosomal recessive and dominant inheritance.

#### 2. Sex linked inheritance:

- Interpret and depict monohybrid and dihybrid crosses.
- Interpret and depict family trees. Distinguish between X-linked dominant and X-linked recessive inheritance.

#### 3. Mutations:

- Define gene mutations.
- Define mutations with abnormal chromosome number.
- Distinguish between mutations with alterations of chromosome structure: deletion, duplication, inversion, translocation.
- Distinguish between the types of small scale mutations: nucleotide-pair substitution, nucleotide-pair insertion or deletion.

#### 4. Genetic code:

- Define characteristics of the genetic code: universal, degenerate.
- Interpret genetic code based on the codon table.

# **DIGESTIVE SYSTEM**

- 1. Oral cavity, esophagus:
  - Describe the structure and function.
  - Describe the importance of salivary glands to digestion of food.
  - Describe the process of peristalsis.

### 2. Stomach:

- Describe the structure and function.
- Describe the function of pepsin.
- Describe the importance of hydrochloric acid.

### 3. Small intestine:

- Describe the structure and function
- Describe the digestion of carbohydrates, protein and fat in the small intestine.
- Describe the importance of pancreas and liver.
- Describe absorption of nutrients.

# 4. Large intestine:

- Describe the structure and function
- Describe the importance of gut microbiome.

## CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

# 1. Heart:

- Describe the structure and function of the atria, ventricles, main arteries and veins of the heart.
- Describe the heart cycle.

### 2. Blood vessels:

- Describe the structure of arteries, veins and capillaries.
- Describe the functional difference between arteries and veins.
- Describe blood flow in veins.
- Describe the function of capillaries.
- Explain how interstitial fluid forms

#### 3. Circulation:

- Describe pulmonary circulation.
- Describe systemic circulation.
- Explain changes in blood pressure and blood flow velocity in relationship to type of blood vessels.
- Define systolic and diastolic blood pressure.

# 4. Lymphatic system:

- Describe the function of lymphatic vessels in the tissues.
- Describe how lymph forms.

#### 5. Blood:

- Describe the blood composition.
- Describe the function of erythrocytes, thrombocytes, lymphocytes.
- Explain how changes of erythrocyte, thrombocyte and lymphocyte levels would affect the organism.
- ABO and Rh blood types

# RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

- 1. Airways:
  - Describe the structure and function of larynx.
  - Describe the structure and function of trachea and bronchi.
  - Explain the difference in structure between trachea and bronchi.
  - Describe airway epithelium. Describe how it protects from potential pathogens.

## 2. Lungs:

- Describe the structure of alveoli
- Explain the process of gas exchange in the lungs.
- Describe adaptations of the alveoli for more effective gas exchange.

### 3. Breathing:

- Explain the mechanism of inspiration.
- Explain the mechanism of expiration.

### **IMMUNE SYSTEM**

- Describe how lymphocytes act in recognition of antigen and production of antibodies.
- Explain the difference between primary and secondary immune response.
- Explain the process of vaccination and formation of active immunity after vaccination.
- Explain why bacterial infections can be treated with antibiotics and viral cannot.
- Explain antibiotic resistance in bacteria based on natural selection.

# **EXCRETORY SYSTEM**

- 1. Kidneys:
  - Describe the structure and function of nephron.
  - Explain how urine is formed: filtration, reabsorption, excretion.
  - Explain water reabsorption in the nephron.

## 2. Urinary tract:

- Describe the structure and function of ureter, urinary bladder, urethra.

# HOMEOSTASIS

- 1. Osmoregulation:
  - Describe the role of hypothalamus and pituitary gland in osmoregulation.
  - Describe the action mechanism of antidiuretic hormone (ADH).
  - Explain the changes in urine based on changes in blood osmolarity.
- 2. Blood glucose regulation:
  - Explain insulin effect on high blood glucose levels.
  - Explain glucagon effect on low blood glucose levels.
- 3. Thermoregulation:
  - Describe the structure of the skin.
  - Describe the role of hypothalamus in thermoregulation.
  - Describe how muscles, sweat glands, skin blood vessels respond to temperature changes

### **NERVOUS SYSTEM**

- 1. Neurons:
  - Describe the structure and function of sensory, motor neurons and interneurons.
  - Describe the role of sodium and potassium ions in the generation of an action potential.
  - Describe signal transmission across a chemical synapse
- 2. Reflexes:
  - Define reflexes. Describe parts of the reflex loop.
  - Describe the difference between unconditioned and conditioned reflexes
- 3. Nervous systems:
  - Define peripheral and central nervous systems.
  - Describe functions of central nervous system: cerebrum, diencephalon, midbrain, pons, medulla oblongata, cerebellum, spinal cord.

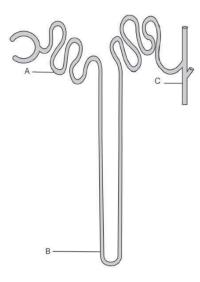
### **Recommended books**

- Campbell Biology (Pearsons from 9th edition)
- Mary Jones, Richard Fosbery, Jennifer Gregory and Dennis Taylor. Cambridge International AS and A Level Biology (Cambridge from 4<sup>th</sup> edition)
- Introduction to general and organic biochemistry / Morris Hein, Susan Arena.

# **Example Questions for the Vilnius University Entrance Examination**

# **Biology part:**

The figure shows the structure of a nephron.



- 1. Which organ produces urea? (1 point)
  - A. bladder
  - B. kidney
  - C. liver
  - D. pancreas
- 2. What process takes place in the part of the nephron marked with the letter A? (1 point)
  - A. Reabsorbtion
  - B. Filtration
  - C. Respiration
  - D. Secretion
- 3. Name the structure marked with a letter B. (1 point)
- 4. Name one substance that is too large to pass through the filtration barrier of Bowman's capsule. (1 point)
- 5. Antidiuretic hormone (ADH) plays a crucial role in maintaining the body's homeostasis. Describe the effect of this hormone on the part of the nephron marked with the letter C and its overall impact on homeostasis. (2 points)

# **Chemistry part:**

SCQ test question example:

- 1. Indicate the oxidation number of sulfur in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>:
  - a. +1
  - b. +2
  - c. -2
  - d. +4
  - e. -4
  - f. +6
- 2. Which type of bond can be formed when the electronegativity difference between two or more atoms is between 0.4 and 1.6?
  - a. nonpolar covalent bond
  - b. ionic bond
  - c. hydrogen bond
  - d. polar covalent bond
  - e. metallic bond

Open-ended question example:

Indicate the type of the reaction:

$$Fe(s) + CuSO_4(aq) \rightarrow FeSO_4(aq) + Cu(s)$$

According to IUPAC rules, what is the name of the molecule shown in the picture below?