

## Inheritance, Variation & Evolution - Revision materials

Content will be tested on Biology Paper 2

| ChecklistKey Point  | 😊 | 😞 |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Inheritance, Variation &amp; Evolution</b>   |   |   |
| Explain what is meant by the terms 'sexual' and 'asexual' reproduction and the differences between them   |   |   |
| Describe the main stages of the production of gametes by meiosis  |   |   |
| Explain the differences between mitosis and meiosis in terms of daughter cells  |   |   |
| Describe the structure of DNA and define the term genome  |   |   |
| Describe the importance of understanding the genome   |   |   |
| Define key genetic terms – allele, heterozygous, homozygous, dominant, recessive, genotype and phenotype  |   |   |
| Complete punnett squares to show the possibilities for offspring of a genetic cross and interpret them using direct proportion and ratios                               |   |   |
| Describe the chromosome make up of men and women and use genetic crosses to show how gender is inherited  |   |   |
| Use and interpret family tree diagrams  |   |   |
| <b>Construct genetic diagrams and use theory of probability to interpret results</b>  |   |   |
| Describe the inheritance of the diseases polydactyly and cystic fibrosis  |   |   |
| Evaluate the use of embryo screening to prevent these and other inherited diseases  |   |   |
| Explain why Darwin's theory of natural selection was not well accepted at first and contrast his theory with that of Lamarck  |   |   |
| Define the reasons for variation within a species and across species  |   |   |
| Explain the role of mutations in variation  |   |   |
| Describe the theory of evolution  |   |   |
| Apply the theory of natural selection to explain how organisms have changed over time   |   |   |
| Explain how different species arise over time   |   |   |
| Describe 'selective breeding' and give examples of where it is used   |   |   |
| Give the disadvantages of selective breeding in terms of the gene pool  |   |   |
| Describe how plants, animals and bacteria can be genetically engineered and evaluate this – e.g +/- of genetically modified foods, production of insulin by GM bacteria |   |   |
| <b>Describe the main steps in genetic engineering of crops and bacteria (HT)</b>  |   |   |
| Describe the evidence for evolution – fossils, antibiotic resistant bacteria etc  |   |   |
| Explain what fossils show u, how they were formed and why the fossil record is incomplete   |   |   |
| Interpret evolutionary trees and explain why organisms may go extinct   |   |   |
| Explain how antibiotic resistant bacteria form and how we can try to prevent this   |   |   |
| Describe Linnaeus' classification system  |   |   |
| Describe the more recent 'three-domain' system  |   |   |

### 4.6.1.1 Sexual and Asexual Reproduction

Meiosis is the formation of four non-identical cells from one cell.

Mitosis is the formation of two identical cells from one cell. (This is covered in detail in Paper 1: cell biology)

There are two types of reproduction:

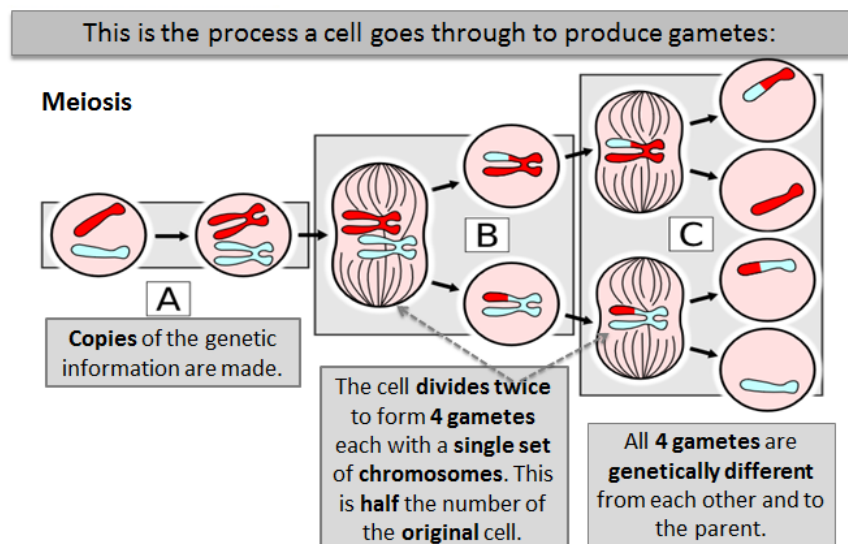
| Sexual reproduction  | Asexual reproduction   |
|--|--|
| Involves the <b>joining of male and female gametes</b> , each containing genetic information from the mother or father.  | Involves <b>one parent with no gametes joining</b> .   |
| <b>Gametes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sperm and egg cells in animals</li> <li>• Pollen and egg cells in flowering plants</li> </ul>   | Examples of organisms that reproduce this way are bacteria, some plants and some animals.  |
| Gametes are formed by <b>meiosis</b> , as they are non identical. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A normal cell has 46 chromosomes. There are two sets of chromosomes (i.e. 23 pairs). In each pair, one chromosome is from the father and the second set are from the mother.</li> <li>• Each gamete has 23 chromosomes and they fuse in fertilisation.</li> <li>• The genetic information from each parent is mixed, producing variation in the offspring.</li> </ul> | It happens using the process of <b>mitosis</b> , where <b>two identical cells are formed from one cell</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no mixing of genetic information.</li> <li>• It leads to <b>clones</b>, which are <b>genetically identical</b> to each other and the parent.</li> </ul> |

### 4.6.1.2 Meiosis

Meiosis is the formation of four non-identical cells from one cell. Cells in the reproductive organs divide by meiosis to form gametes. Gametes only have one copy of each chromosome.

The cell **makes copies** of its chromosomes, so it has double the amount of genetic information.

- The cell divides into two cells, each with half the amount of chromosomes (**46**).
- The cell divides again producing four cells, each with a quarter the amount of chromosomes (**23**).
- These cells are called gametes and they are all **genetically different** from each other because the chromosomes are shuffled during the process, resulting in random chromosomes ending up in each of the four cells.

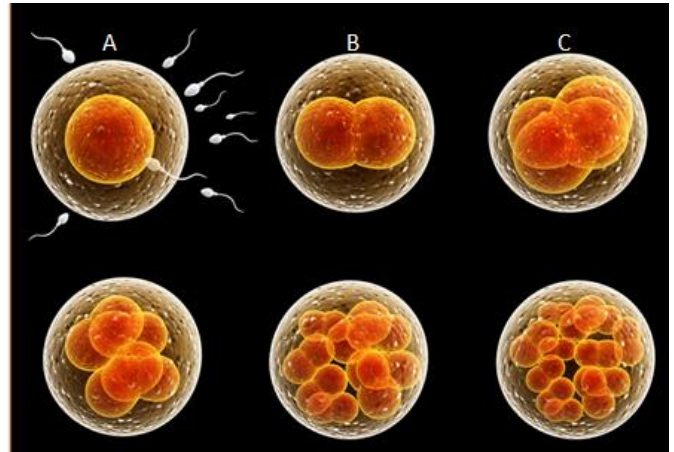
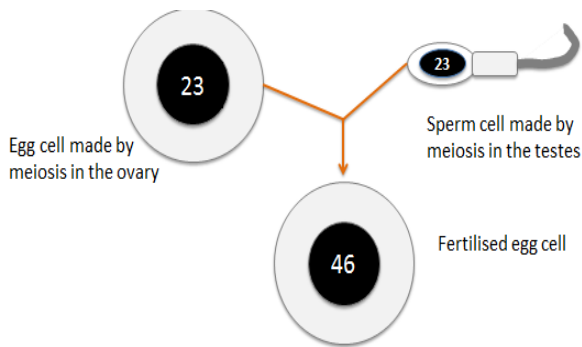


These gametes with 23 chromosomes join at fertilisation to produce a cell with 46 chromosomes, the normal number.

- This cell divides by mitosis to produce many copies.
- More and more cells are produced, and an embryo forms.
- The cells begin to take on different roles after this stage (differentiation).

## Fertilisation:

- When gametes join at fertilisation, a single body cell with new pairs of chromosomes is formed. **This is now called an embryo.**
- **Cells now begin to differentiate into different types of cell.**



## Variation:

### Asexual reproduction leads to very little variation:

- Organisms that reproduce asexually create new individuals by mitosis.
- They are genetically identical to the parent.
- They may develop differently due to differences in their environment.

### Sexual reproduction leads to much more variation:

- Meiosis ensures that all gametes contain the same genes, but have a different selection of alleles. It is random which sperm fertilises which egg.
- Therefore all individuals (except for identical twins) produced sexually are genetically different.

### Examples of organisms that use both methods to reproduce are below:

1. **Malarial parasites:** causes malaria, spread by **mosquitoes** and transferred to humans through a bite
  - They reproduce sexually in the mosquito.
  - They reproduce asexually in the human host (in the liver and blood cells).
2. Some fungi: many species can undergo both types of reproduction, releasing **spores** which land and become new fungi
  - Spores produced asexually are genetically identical.
  - Spores are produced sexually when the conditions change, in order to increase variation and avoid extinction.
3. Some plants
  - Many reproduce sexually using **pollen**, which must reach the egg cells in the female parts of another flower. This is called **pollination**, and it forms seeds.
  - Strawberry plants reproduce asexually, as they produce **runners**. New identical plants grow off the runner.
  - Daffodils reproduce asexually. They grow from bulbs. New **bulbs** can grow from the main one, producing a new identical plant.
  - It is advantageous in plants as it means they can reproduce even if the flowers have been destroyed by frost or other animals.

