

DEVELOPING A NOVEL STUDY PACKAGE

FOR

LEARNING CELL BIOLOGY

(At the G C E Advanced Level)

A PROJECT REPORT PRESENTED

BY

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Abstract

Although students come to A\L classes with some basic knowledge in Cell Biology, as teachers we have to face difficulties when introducing the related concepts, because of the lack of fundamental cell biology concepts in them. In this research project I attempted to find a solution to this problem by developing a study package for learning Cell Biology. For that, The prior knowledge that exist in students under Cell Biology was determined by way of pre test which was based on O\L knowledge. The target population was who have just entered the G C E A\ L biology class. Attitudes and opinions about the proposed curriculum were found by using surveys and interviews, especially on the content, teaching strategies proposed activities and methods of evaluation.

By considering the feed back obtained in pretest, surveys and interviews, study package for cell biology was developed. Student's prior knowledge was considered as a conceptual basis for the study package. Content analysis of subject mater for proposed unit of Core Biology for A\|L, was carried out and the main objectives, the specific objectives and the suitable activities were decided for the study package on Cell Biology.

A set of notes and some suitable materials are provided with this study package. Subsequent titles of the set of notes are Building blocks of Life & its Specialization and Fine Structure of the Cell. The first chapter is presented as a pre program, which would help to fill the conceptual gap between students' prior knowledge and the proposed conceptual basis for A\|L cell biology. The second chapter was an in-depth study on fine structure of the cell. Study package with materials will facilitates effective learning with the guidance of teacher. Materials in the study package are computer diskettes with pictures, transparencies with line diagrams and copies of additional references for teachers and students. Sources for the additional references and materials are provided as a list at the end of the project report as well as in the study package.