

2022 Trial Examination

STUDENT
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BIOLOGY

Unit 3 & 4 – Written examination

Reading time: 15 minutes

Writing time: 2 hours and 30 minutes

QUESTION & ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

| <i>Section</i> | <i>Number of questions</i> | <i>Number of questions to be answered</i> | <i>Number of marks</i> |
|----------------|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| A | 40 | 40 | 40 |
| B | 7 | 7 | 80 |
| | | | Total 120 |

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.
- No calculator is permitted in this examination.

Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 26 pages.

Instructions

- Print your name in the space provided on the top of this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic communication devices into the examination room.

SECTION A – Multiple-choice questions

Instructions for Section A

Answer **all** questions. Choose the response that is **correct** for the question.

A correct answer scores 1, an incorrect answer scores 0.

Marks are **not** deducted for incorrect answers.

If more than 1 answer is completed for any question, no mark will be given.

Question 1

A single stranded nucleic acid was found in the nucleus of a cell, containing exons only. The monomer of this strand would contain

- A. deoxyribose sugar, phosphate group and nitrogenous bases
- B. ribose sugar, phosphate group and nitrogenous bases
- C. an amine group and a carboxyl group
- D. glucose

Question 2

NADPH is

- A. loaded, transporting protons from the stroma to the grana
- B. loaded, transporting protons from the matrix to the cristae
- C. loaded, transporting protons from the light dependent to the light independent stage of photosynthesis
- D. loaded, transporting protons from glycolysis to the Krebs cycle

Question 3

Polymerase Chain Reaction is a DNA manipulation tool used to amplify small samples of DNA. A double strand of DNA was placed into a PCR machine. How many strands would there be after 5 cycles?

- A. 5
- B. 10
- C. 32
- D. 64

SECTION A- continued

Question 4

The promotor region of a gene is the location where

- A. the operator binds to
- B. RNA polymerase binds to
- C. the repressor protein binds to
- D. where regulatory factors are produced

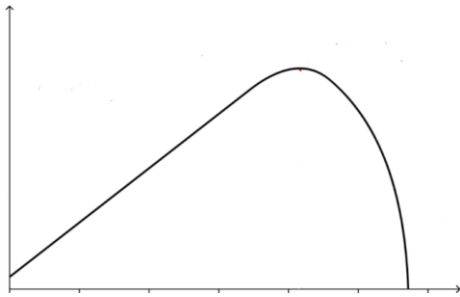
Question 5

Following transcription, pre-mRNA is formed. Before pre-mRNA can leave the nucleus, post transcriptional modification must occur. This included

- A. addition of a methyl cap at the 3' end
- B. addition of a poly A tail at the 5' end
- C. removal of introns
- D. removal of exons

Question 6

A student conducted an experiment investigating factors that affect the rate of photosynthesis. They produced the following graph, but forgot to label the axis. The most likely labels would be



- A. x axis: pH; y axis: rate of reaction
- B. x axis: temperature; y axis: rate of reaction
- C. x axis: rate of reaction; y axis: pH
- D. x axis: rate of reaction; y axis: temperature

SECTION A- continued
TURN OVER

Question 7

Carbon fixation occurs only once in

- A. C3 plants
- B. C4 plants
- C. CAM plants
- D. all plants

Question 8

For a science experiment, a student wanted to identify the best source of biomass for fermentation. They decided to compare corn, wood filings and hay. They placed equal amounts of each material in a beaker with sugar and water and observed the results.

After 10 minutes, they realised that they had not sealed the beaker, therefore had been unable to measure the volume of gas produced. This is an example of a

- A. systematic error
- B. random error
- C. human error
- D. experimental error

Question 9

Antigen presenting cells are an integral component of the adaptive immune system. They play a key role in detecting foreign pathogens that have entered the body. All antigen presenting cells have

- A. MHC I markers
- B. MHC II markers
- C. no nucleus
- D. auto antibodies

Question 10

When comparing memory B cells and plasma cells

- A. memory cells release free antibodies and an extensive network of endoplasmic reticulum
- B. plasma cells release free antibodies and an extensive network of endoplasmic reticulum
- C. memory cells have attached antibodies and an extensive network of endoplasmic reticulum
- D. plasma cells have attached antibodies and an extensive network of Golgi complex

SECTION A- continued

Question 11

A set of 100 mitochondria were separated from the cell and placed in a watery medium. They were placed in a water bath and heated to 80°C, before being cooled to 15°C.