**Exam practice 1**

**Q1.** There are two types of reproduction, asexual and sexual. Use the words in the box to complete the sentences about reproduction.

You may use each word once or not at all.

|         |        |         |               |             |
|---------|--------|---------|---------------|-------------|
| asexual | eggs   | gametes | fertilisation | inheritance |
| ovaries | sexual | sperms  | testes        | variation   |

The genetic information from the mother is carried in the \_\_\_\_\_ which are made in the \_\_\_\_\_ .

The genetic information from the father is carried in the \_\_\_\_\_ which are made in the \_\_\_\_\_ .

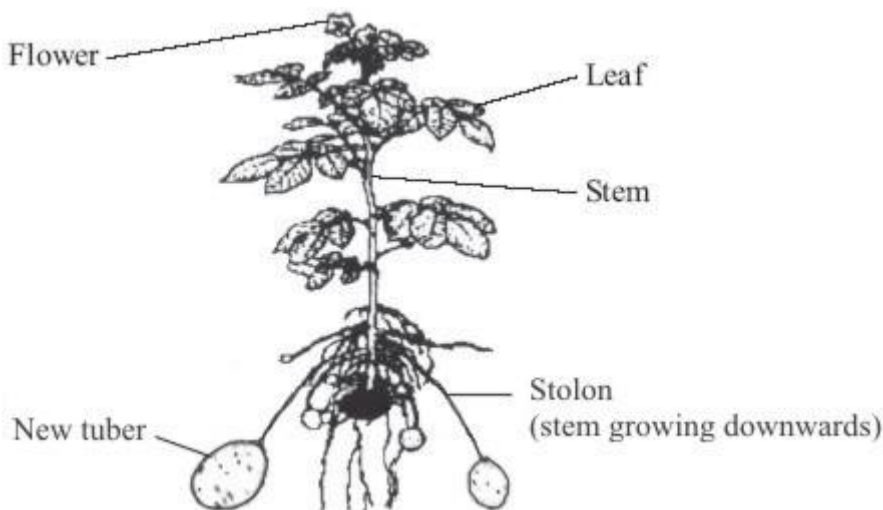
In \_\_\_\_\_ reproduction, offspring are produced that are genetically different from either parent.

This happens because genetic information from each parent is carried in the \_\_\_\_\_ and joined together during \_\_\_\_\_ to develop into a fetus.

In \_\_\_\_\_ reproduction, genetically identical offspring are produced because no mixing of genetic material takes place.

**(Total 8 marks)**

**Q2.** The drawing shows a potato plant producing new tubers (potatoes). Buds on the stem of the parent plant produce stolons. The new tubers are formed at the ends of the stolons (stems that grow downwards).



(a) Explain why the new tubers are genetically identical to each other.

---

---

---

---

**(2)**

- (b) Some of the tubers are used to produce potato plants. These new potato plants will not all grow to the same height.

Give **one** reason why.

---



---

(1)

(Total 3 marks)

- Q3.** (a) Use words from the list to complete the sentences.

**alleles chromosomes gametes genes mutations**

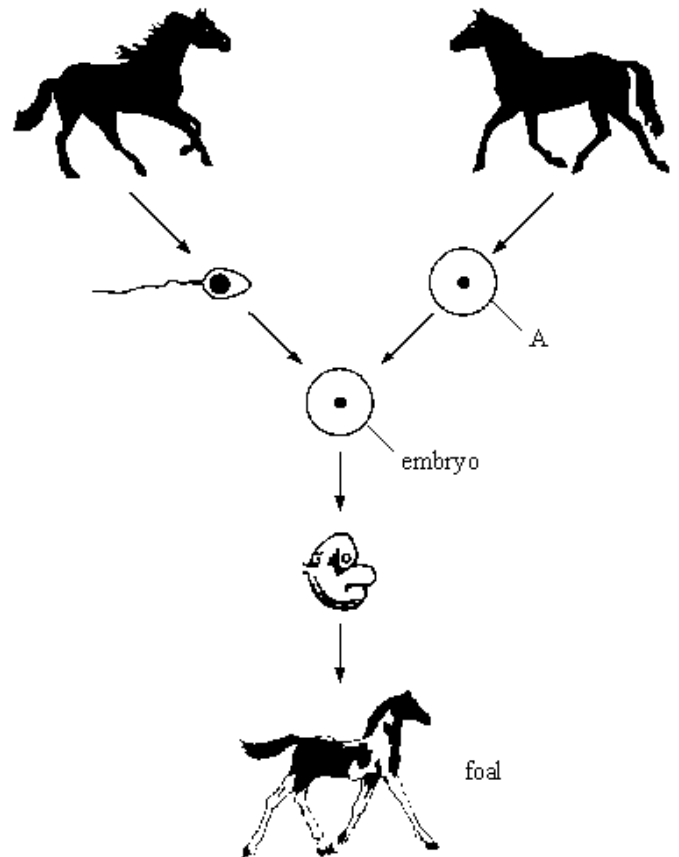
The nucleus of a cell contains thread-like structures called \_\_\_\_\_ .

The characteristics of a person are controlled by \_\_\_\_\_

which may exist in different forms called \_\_\_\_\_ .

(3)

- (b) The drawing shows some of the stages of reproduction in horses.



- (i) Name this type of reproduction

---

(1)

- (i) Name the type of cell labelled **A**

---

(1)

- (c) When the foal grows up it will look similar to its parents but it will **not** be identical to either parent.

- (i) Explain why it will look similar to its parents.

---



---



---

(1)

- (ii) Explain why it will **not** be identical to either of its parents.

---



---



---

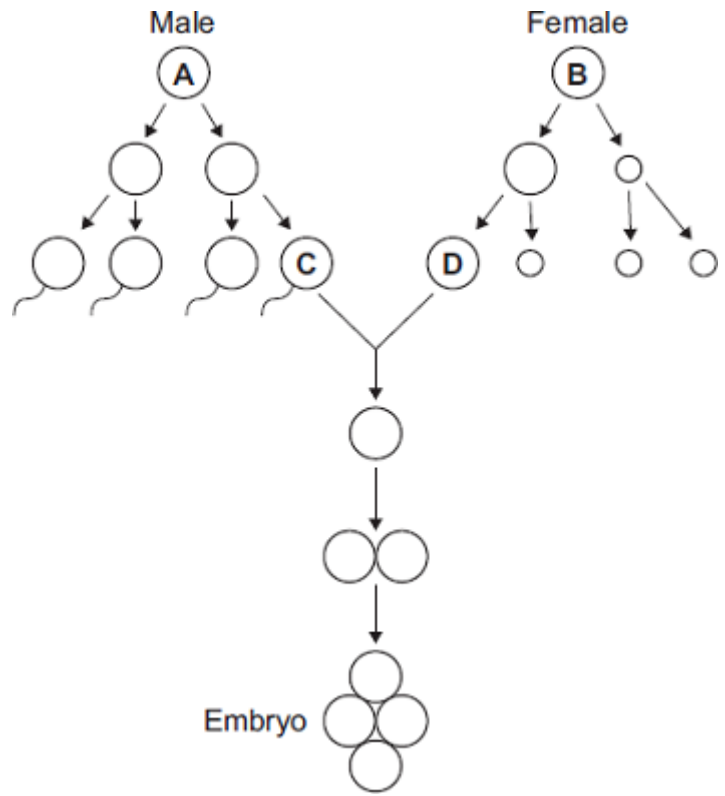


---

(2)

(Total 8 marks)

**Q4.** The diagram shows some of the cell divisions that occur during human reproduction.



(a) (i) Name the type of cell division that produces cell **D** from cell **B**.

\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

(ii) Which organ in the male body produces cell **C** from cell **A**?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

(b) (i) Cells **A** and **B** each contain 46 chromosomes.

How many chromosomes would there be in the

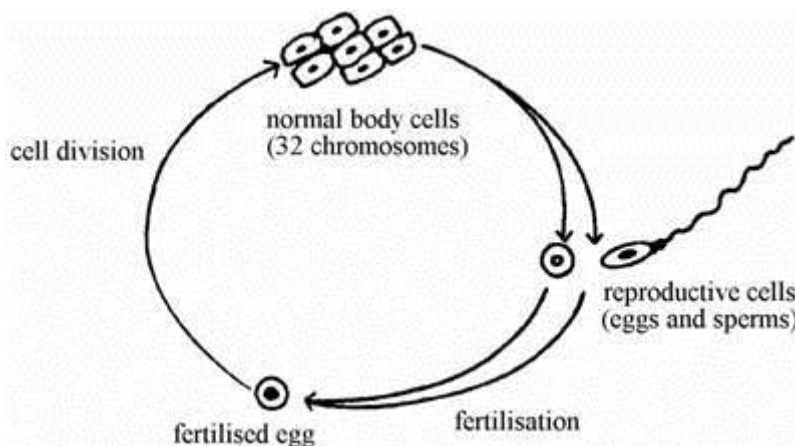
nucleus of cell **C**?

