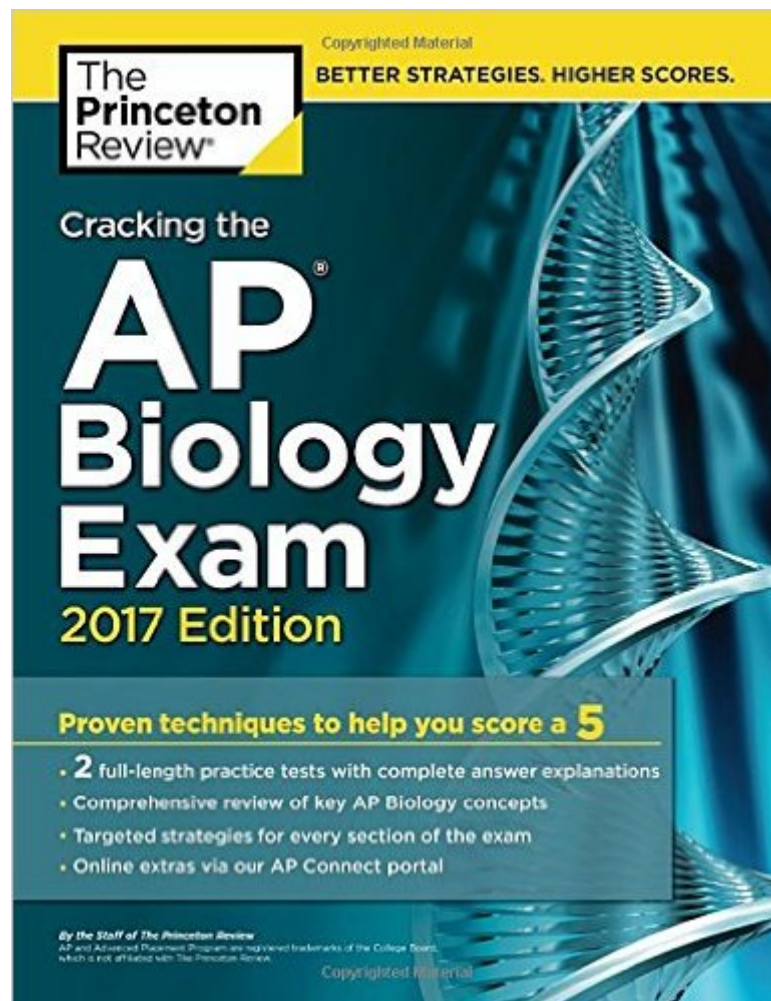


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# Cracking The AP Biology Exam, 2017 Edition: Proven Techniques To Help You Score A 5 (College Test Preparation)



## Synopsis

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO HELP SCORE A PERFECT 5. Equip yourself to ace the AP Biology Exam with The Princeton Review's comprehensive study guideâ€”including 2 full-length practice tests, thorough content reviews, access to our AP Connect Online Portal, and targeted strategies for every section of the exam. We don't have to tell you how tough AP Biology isâ€”or how important a stellar score on the AP Exam can be to your chances of getting into a top college of your choice. Written by Princeton Review experts who know their way around Bio, *Cracking the AP Biology Exam* will give you:

- Techniques That Actually Work.â€¢ Tried-and-true strategies to help you avoid traps and beat the test
- Tips for pacing yourself and guessing logically
- Essential tactics to help you work smarter, not harder

Everything You Need to Know to Help Achieve a High Score.â€¢ Comprehensive content review for all test topics- Up-to-date information on the 2017 AP Biology Exam
- Engaging activities to help you critically assess your progress
- Access to AP Connect, our online portal for helpful pre-college information and exam updates

Practice Your Way to Excellence.â€¢ 2 full-length practice tests with detailed answer explanations- Practice drills at the end of each content chapter
- Lists of key terms in every content chapter to help focus your studying

## Book Information

Series: College Test Preparation

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: Princeton Review; Csm edition (August 2, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1101919833

ISBN-13: 978-1101919835

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.9 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 2.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,862 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in [Books > Science & Math > Science for Kids](#) #15 in [Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Study Aids > College Entrance](#) #19 in [Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Biology & Life Sciences > Biology](#)

## Customer Reviews

Princeton Review obviously hasn't done their homework regarding the new AP Biology curriculum. It

still reflects the old AP test format and completely omits entire sections. There is WAY too much emphasis on ecology and not enough on cells. Cell signaling and transduction is heavily emphasized in the new curriculum and this book doesn't even mention it! I was looking forward to previewing this book and encouraging my AP Biology students to buy it. I will certainly not be recommending this.