Pyruvate and oxygen were added to the solution, and the rate of reaction was measured. It would be expected that the rate of reaction would

- A. increase
- B. decrease
- C. stay the same
- D. increase and then decrease

Question 12

CRISPR-Cas9 can be used to modify the genome of Rubisco, increasing its affinity to carbon dioxide over oxygen. This improves photosynthetic affinity as

- A. oxygen cannot act as a non-competitive inhibitor to carbon dioxide
- B. carbon dioxide is required for the light dependent reaction to occur
- C. carbon dioxide is required for the light independent reaction
- D. more atmospheric oxygen is available for cellular respiration

Question 13

An experiment was conducted to identify the optimum temperature for the enzyme amylase. 3mL of amylase was added to 10mL of starch solution, and 3 drops of iodine. The colour change was recorded over three trials.

What type of data has been collected in this experiment?

- A. quantitative
- B. continuous
- C. erroneous
- D. qualitative

Question 14

A bacterial cell breached the first line of defence and started to multiply within the body. Prior to the adaptive response, which of the following is most likely to occur?

- A. infected cells release interferon
- B. T helper cells release cytokines to stimulate clonal expansion of cytotoxic T cells
- C. complement proteins coat the bacteria to prevent binary fission
- D. natural killer cells stimulate apoptosis of bacterial cells

SECTION A- continued
TURN OVER

The following information relates to Questions 15 and 16

During extreme weather events, pollen can be drawn up into clouds within the atmosphere. When the clouds break, during a storm, the pollen is broken into smaller fragments dispersing in the air.

Question 15

On the first exposure to the pollen, what occurs in individuals who will become allergic to pollen?

- A. mast cells release histamine
- B. complement proteins agglutinate pathogens
- C. IgE antibodies bind to mast cells
- D. macrophages engulf the pollen fragments and destroy them

Question 16

On the second exposure to pollen, what occurs in individuals who are allergic to pollen?

- A. pollen binds to antibodies on the mast cells, causing them to degranulate
- B. pollen binds to MHCII markers on dendritic cells
- C. pollen is engulfed by macrophages, causing symptoms of hay fever as a result
- D. pollen is destroyed by T helper cells

Question 17

50 million years ago, ancestral whale populations were land dwelling and had hoofs. To support their terrestrial lifestyle, they had a pelvis for attachment of the femur. To this day, the remnants of this pelvis remain in the whale skeleton.

The pelvis is an example of a

- A. homologous structure
- B. analogous structure
- C. vestigial structure
- D. non-functional structure

Question 18

Ross River fever is a mosquito borne virus, caused by the Ross River virus. Sufferers have flu-like symptoms, including muscle aches and fatigue. Local governments in northern Queensland aimed to inform tourists to the area of the risks of Ross River fever.

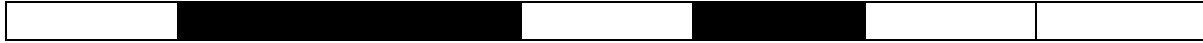
Which of the following is suitable advice?

- A. always stay indoors
- B. leave all windows open to stimulate air flow
- C. use insect repellent
- D. take anti-malaria tablets prior to your holiday

SECTION A- continued

Question 19

The following diagram shows a sequence of pre-mRNA. The white regions code for introns, with the black regions coding for exons.



During transcription, a mutation occurred with the nitrogenous base uracil being substituted for a guanine in the white region.

The effect on the protein product:

- A. would be minimal as it is a single base change
- B. is unable to be determined, as it may create a nonsense mutation
- C. would have no effect
- D. would create a non-functional protein

Question 20

Which of the following are characteristics of some primates but not any hominoids?

- A. stereoscopic vision
- B. opposable thumbs
- C. 5 digits on each hand
- D. presence of a tail

Question 21

The DNA of 3 species underwent DNA hybridisation.