(ii) Why is it important that cell **C** has this number of chromosomes?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(2)  
 (Total 5 marks)

**Q5.** The diagram shows three types of cells in a life history of a simple animal.



(a) How do the chromosomes of the body cells compare with the chromosomes in the fertilised egg from which they came?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(1)

- (b) Describe what happens to chromosomes in the nucleus of a body cell when it forms reproductive cells.

---

---

---

---

---

(4)

(Total 5 marks)

**Q6.** A child saved apple seeds from an apple she ate. She planted the seeds in the garden. A few years later the apple trees she had grown produced apples.

- (a) The apples from the new trees did **not** taste like the original apple.

Explain why.

---

---

---

---

---

(2)

- (b) (i) Apple trees can be reproduced so that the apples from the new trees will taste the same as the apples from the parent trees.

Give **one** method used to reproduce apple trees in this way.

---

---

(1)

- (ii) Explain why the method you have suggested in part **(b)(i)** will produce apples that taste the same as the apples from the parent trees.

---

---

---

---

---

(2)

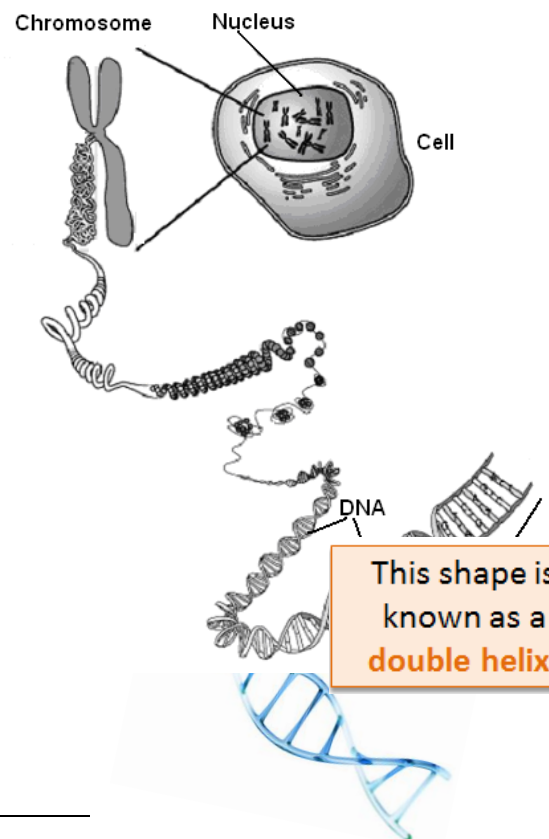
(Total 5 marks)

#### 4.6.1.4 DNA and the genome

The **genetic material** in the nucleus of most cells is made from a chemical called **DNA**.

- **DNA**: is a **polymer**, consists of two strands coiled into a double **helix structure**.
  - **DNA has 2 main roles:**
    1. It can replicate prior to cell division (mitosis or meiosis).
    2. Its code is used to synthesise proteins.
- **Gene**: is a small section of DNA.
  - Each gene codes for a particular combination of amino acids which make a specific protein.
    - These **proteins** determine our characteristics.
  - Some characteristics are controlled by a single gene.
  - **Each gene may have different forms called alleles**

A **polymer** is a large molecule made from many **smaller** molecules called **monomers**.



**Proteins** have many different vital functions in our body.

- **Enzymes** – all made from protein.
- **Hormones** – all made from protein
- **Antibodies** – all made from protein
- **Structural** components such as muscle, hair and nail tissue.

**Chromosomes** are structures made up of long molecules of DNA.

**The word genome describes all the genetic information of that organism.** The human genome has been studied, which has improved our understanding of the genes linked to different types of disease, the treatment of inherited disorders and has helped in tracing human migration patterns from the past

#### 4.6.1.6 Genetic inheritance

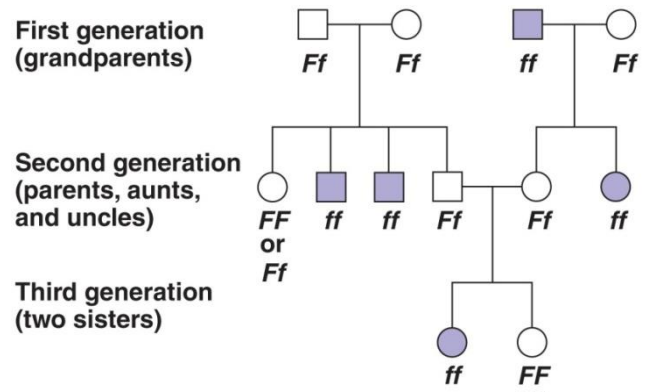
You need to know the definitions for a number of terms.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Gamete           | An organism's reproductive cell (egg in female and sperm in males), which has half the number of chromosomes (23).  |
| Chromosome       | A structure found in the nucleus which is made up of a long strand of DNA.  |
| Gene             | A short section of DNA that codes for a protein, and therefore contribute to a characteristic. Some characteristics are controlled by a single gene, such as fur colour in mice and red-green colour blindness in humans. However, most characteristics are the result of many different genes interacting. |
| Alleles          | The different forms of the gene - humans have two alleles for each gene as they inherit one from each parent.   |
| Dominant allele  | Only one (out of the two alleles) is needed for it to be expressed and for the corresponding phenotype to be observed.  |
| Recessive allele | Two copies are needed for it to be expressed and for the corresponding the phenotype to be observed.  |
| Homozygous       | When both inherited alleles are the same (i.e. two dominant alleles or two recessive alleles).  |
| Heterozygous     | When one of the inherited alleles is dominant and the other is recessive.   |
| Genotype         | The combination of alleles an individual has, e.g. Aa   |
| Phenotype        | The physical characteristics that are observed in the individual, e.g. eye colour   |



**Family Trees:** show the inheritance of different phenotypes over generations in the same family.

- The inheritance of traits in families can be illustrated using a family tree
- In this example, the allele for attached earlobes is recessive.
- F = allele for detached earlobes
- f = allele for attached earlobes
- FF and Ff = genotypes for detached earlobes
- ff = genotype for attached earlobes



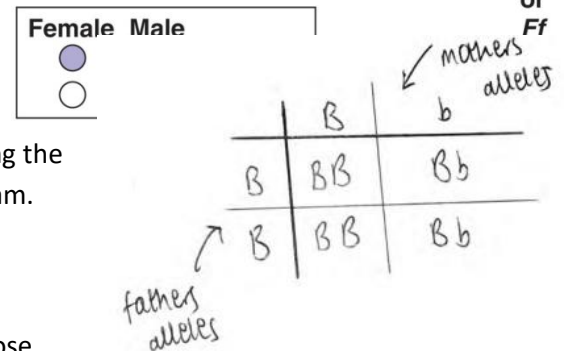
**Genetic crosses / drawing punnett squares:**

A single gene cross looks at the **probability** of the offspring of two parents having certain genotypes and phenotypes. This is done using the alleles the two parents have for a gene and a **Punnett square** diagram.

**You should be able to draw and use a Punnett square diagram**

**Uppercase** letters are used to represent **dominant characteristics**.

**Lowercase** letters represent **recessive characteristics**. You can choose any letter but usually either A or B is used for simplicity.



**When working out genetic crosses ALWAYS identify the genotype and state the phenotype that will be shown.**

**Work out the probability/ratio – this will depend on what the question is asking.**

**Inherited Conditions in Humans:**

**Polydactyly:** People that inherit this condition have extra fingers or toes.

- It is caused by a **dominant** allele of a gene.
- If someone inherits one copy of this allele, they will develop the disorder.
- It can therefore be passed on by only one parent who has the disorder.

**Cystic fibrosis:**

- A disorder of cell membranes.
- It causes thick, sticky mucus to accumulate in the lungs and the digestive system.
- **This causes:**
  - Lung infections
  - Problems with breathing
  - Problems with digestion and absorption.
- It is caused by a **recessive** allele of a gene.
- The parents may be carriers of the disorder (Cc) without actually having the disorder themselves.
- It can therefore be passed on by parents, neither of whom has the disorder.
- To develop the disease, the allele must be inherited from both parents.