The 2013 edition of this book doesn't at all reflect the changes that have been made to the AP Biology test. This book is almost identical to my 2010 edition of the same book. That means that this book includes a great deal of information that is no longer covered on the AP test, and lacks a great deal of information that is. For example, the new AP Biology course description states, "Memorization of the names of the phases of mitosis is beyond the scope of the course and the AP Exam." This book teaches you to memorize the phases of mitosis. What it doesn't teach you, though, is that "Cyclins and cyclin-dependent kinases control the cell cycle," which the College Board requires students to know for the AP test. The "Big Ideas" that are stressed in the AP Biology course and exam description are completely absent from this book. Instead, this book stresses the themes of the old AP test. Also lacking are any tips for how to succeed in the new free-response section of the test. Instead, it prepares you for the old free-response section that no longer exists. But if you are a college student or general biology teacher looking for a good biology overview, this book is actually quite good. Just don't use it to prepare for the AP test.

I have been teaching AP biology for four years and was looking forward to this book being released in the hopes that it would be a good review book for the changes that collegeboard has made to the AP Biology test. It is just like all previous review books with no mention of the four big ideas or any other changes to AP bio. I originally bought the book so I would have more conceptual based questions to show my students and was severely disappointed with this book. It even states that there are four essays with equal amounts of time (when in reality, the new test will have two longer questions and a few short answer). Anyway, don't waste your money if you're hoping for an up-to-date book. Just buy a used one. I will be returning this one tomorrow :(

I am extremely disappointed that The Princeton Review completely missed the revision made to AP Biology. As a teacher I purchased this book for students to borrow in preparation for their AP exam, but it will do little good. The course description is inaccurate, the exam set-up is completely outdated, and the sample exams contain questions that will not even be on the exam. Shame on

you, Princeton Review! I think you should offer a refund!

I have taught AP biology for the last ten years. I have also been involved with College Board as a reader for the AP biology test. One of the challenges of this school year was a brand new AP biology curriculum and a brand new AP biology test. As teachers, we have been waiting for new materials for this new test. I ordered this book as soon it was available and I was shocked at the poor quality. This book claims to be rewritten for the 2013 test, but the only thing changed was the number of questions on the practice test. The content of this book was NOT changed to match the new curriculum, which means it still includes information that is no longer a main focus of the course. The list of labs also was NOT changed. In the old curriculum, there were 12 labs. The new one has 13 labs. The list in this book matches the old curriculum, not the new one. Several of the labs listed in this book have been eliminated in the new curriculum. Finally, the practice tests do NOT reflect the questions on the new test at all. Every single question on the 2013 test will be an application question, and all recall questions have been eliminated. The practice tests in this book still have a bunch of questions that are simply memorization. In addition, these questions focus on content that will not be covered on the 2013 test. My concern is that well-meaning AP students will buy this book and use it to prepare for the 2013 test. While the content is still valid biology, this book does not reflect what the students will be asked to do on the new test. I am disappointed in the folks at Princeton Review for not producing a new product for a new test. Please, do not waste your money or time on this review book!

I teach AP Biology, and as the curriculum and structure of the test have changed significantly for this year, I was really looking forward to the "revised" 2013 edition that became available on Dec. 11th. As far as I can tell, VERY little revising was actually done. In particular, the practice tests still have a heavy emphasis on memorized detail, with little attempt made to include the higher order thinking questions that typify the redesigned test. This makes the practice tests fairly worthless, as they do not assess students in the manner they will be assessed on the new AP exam. There is NO mention anywhere of the incorporation of the 4 so-called "Big Ideas" around which the new test is based - how could the publisher of a test prep book leave that information out? I know Princeton Review has made its reputation on test-taking strategies, but knowing the 4 GIANT themes that every question on the test maps to seems like fairly important information no matter what testing strategies you attempt to teach. The review material seems reasonable - the summaries of facts and processes are accurate as far as I have seen; I'm just not sure how useful they will be in preparing

for the real test, which no longer stresses memorization of vast quantities of material. Overall, I'm really disappointed with this book. Princeton beat other publishers to market with this book, but it's not going to do the job of preparing them for the revised test. Let's hope some of their competitors get it right...

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