Species A and B had a melting temperature of 70°C

Species A and C had a melting temperature of 62°C

Species B and C had a melting temperature of 68°C

It is reasonable to conclude that

- A. species B is more related to species C than A
- B. species C is more related to species A than B
- C. species A is more related to species C than B
- D. species B is more related to species A than C

**SECTION A- continued
TURN OVER**

The following information refers to Questions 22 – 24

Four students conducted an experiment. They added 2mL of lipase, 5mL of full fat milk, 5mL of sodium carbonate solution and 5 drops of pH indicator. They recorded the time it took for a solution to change from neutral to acidic, as evident by colour change. The expected time was 55 seconds.

Their data is shown in the table below:

| Student | Trial 1 (secs) | Trial 2 (secs) | Trial 3 (secs) |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Ally | 35 | 42 | 34 |
| Ben | 55 | 57 | 56 |
| Cahil | 43 | 58 | 55 |
| Daanish | 34 | 57 | 45 |

Question 22

Which student had the most precise data?

- A. Ally
- B. Ben
- C. Cahil
- D. Daanish

Question 23

Which student had the most accurate data?

- A. Ally
- B. Ben
- C. Cahil
- D. Daanish

Question 24

Daanish conducted an additional trial. This time he decided to add in 4mL of lipase. The fourth measurement would be

- A. faster than measurements 1-3
- B. slower than measurements 1-3
- C. within the same range as measurements 1-3
- D. unaffected by the change

SECTION A- continued

Question 25

The correct sequence of steps in polymerase chain reaction is

- A. reception, transduction, response
- B. denaturation, elongation, annealing
- C. denaturation, annealing, elongation
- D. elongation, annealing, denaturation

Question 26

Individuals have unique mutations in their mtDNA. Individuals with the same mutation belong to the same haplogroup. As such, haplogroups can be used to determine relatedness between groups. It has been found that the most variation in mtDNA haplogroups is found in African populations. This information

- A. supports the multiregional hypothesis
- B. supports the Out of Africa hypothesis
- C. provides evidence of interbreeding between African and Neanderthal populations
- D. provides evidence of ancestral African populations living in social groups

Question 27

Monoclonal antibodies can be used to treat cancer. One method is to attach a drug to the antibody to directly target cancerous cells. One constraint of monoclonal antibodies in the treatment of cancer is that

- A. other cells in the vicinity of the cancerous cells will be affected with the drug
- B. cancerous cells may mutate, altering the surface antigens
- C. the attached drugs may have other adverse health effects
- D. the immune system is stimulated, causing similar symptoms to that of an allergic reaction

The following information relates to Questions 28 and 29

The Northern corroboree frog is found in forests and sub-alpine woodlands in NSW. It is at risk of extinction due to the presence of a fungal disease that is fatal. As with any wild animal, they are also subject to potential habitat loss and predation from other species.

The Melbourne Zoo has released fertile eggs originating from a breeding pair at the zoo into their natural habitat to try and increase the population.

Question 28

The eggs released would be expected to have:

- A. more genetic diversity than the wild population, therefore at greater risk of extinction
- B. less genetic diversity than the wild population, therefore at decreased risk of extinction
- C. more genetic diversity than the wild population, therefore at decreased risk of extinction
- D. less genetic diversity than the wild population, therefore at greater risk of extinction

**SECTION A- continued
TURN OVER**

Question 29

A local conservation group wished to treat frogs affected with the fungal disease. They created small boxes to catch the frogs where they could treat them before releasing them back into the wild.

What would be the most effective form of treatment?

- A. antibiotic drugs
- B. antiviral drugs
- C. antimicrobial spray
- D. insect repellent

Question 30

The trp operon regulates production of the amino acid tryptophan in *E. coli*. This amino acid is essential for protein synthesis to occur in *E. coli*. When tryptophan is present in the environment of *E. coli*, transcription of the structural genes is not required. To prevent transcription

- A. the trp repressor binds to the trpR, preventing transcription from occurring
- B. the trp repressor binds to the promoter region, preventing transcription from occurring
- C. the trp repressor binds to RNA polymerase, preventing it from catalysing addition of free nucleotides to form mRNA
- D. the trp repressor binds to the operator region, preventing RNA polymerase from catalysing the addition of free nucleotides to form mRNA

The following information relates to Questions 31 and 32

A fossilised shell was found covered by minerals in a cave that was once believed to have been below water. Mineral deposits found above the shell were radioactively dated and found to be 30,000 years old.