**Embryonic screening** allows scientists to observe whether the child will have a genetic condition or not.

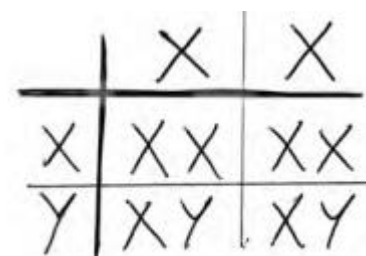
- If the embryo is developed in the lab, cells can be taken from it and analysed
- DNA from embryos in the womb can also be extracted

There are many economic, social and ethical issues surrounding embryonic screening.

| <u>Arguments for embryonic screening</u>                                     | <u>Arguments against embryonic screening</u>   |
|--|--|
| Reduces the number of people suffering (ethical).                            | Could encourage people to pick characteristics - creating designer babies (ethical).                                       |
| Treating disorders is very expensive (economic).                             | It is expensive to carry out screening (economic).   |
| There are many regulations in place to stop it getting out of hand (social). | May promote prejudice as it suggests that those with genetic disorders will not live a full life or are unwanted (social). |
|  | Decisions about terminating a pregnancy have to be made (social).  |
|  | The procedure can lead to a miscarriage (social).  |

**Sex determination:** In human body cells, one of the 23 pairs of chromosomes carries the genes which determine sex. 22 control characteristics, and the chromosomes in each pair look very similar. The 23rd pair carries **sex determining genes**, and the two chromosomes can look different to each other (Y chromosomes are much smaller than X chromosomes)

- In females the sex chromosomes are the same (XX).
- In males the sex chromosomes are different (XY).
- There is a 50% possibility of being a girl or a boy.
- As a foetus, we all start off with female characteristics.
- Presence of Y chromosome causes male development.
- Absence of Y chromosome continues female development.
- The sex of the baby is determined by the sex chromosome inherited from the father.



**Exam practice 2**

**Q1.** When humans reproduce, chromosomes and genes are passed on to the next generation.

In each of the following questions, draw a ring around the correct answer to complete the sentence.

(a) A gene is a small section of 

|            |
|------------|
| cellulose. |
| DNA.       |
| protein.   |

 (1)

(b) The sex chromosomes in the human male are 

|          |
|----------|
| X and X. |
| X and Y. |
| Y and Y. |

 (1)

(c) (i) Most human body cells contain 

|                 |
|-----------------|
| 23 chromosomes. |
| 46 chromosomes. |
| 92 chromosomes. |

 (1)

(ii) The number of chromosomes in a human gamete (sex cell) is 

|                    |
|--------------------|
| the same number as |
| half the number    |
| twice the number   |

 in body cells. (1)

(d) Gametes are produced by 

|                |
|----------------|
| fertilisation. |
| meiosis.       |
| mitosis.       |

 (1)

**(Total 5 marks)**

**Q2.** In humans, hair colour is an inherited characteristic.

Red hair is caused by a recessive allele.

(a) When does a recessive allele control the development of a characteristic?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

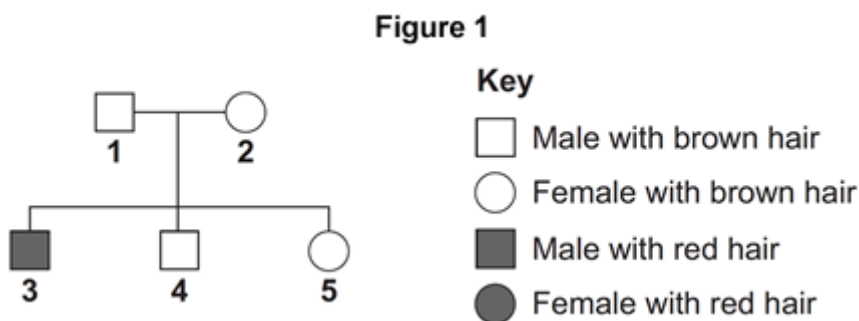
When the allele is present on only one of the chromosomes.

When the dominant allele is not present.

When the allele is inherited from the female parent.

(b) **Figure 1** shows the inheritance of hair colour in one family.

(1)



(i) Brown hair is caused by a dominant allele, **B**.

Red hair is caused by the recessive allele, **b**.

What combination of alleles does person **1** have?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

**BB**

**Bb**

**bb**

(1)

(ii) Person **3** married a woman with brown hair.

**Figure 2** shows how hair colour could be inherited by their children.

**Figure 2**

Complete **Figure 2** to show the combination of alleles that the children would inherit.

One has been done for you.

(2) **Person 3**  
Red hair

|                      |   | Woman<br>Brown hair |   |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|---|
|                      |   | B                   | b |
| Person 3<br>Red hair | b | Bb                  |   |
|                      | b |                     |   |

(iii) What is the probability that one of the children would have red hair?

Tick (✓) **one** box.

1 in 2

1 in 3

1 in 4

(1)

(Total 5 marks)

**Q3.** In humans, the sex chromosomes **X** and **Y** determine whether the baby will be male or female (its gender).

(a) (i) Draw a genetic diagram to show how gender is inherited. The male has **XY** chromosomes and the female has **XX**.

(2)

(ii) What is the likelihood of obtaining a male child?

\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

(b) In the 16th century Henry VIII was the King of England. He blamed some of his wives for giving birth to daughters instead of sons. With our present day knowledge of genetics this mistake could not be made today. Explain why Henry VIII was wrong.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(Total 5 marks)

**Q4.** Some genetic disorders are caused by alleles inherited from the parents.

(a) What are **alleles**?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

(c) Polydactyly is a genetic disorder that leads to extra fingers or toes.

Polydactyly is caused by a dominant allele, **D**.

The photograph shows the hand of a person with polydactyly.

A man has polydactyly. His wife does not have polydactyly.

This couple's children have a 50% chance of having polydactyly.

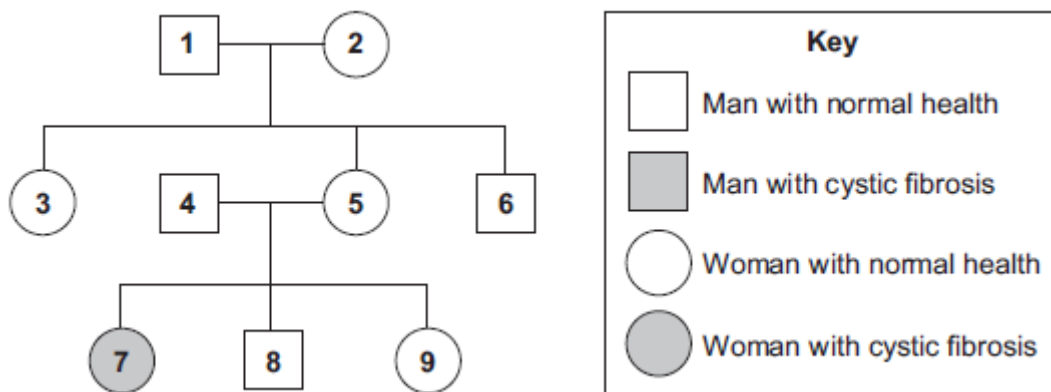
Draw a genetic diagram to explain why.



(3)

(d) Cystic fibrosis is another genetic disorder. It is caused by a recessive allele.

The diagram shows the inheritance of cystic fibrosis in one family.



Woman 5 is pregnant with her fourth child.

What is the probability that this child will have cystic fibrosis?

Draw a genetic diagram to explain your answer.

Use the following symbols.

**N** = allele for normal health  
**n** = allele for cystic fibrosis

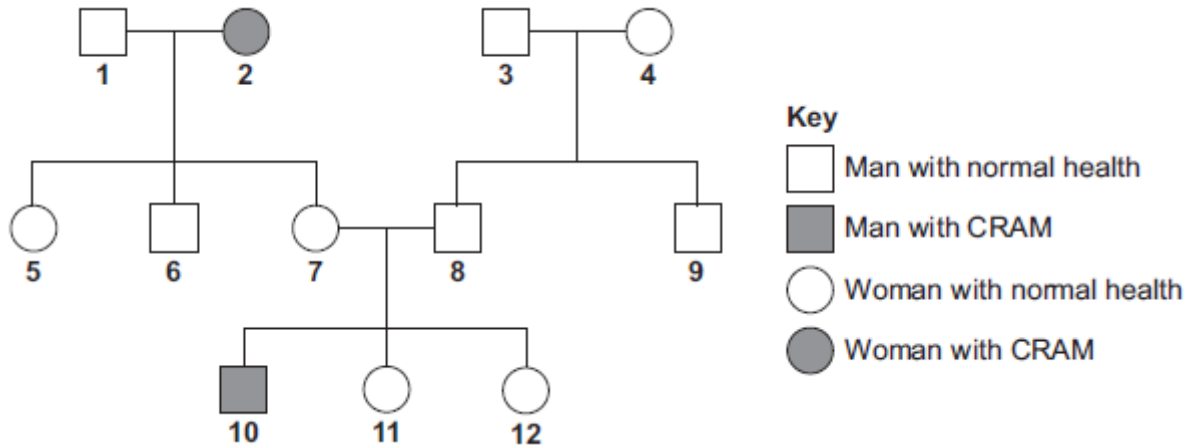
(4)

(Total 12 marks)

**Q5.** CRAM is an inherited condition which causes muscle breakdown.

The breakdown products enter the urine, making it dark-coloured.

The diagram below shows the inheritance of CRAM in one family.



CRAM is caused by a recessive allele, **n**.

The allele for normal health is **N**.

(a) (i) What is an **allele**?

---



---

(1)

(ii) What does **recessive** mean?

---



---

(1)

(iii) Give evidence from the diagram that CRAM is caused by a **recessive** allele.

---



---

(1)

(b) (i) Person **2** is homozygous for CRAM.

What does **homozygous** mean?

---



---

(1)

(ii) None of person **2**'s children have CRAM.

