



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2011

Human Biology

HBI3T/Q11/TN

Unit 3T AS Investigative Skills Assignment

Teachers' Notes

Confidential

**A copy should be given immediately to the teacher responsible for
GCE Human Biology**

Teachers' Notes

CONFIDENTIAL

These notes should be read in conjunction with *Instructions for the Administration of the Investigative Skills Assignment* for GCE Human Biology published on the AQA Website.

Investigation into whether length of the lower arm can be used to predict height of a person

Candidates are required to measure the length of the lower arm (distance from elbow to the tip of the longest finger) and height. Each candidate should measure a minimum of ten people. Candidates do not need to limit the sample by age or sex.

Materials

In addition to access to general laboratory equipment, each candidate needs

- a metre rule marked in mm
- a thin hard-backed book
- access to a wall-mounted height gauge. Commercially available or free-standing height gauges such as found in clinics must **not** be used, as the written test makes reference to the detail of the method given in the task sheet.

A suitable gauge can be made by mounting a metre rule vertically on a wall with its lower end exactly 1 m from the floor. The rule should be marked in mm. A notice can be mounted alongside, reminding candidates to add 1 m to the measurements they make on the gauge.

With a large group of candidates it might be necessary to provide several gauges

- access to a table or bench top next to a wall
- access to a chair or stool
- access to a stepping stool, eg, an aerobics step or an 'elephant's foot'.

Managing the investigation

Teachers should allow enough time for each candidate to measure lower arm lengths and heights of at least ten people. In the case of small classes, arrangements should be made to invite additional people into the class to act as subjects.

It may be necessary to explain to candidates what is meant by the spine of a book.

Candidates **must not** be given information about an ISA assessment until one week before Stage 1.

One week before Stage 1 candidates should be given the following information:

You will investigate the relationship between limb length and height of people.

There **must** be no further discussion and candidates **must not** be given any further resources to prepare for the assessment.

In this investigation, teachers must not give candidates the following information

- the range of heights of people to include in the sample.