Question 31

The shell would be:

- A. younger than 30,000 years
- B. older than 30,000 years
- C. 30,000 years old
- D. there is insufficient evidence to determine the exact age of the shell

Question 32

The most appropriate method for finding the absolute age of the minerals covering the shell would be:

- A. potassium argon dating
- B. carbon nitrogen dating
- C. uranium dating
- D. law of superposition

SECTION A- continued

Question 33

Due to the universal nature of DNA, genes can be inserted into organisms from different species. If the transformation is successful, the organism receiving the DNA can produce the functional protein for which the gene encodes.

An organism containing foreign DNA is described as

- A. only genetically modified
- B. only transgenic
- C. genetically modified and transgenic
- D. transformed

Question 34

B and T lymphocytes play an integral role in third line of defence. Which of the following is true for B and T lymphocytes?

- A. both B and T lymphocytes are activated by dendritic cells
- B. both B and T lymphocytes are produced and mature in the bone marrow
- C. B and T lymphocytes are produced in the bone marrow
- D. B and T lymphocytes are used in the innate response

Question 35

Characteristics of inflammation include:

- A. leaky capillaries
- B. drop in temperature
- C. vasoconstriction
- D. swollen lymph nodes

Question 36

Hominins are classified as:

- A. all *Homo* genus and their primate ancestors
- B. all *Homo* genus and their mammalian ancestors
- C. all *Homo* genus and their hominoid ancestors
- D. all *Homo* genus and their bipedal ancestors

Question 37

The Lord Howe Island palms diverged into separate species despite there being no geographical barrier between them. This form of speciation is referred to as

- A. sympatric
- B. allopatric
- C. natural selection
- D. founder effect

SECTION A- continued
TURN OVER

Question 38

The industrial revolution altered the environment of the peppered moth in the United Kingdom. Prior to the industrial revolution, buildings were generally white. Following the industrial revolution, soot from the factories covered buildings, creating a darker environment. The change in colour of the buildings provided darker moths with

- A. a selective pressure
- B. a selective advantage
- C. a novel phenotype
- D. a new environment

Question 39

One benefit of herd immunity is that

- A. pathogens have reduced spread within populations
- B. pathogens have less hosts to reproduce in
- C. the very old and very young are protected
- D. all the above

Question 40

Which of the following is an example of a chemical defence in plants?

- A. waxy cuticle
- B. production of phenol acid
- C. presence of sap
- D. production of resin

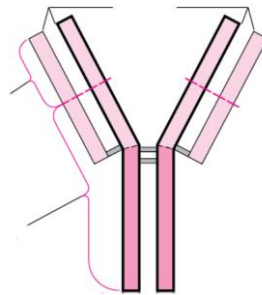
**END OF SECTION A
TURN OVER**

SECTION B Short-answer questions

Instructions for Section B
Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1 (15 marks)

Antibodies are produced in the third line of defence. They play an integral role in agglutinating pathogens to protect the body from infection



a. The diagram above shows an antibody. What macromolecule is an antibody composed of?

1 mark

b. Label the 3 regions of the antibody above

1 mark

c. Describe the process that occurs within the nucleus to begin the process of producing an antibody.

3 marks

**SECTION B – continued
TURN OVER**

d. What level of structure is an antibody? Provide evidence to support your response

3 marks

e. Describe the process by which antibodies are produced following a breach of the first line of defence.

4 marks

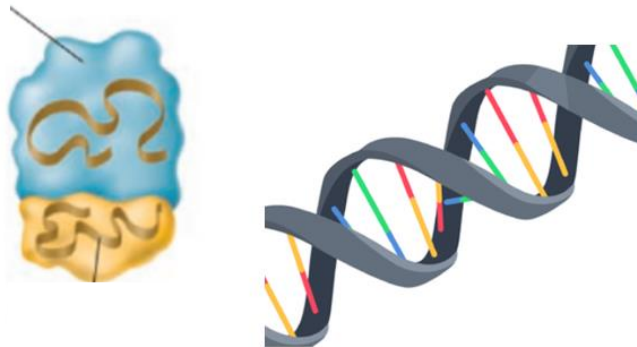
SECTION B - continued

f. Each antibody has a constant region, common to all antibodies, and a variable region that differs between each antibody. Explain what creates the difference in variable region for an antibody.