Explain why.

---



---



---

(2)

- (c) Persons **7** and **8** want to have another child.
- (i) What is the probability that this child will have CRAM?
- Draw a genetic diagram to explain your answer.

Probability = \_\_\_\_\_

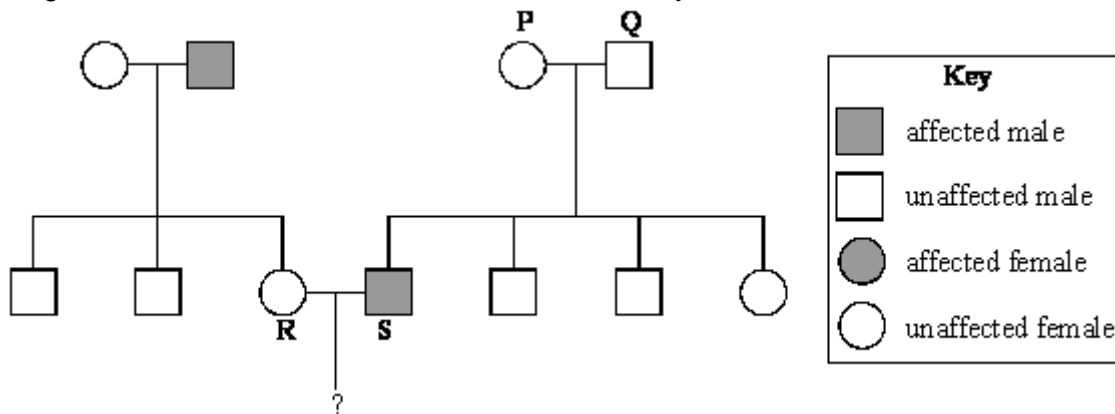
(4)

**Q6.** The black pigment in human skin and eyes is called melanin.

A single gene controls the production of melanin.

A person who is homozygous for the recessive allele of the gene has no melanin and is said to be albino.

The diagram shows the inheritance of albinism in a family.



- (a) Use a genetic diagram to explain the inheritance of the albino allele by children of parents **P** and **Q**.

(3)

- (b) **R** and **S** decide to have a child.

What is the chance that this child will be an albino? \_\_\_\_\_

Use a genetic diagram to explain your answer.

(3)

(Total 6 marks)



## 4.6.2 Variation and evolution

**Variation** means that individuals in a population show **differences** in characteristics (phenotype). Population is the number of one species in a habitat.

The **genome** and its **interaction** with **the environment** influence the development of a **phenotype** in an organism.

The phenotype an organism has **depends on two things**:

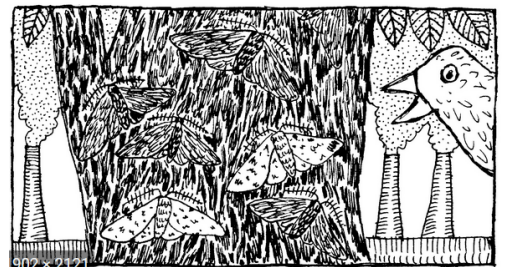
1. **Genotype**: the genes it inherited

- Genes are passed on from the parent in sex cells.
- The combining of genes from the mother and father creates **genetic variation**.
- Only identical twins have the same genotype.
- There is lots of genetic variation in a population.



2. **Environment**: the place it lives in

- The conditions the organism grows and develops in also affects its appearance.
- Examples include scars in animals, or smaller and yellow leaves in plants.



Sometimes characteristics can result from a combination of genetics and the environment, such as weight. Weight depends on the food you eat but also how quickly your body breaks it down and how much it stores as fat depends on your genes.

**Genetic variation** is introduced by **mutations** in the sequence of DNA.

### Mutations:

How do mutations occur?

- Errors occur when the DNA is replicated prior to cell division.
- Errors may occur when chromosomes are separated during cell division.

What do mutations do?

- Genes control the synthesis of proteins.
- Therefore a change in a gene or a new sequence of genes can result in different proteins being synthesised.
- This can change a characteristic i.e. bring about a **new** phenotype
- Most mutations are harmful or fatal.
- Occasionally, some mutations are useful.
  - If the mutation does determine the phenotype and it is advantageous, **natural selection** will mean it becomes the common phenotype relatively quickly.

### 4.6.2.2 Evolution

**Evolution** is a change in the inherited characteristics of a population over time through a process of natural selection which may result in the formation of a new species.

**Theory of Evolution**: All species have evolved from simple life forms that first developed more than three billion years ago.

- These first organisms were very simple single-celled organisms, similar to bacteria.
- The theory of evolution by natural selection **was only gradually accepted** because:
  - 1) the theory **challenged the idea that God** made all the animals and plants that live on Earth
  - 2) there was **insufficient evidence** at the time the theory was published to convince many scientists
  - 3) the **mechanism of inheritance** and variation was **not known** until 50 years after the theory was published

### Evolution occurs because of natural selection.

- **Mutations** occur which provide variation between organisms.
- If a mutation provides a **survival advantage** the organism is more likely to survive to breeding age.
- The mutation/alleles will then be **passed onto offspring**.
- Over many generations, the frequency of the mutation/alleles will increase within the population.

#### 4.6.3.4 Evidence for Evolution

Evidence for evolution is seen in:

1. Fossils: the remains of organisms from many years ago, which are found in rocks
2. Antibiotic resistance in bacteria: the selection pressure of antibiotics leads to advantageous mutations being selected for in bacteria populations so they are no longer killed when exposed to antibiotics.

#### 4.6.3.5 Fossils:

Fossils are the remains of organisms from millions of years ago, which are found in rocks

We can learn from fossils how much or how little different organisms have changed as life developed on Earth. However, The **fossil record** is **incomplete** for many reasons:

1. **Early life forms** were often **soft bodied** and so **few traces** remain.
2. Most organisms **do not** become **fossilised** as **conditions** are **rare**.
3. We are **still discovering fossils** which give us more information.
4. **Traces** are often **destroyed** by **geological activity** like earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, formation of mountain ranges and erosion.

Fossils may be formed in various ways:

- from the hard parts of animals that do not decay easily
- from parts of organisms that have not decayed because one or more of the conditions needed for decay are absent
- when parts of the organism are replaced by other materials as they decay
- as preserved traces of organisms, e.g. footprints, burrows and rootlet traces

Fossils are used to show how the anatomy of organisms has changed over time. They can be used to **compare how closely related two organisms** are, through looking at the number of similarities they have. This information is used to create **evolutionary trees**.

#### 4.6.3.6 Extinctions:

- Various events can make it difficult for individuals to survive:
  - changes to the environment over geological time
  - new predators may arise
  - new diseases may arise
  - new, more successful, competitors may arise
  - a single catastrophic event, eg massive volcanic eruptions or collisions with asteroids.
- If the organisms cannot evolve quick enough to become better adapted to the change they may become extinct. If they do evolve, they are likely to develop into new species.



**Exam practice 3**

**Q1.** (c) Mutation may also give rise to variation.

(i) What is meant by mutation?

---

---

(1)

(ii) Are all mutations harmful? Explain the reason for your answer.

---

---

---

---

(2)

**(Total 7 marks)**

**Q2.** Darwin's theory of natural selection states that all living things have evolved from simple life forms.

(a) Use the correct answer from the box to complete the sentence.

|                      |                      |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>three billion</b> | <b>three million</b> | <b>three thousand</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|

Darwin's theory states that life began on Earth \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.

(1)

(b) Life evolved due to changes in genes. Changes in genes cause variation.

Complete the sentences.

Changes in genes are called \_\_\_\_\_ .

Individuals with characteristics most suited to the environment are more likely to survive and \_\_\_\_\_ .

(2)

**(Total 3 marks)**

**Q3.** Fossils give evidence about organisms that lived a long time ago.

(a) Scientists have found very few fossils of the earliest life forms.

Give **one** reason why.

---

---

(1)

Below is a photograph of a fossilised fish.



(b) Suggest how the fossil in the photograph above was formed.

---

---

---

---

(2)

(c) The species of fish shown in the photograph above is now extinct.

Give **two** possible causes of extinction.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

---

2. \_\_\_\_\_

---

(2)

Modern fish species have evolved from fish that lived a long time ago.

Evolution is caused by mutation and natural selection.

(d) What is a mutation?

Tick **one** box.

A change in a gene

Accidental damage to an organism

An organism with a new characteristic

The loss of a species

(1)

(e) Describe the process of natural selection.

---

---

---

---

---

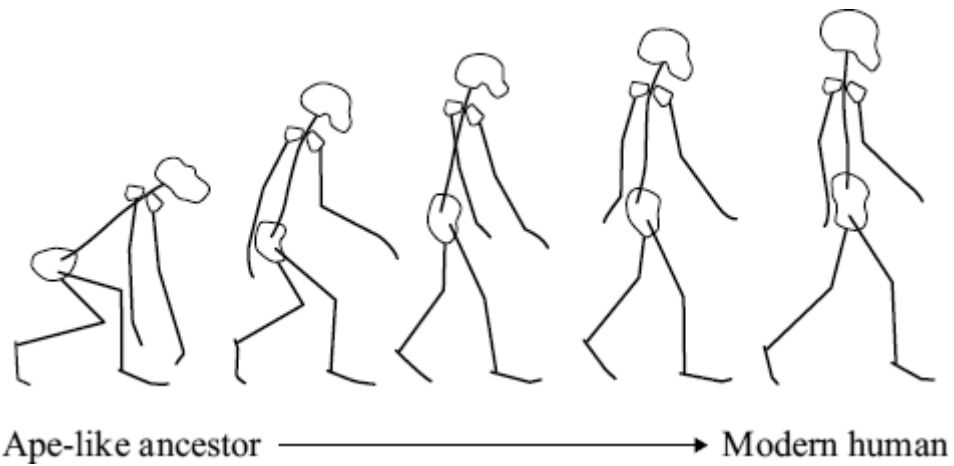
---

---

(3)  
(Total 9 marks)

**Q4.** (b) The drawings show stages in the evolution of the human skeleton.

All the drawings are to the same scale.



Use information from the drawings to describe **two** trends in the evolution of the human skeleton.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(c) Darwin said that humans had evolved from ape-like ancestors.

Many people disagreed with him at the time.

Give **two** reasons why.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Q5.(a)** Explain, as fully as you can, how natural selection leads to evolution.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

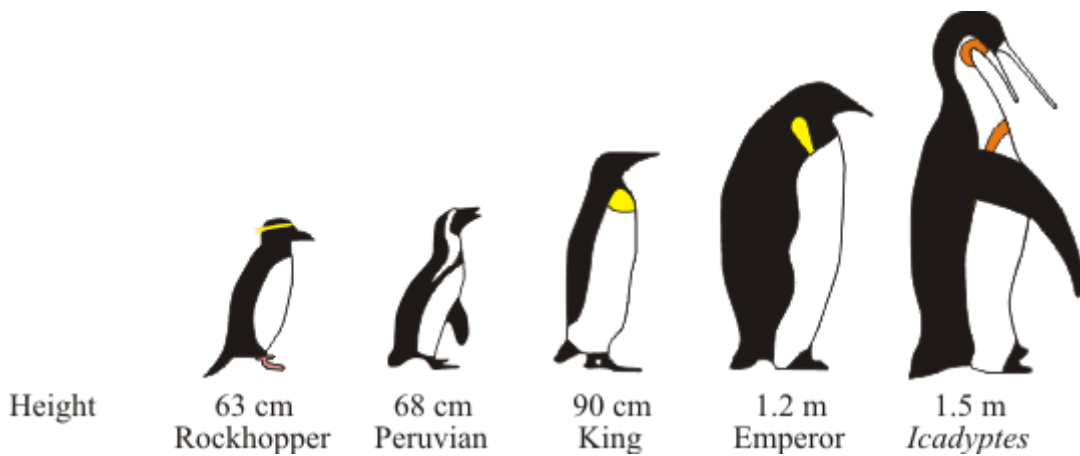
---

(3)

(b) Most penguins live in cold climates. The modern penguin best adapted for cold conditions is the emperor penguin.

Scientists have found fossils of a 'giant' penguin which they have called *Icadyptes*.

The diagram shows how the size of modern penguins compares with *Icadyptes*.



The scientists were surprised to discover that *Icadyptes* lived in warm seas at a time when the Earth's climate was much warmer than it is now.

Explain why the scientists were surprised that *Icadyptes* lived in warm seas.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

(2)

(Total 5 marks)

**Q6.**

Penicillin is an antibiotic which stops bacteria from reproducing. It was used a lot in the past to treat bacterial infections in humans and other animals. In many hospitals there are now strains of penicillin resistant bacteria.

Explain how natural selection could have produced these strains of penicillin resistant bacteria.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**(Total 5 marks)**

### 4.6.2.3 Selective Breeding

**Selective breeding** is when humans choose which organisms to breed in order to produce offspring with a certain desirable characteristic (e.g animals with more meat, plants with disease resistance or big flowers).

This has been happening for many years since animals were domesticated and plants were grown for food.

- Parents with desired characteristics are chosen.
- They are bred together.
- From the offspring those with desired characteristics are bred together.
- The process is repeated many times until all the offspring have the desired characteristic.

The problem is that it can lead to **inbreeding**.

- Breeding those with similar desirable characteristics means it is likely you are breeding closely related individuals.
- This results in the reduction of the **gene pool**, as the number of different alleles reduce (as they mostly have the same alleles).
- This means if the environment changes or there is a new disease, the species could become extinct as they all have the same genetic make-up (so the chance of a few organisms having a survival advantage and not dying is reduced).
- Another problem is that the small gene pool leads to a greater chance of genetic defects being present in offspring, as recessive characteristics are more likely to be present.

### 4.6.2.4 Genetic Engineering

**Genetic engineering:** Modifying the genome of an organism by introducing a gene from another organism to give a desired characteristic.

- Plant cells have been engineered for disease resistance or to have larger fruits
- Bacterial cells have been engineered to produce substances useful to humans, such as human insulin to treat diabetes.

#### The process:

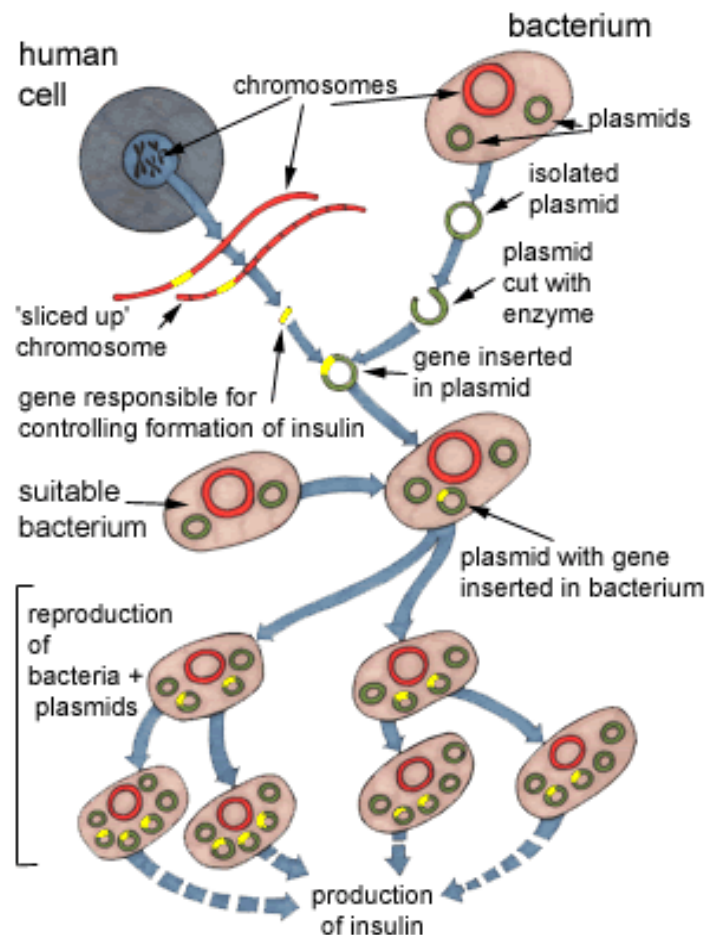
- 1) Cut out the insulin gene from the DNA of a human cell using an **enzyme**.
- 2) Remove a **ring of DNA / plasmid** from a bacterium and open it up using the **same enzyme**.
- 3) Insert the insulin gene into the plasmid using another enzyme. Enable a bacterium to take up the altered DNA.
- 4) Put the bacterium in a fermenter, and it multiplies many times. Each new bacterium contains the insulin gene.
- 5) The bacteria produce insulin which can be extracted.

#### **Genetically modified crops**

- They are engineered to be resistant to insects and to herbicides.
- This will result in increased yields as less crops will die.

#### **Genetic modification in medicine**

- It may be possible to use genetic engineering to cure inherited disorders.





- It is called gene therapy and involves transferring normal genes (not faulty) into patients so the correct proteins are produced.

Other uses of genetic engineering:

- Genes can also be transferred to the cells of animals or plants at an early stage in their development so that they develop with desired characteristics:
  - This could be used to insert 'healthy' genes into an embryo that has a genetic disease.
- New genes can also be transferred to crop plants:
  - Crops that have had their genes modified in this way are called genetically modified crops (GM crops).
  - Examples of genetically modified crops include ones that are resistant to insect attack or to herbicides.
  - GM crops generally show increased yields.

Concerns:

- Long-term, unpredicted effects of consuming GM plants on human health.
- Genes for pesticide resistance may spread from GM plants to their wild relatives, creating pesticide resistant weeds.
- People may want to manipulate the genes of their future children.

**Exam practice 4**

**Q1.** Genetic engineering is being used to help sufferers of cystic fibrosis.

In the sentence below, cross out the **two** lines which are wrong in each box.

In genetic engineering, genes are cut out of

|                |
|----------------|
| cell membranes |
| chromosomes    |
| cytoplasm      |

using

|          |
|----------|
| drugs    |
| enzymes  |
| hormones |

**(Total 2 marks)**

**Q2.** Insecticides are chemicals which kill insects.

Insecticides may be sprayed onto crops to increase crop yield.