3 marks

Question 2 (6 marks)

The image below shows 2 different molecules found within cells, rRNA and DNA.



a. Name the location within a eukaryotic cell where each molecule would be found.

1 mark

SECTION B - continued
TURN OVER

b. Complete the following table comparing molecules of rRNA and DNA

| | rRNA | DNA |
|-------------------|-------------|------------|
| Difference | | |
| Similarity | | |

2 marks

c. How would DNA differ in prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms?

1 mark

d. Adenine and guanine are both classified as purines, double ringed structures of nucleic acids. A cell was found to contain 10% guanine. What percentage of thymine would be found in the cell? Explain.

2 marks

SECTION B - continued

Question 3 (7 marks)

The discovery of a fingerbone in the Denisova cave in Siberia led to the discovery of a new *Homo* group, the Denisovans. Scientists extracted DNA from the bone and conducted a series of tests to determine where this new group should be placed on the *Homo* phylogenetic tree.

a. Briefly describe the steps that the scientists would have taken to amplify the DNA

3 marks

b. The remains found included the fingerbone, skull fragments and teeth. What characteristic of these body parts enabled fossilisation to occur?

1 mark

c. Describe a molecular technique that could have been used to correctly place the Denisovans on the *Homo* phylogenetic tree.

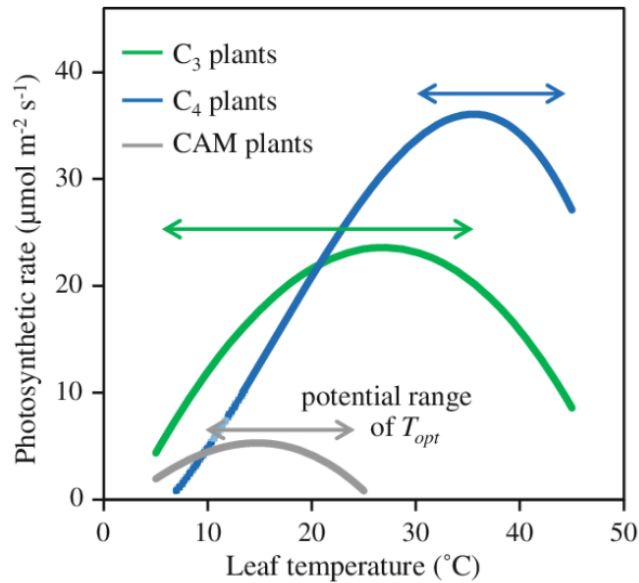
3 marks

SECTION B – continued
TURN OVER

Question 4 (14 marks)

All plants undergo photosynthesis. The chemical pathway may vary, with photosynthetic plants classified as C₃, C₄ or CAM.

The graph below shows the optimal temperature for C₃, C₄ and CAM plants, as evident by the photosynthetic rate.



a. How does the photosynthetic rate provide an indication of the optimum temperature? Explain.

3 marks

SECTION B - continued

b. (i) Use data to compare the different optimum temperatures for C3, C4 and CAM plants.

3 marks

(ii) Account for the change in the graphs following the peak

2 marks

c. How does the data demonstrate that C3, C4 and CAM plants are adapted to survive in particular environments?

3 marks

**SECTION B – continued
TURN OVER**

d. Complete the following table for C3 plants, identifying one input and output for each stage.

| Stage of Photosynthesis | Location | Inputs | Outputs |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|---------|
| Light Dependent | | | Oxygen |
| | Stroma | | |

3 marks

Question 5 (15 marks)

Marburg virus is in the same family of viruses as Ebola, causing haemorrhaging and fever in those affected. Marburg virus has a mortality rate of 88%. There is not vaccine for the virus, and it has not been able to spread to epidemic levels.

a. Describe the general structure of a virus.