- (a) Killing insects on crops increases crop yield.

Suggest why.

---



---

**(1)**

- (b) A microorganism contains a gene which causes the production of an insect poison.

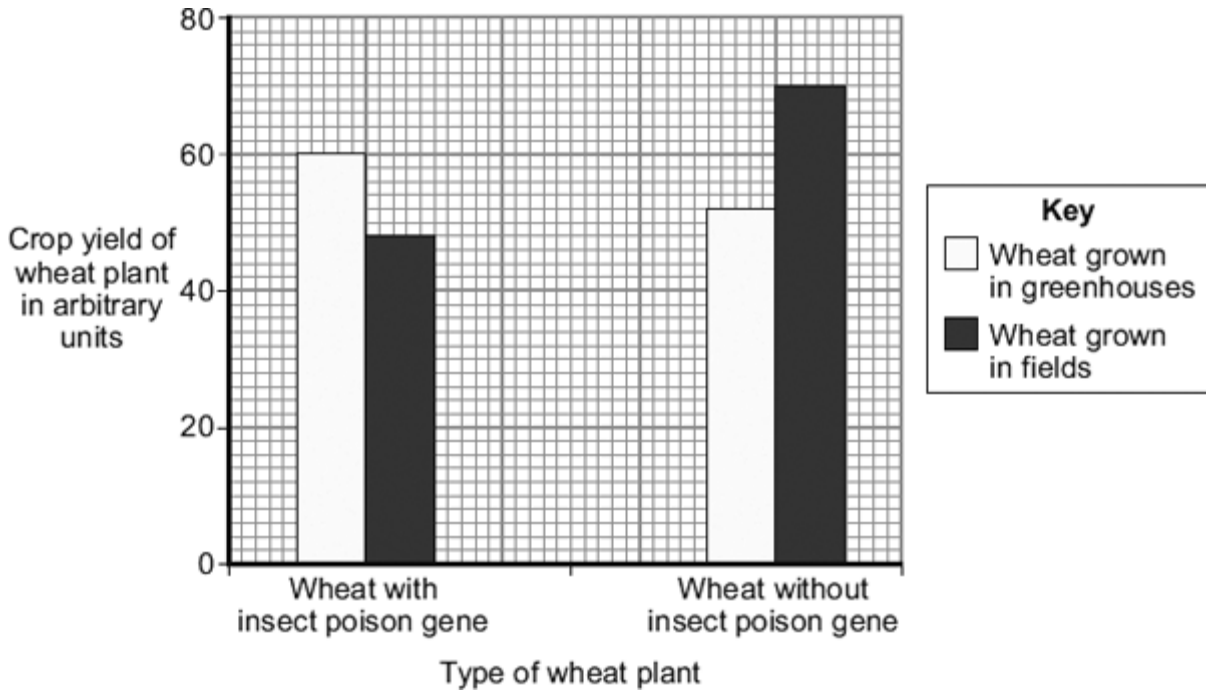
Scientists transferred the gene for production of the insect poison into wheat plants. This makes genetically modified (GM) wheat.

The scientists:

- grew wheat plants with the insect poison gene in fields and in greenhouses
- grew wheat plants without the insect poison gene in fields and in greenhouses

- measured the crop yield of the wheat plants.

The bar chart shows the results.



- (i) What was the yield of the wheat with the insect poison gene grown in greenhouses?

\_\_\_\_\_ arbitrary units

(1)

- (ii) The yield from wheat without the insect poison gene grown in greenhouses was different from the yield you gave in (b)(i).

Describe this difference in yield.

---



---



---



---

(2)

- (iii) Look again at the bar chart.

What advice would you give to a farmer about the type of wheat to grow in fields?

Give a reason for your answer.

---



---



---



---

(2)

(c) Some people are concerned about the use of GM crops.

Why?

---

---

---

---

---

(2)

(Total 8 marks)

**Q3.**

Scientists have produced many different types of GM (genetically modified) food crops.

(a) Use words from the box to complete the sentence about genetic engineering.

|               |                    |                |              |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>clones</b> | <b>chromosomes</b> | <b>embryos</b> | <b>genes</b> |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|

GM crops are produced by cutting \_\_\_\_\_ out of the \_\_\_\_\_ of one plant and inserting them into the cells of a crop plant.

(2)

(b) Read the information about GM food crops.

- Herbicide-resistant GM crops produce higher yields.
- Scientists are uncertain about how eating GM food affects our health.
- Insect-resistant GM crops reduce the total use of pesticides.
- GM crops might breed naturally with wild plants.
- Seeds for GM crops can be bought from only one manufacturer.
- The numbers of bees will fall in areas where GM crops are grown.

Use this information to answer these questions.

(i) Give **two** reasons why some farmers are in favour of growing GM crops.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(ii) Give **two** reasons why many people are against the growing of GM crops.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(Total 6 marks)

**Q4.**

Insulin is now made by a biotechnological process. A description of the process is given below. Complete the gaps in the sentences.

(a) The first step in the biotechnological process is that a special enzyme is used to cut the insulin \_\_\_\_\_ out from a human \_\_\_\_\_ .

In a separate operation, a ring of bacterial \_\_\_\_\_ is cut open using a special enzyme.

These two pieces of genetic material are combined together to form a new plasmid ring which is inserted into a bacterium.

(3)

(b) Explain why large quantities of insulin are produced when this bacterium is put into a culture medium.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(c) Before insulin was made in this way, it could only be obtained from sheep and pigs. Suggest **two** reasons, other than preventing the exploitation of animals, why it is better to obtain insulin by genetic engineering than from animals.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(2)

(Total 7 marks)

**Q5.**

Many different types of animals are produced using selective breeding.

Some cats are selectively bred so that they do not cause allergies in people.

(a) Suggest **two other** reasons why people might selectively breed cats.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**(2)**

(b) Selective breeding could cause problems of inbreeding in cats.

Describe **one** problem inbreeding causes.

\_\_\_\_\_

**(1)**

(c) Many people have breathing problems because they are allergic to cats.

The allergy is caused by a chemical called Fel D1.

Different cats produce different amounts of Fel D1.

A cat has been bred so that it does not produce Fel D1.

The cat does **not** cause an allergic reaction.

Explain how the cat has been produced using selective breeding.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

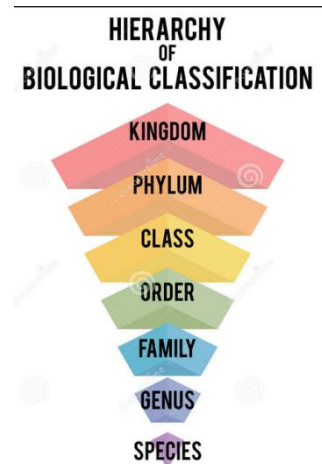
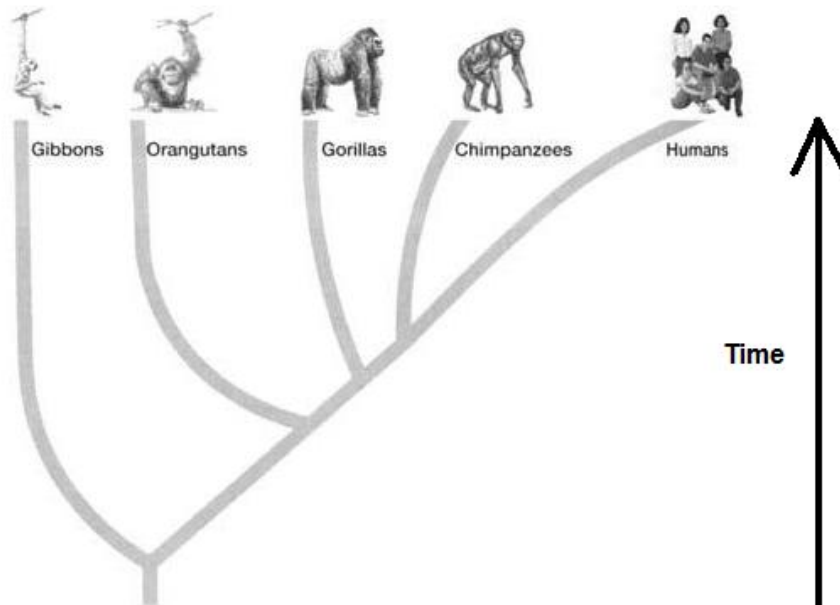
**(4)**

**(Total 7 marks)**

#### 4.6.4 Classification of living organisms

Studying the similarities and differences between organisms allows us to classify living organisms into animals, plants and microorganisms.

- This helps us to understand evolutionary and ecological relationships.
- Models allow us to suggest relationships between organisms.
- **Evolutionary trees (models)**: used to show **how closely related organisms** are.
  - This tree indicates how long ago the ancestors of ape species diverged from each other.
  - It indicates that humans share a common ancestor with chimpanzees more recently than with any other ape species.



#### The Linnaean system

- Carl Linnaeus put this forward in the 1700s
- Living things were divided into **kingdoms, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species**.

The **binomial system** gives each organism a name which is used worldwide (overcomes language barriers). The first part is their **genus** and the second part is their **species**. An example is the ladybug, which has the name *Harmonia (genus) axyridis (species)*.

#### Three-domain system

- Developments in science such as the improvement of the microscope and increased knowledge of biochemistry (for example, RNA sequence analysis) found that some species were more distantly related than first thought
- Carl Woese added three large groups called **domains above kingdoms**
  - **Archaea**: primitive bacteria which live in extreme environments such as hot springs
  - **Bacteria**: true bacteria (despite having similar features to archaea)
  - **Eukaryota**: organisms who have a nucleus enclosed in membranes, includes the kingdoms protists, fungi, plants and animals

**Exam practice 5**

**Q1.(a)** Complete the sentences about evolution.

Draw a ring around the correct answer to complete each sentence.

(i) Darwin suggested the theory of evolution by 

|            |
|------------|
| artificial |
| natural    |
| asexual    |

 selection.

(1)

(ii) Darwin's theory of evolution says that all species of living things have

evolved from 

|            |
|------------|
| artificial |
| complex    |
| simple     |

 life forms.

(1)

(iii) Most scientists believe that life first developed about 

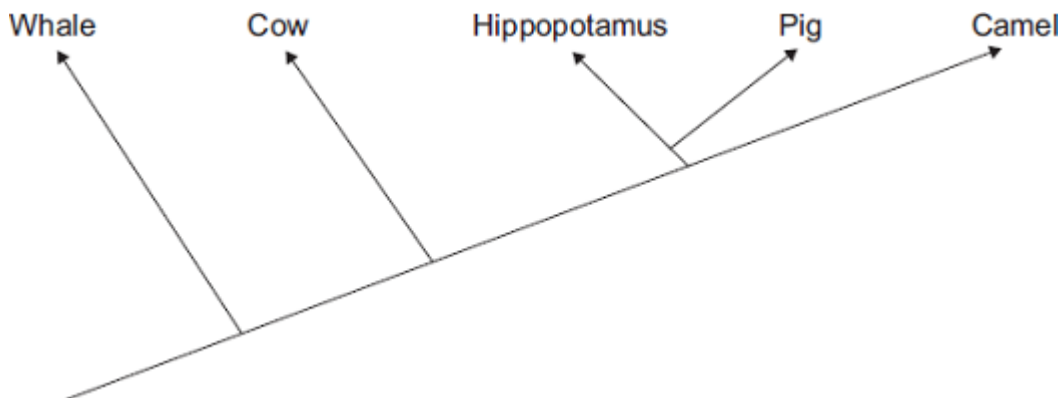
|                |
|----------------|
| three billion  |
| three million  |
| three thousand |

years ago.

(1)

(c) **Diagram 1** shows one model of the relationship between some animals.

**Diagram 1**



(i) Complete the sentence.

The model shown in **Diagram 1** is an evolutionary \_\_\_\_\_.

(1)

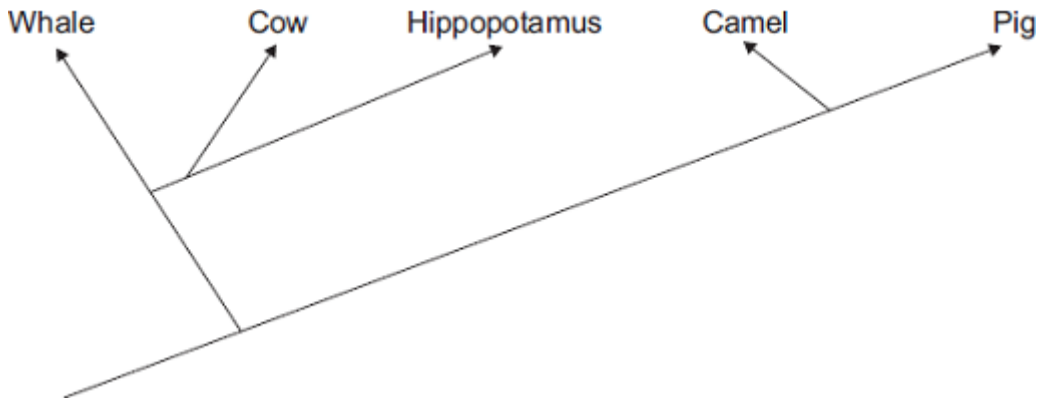
(ii) Which **two** of the animals in **Diagram 1** are most closely related?

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

(1)

(iii) **Diagram 2** shows a more recent model of the relationship between the animals.

**Diagram 2**



Suggest **one** reason why scientists have changed the model of the relationships between the animals shown in the diagram.

Draw a ring around the correct answer.

**more powerful computers**

**new evidence from fossils**

**new species discovered**

(1)

(Total 8 marks)

**Q2.** Living organisms are classified into the following groups:

- Kingdom
- Phylum
- Class
- Order
- Family
- Genus
- Species

(a) Which scientist first suggested this type of classification system?

Tick **one** box.

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Alfred Russel Wallace | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Carl Linnaeus         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Charles Darwin        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gregor Mendel         | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(1)

The stone plant, *Lithops bromfieldi*, is adapted to live in very dry deserts.



Figure 1 shows several stone plants.

Figure 1



(b) Give the genus to which the stone plant belongs.

\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

Q3. Figure 1 shows a ring-tailed lemur.

Figure 1



The table below shows part of the classification of the ring-tailed lemur.

| Classification group | Name              |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Kingdom              | <i>Animalia</i>   |
| Phylum               | <i>Chordata</i>   |
|                      | <i>Mammalia</i>   |
|                      | <i>Primates</i>   |
|                      | <i>Lemuroidea</i> |
| Genus                | <i>Lemur</i>      |
|                      | <i>catta</i>      |

(a) Complete the table above to give the names of the missing classification groups.

(2)

(b) Give the binomial name of the ring-tailed lemur.

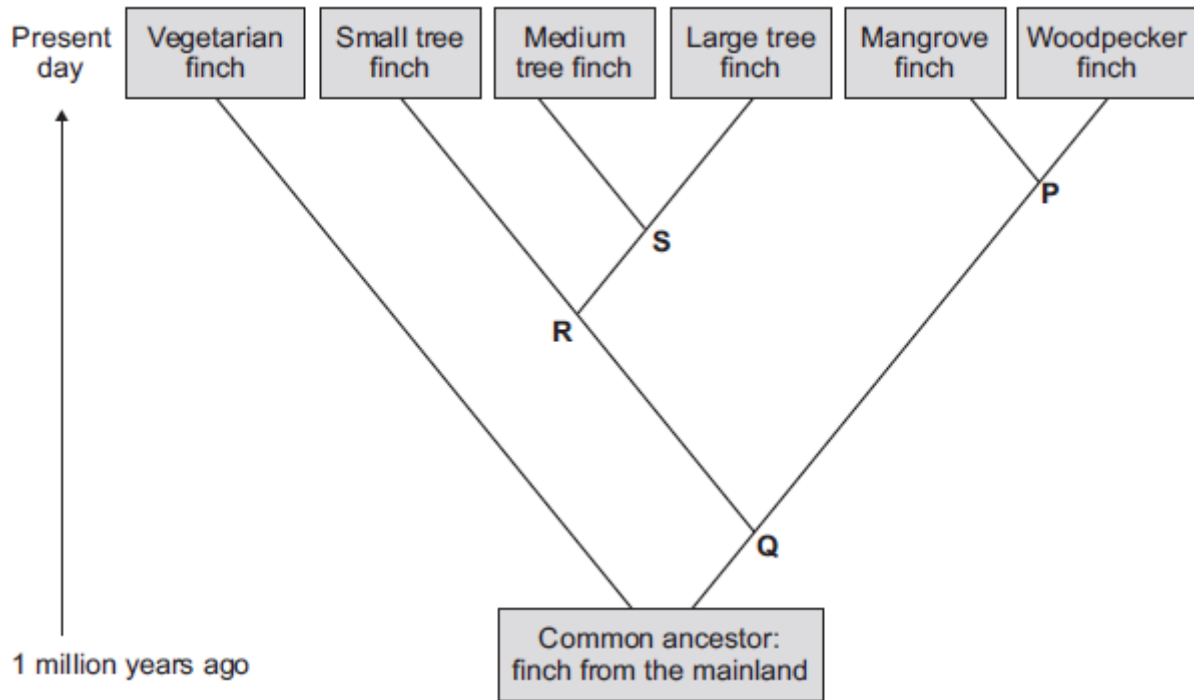
Use information from the table above.

(1)

**Q4.** Darwin's theory of evolution states that all species of living things have evolved from simple life forms.

Darwin's theory was published in 1859.

(c) The diagram below shows the evolutionary tree for some Galapagos finches.



(i) Which type of present-day finch is **least** closely related to all the others?

\_\_\_\_\_

(1)

(ii) Which branching point, **P**, **Q**, **R** or **S**, on the diagram above shows the most recent common ancestor of all the **tree finches**?

Write the correct answer in the box.

(1)

(iii) Which **two** finches have the most recent common ancestor?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

(1)

(Total 9 marks)