1 mark

b. Outline the specific response that would occur in an individual exposed to Marburg virus.

4 marks

SECTION B – continued

c. What is an innate response that an infected cell could undertake?

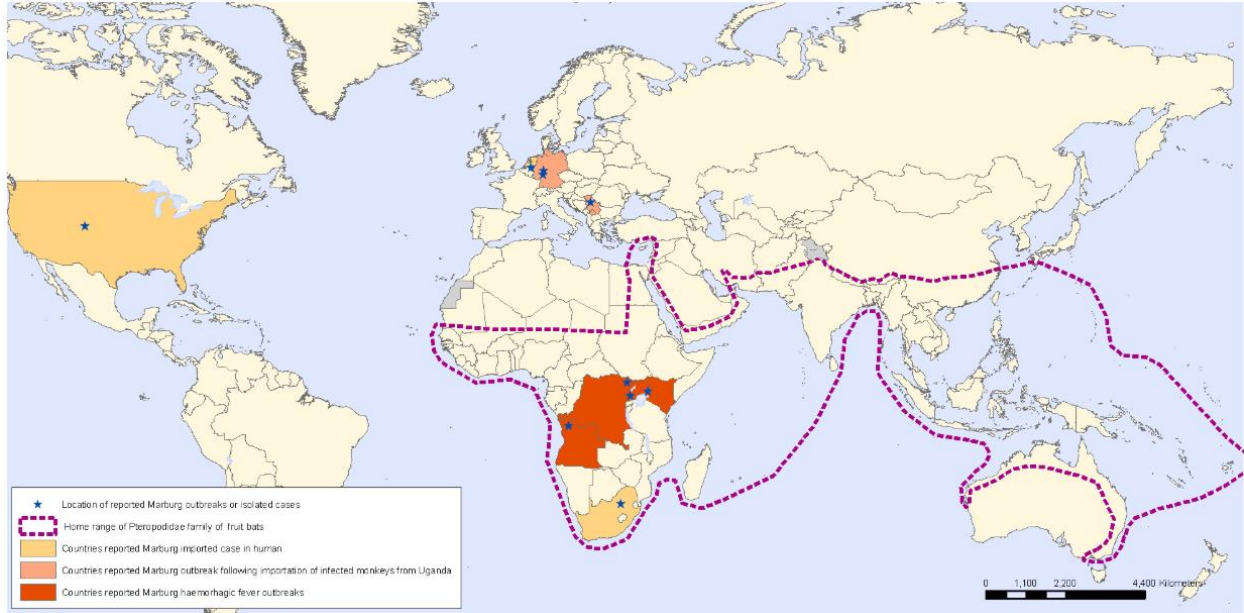
2 marks

d. The virus is spread by direct contact between an affected and unaffected individual or any direct contamination from the bodily fluids of an affected person.
Describe 2 strategies that could be employed to minimise the potential spread of Marburg virus.

2 marks

SECTION B –continued
TURN OVER

The map below shows regions in the World where outbreaks have occurred. The dotted lines represent the home range of fruit bats linked to the origin of the disease.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data Source: Global Alert and Response Department
World Health Organization
Map Production: Public Health Information
and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
World Health Organization

 **World Health Organization**
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Areas outside of the home range of the fruit bats have shown to have outbreaks following importation of infected monkeys from Uganda.

e. What does this suggest about the transmission of the disease? Explain.

3 marks

f. ELISA is one method used to identify if an individual is affected by the Marburg virus following the onset of symptoms. Outline the steps that would occur in the laboratory to identify if an individual had been infected with Marburg virus.

SECTION B – continued

3 marks

Question 6 (8 marks)

In Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique, a previously rare genetic condition has become more common, as ivory poaching used to finance a civil war pushed the elephant species to the brink of extinction.

Before the war, about 18.5% of female elephants were naturally tuskless.

However, that figure has risen to 33% among elephants born since the early 1990s.

Some 90% of Mozambique's elephant population was slaughtered by fighters on both sides of the civil war that lasted from 1977 to 1992.

As in eye colour and blood type in humans, genes are responsible for whether elephants inherit tusks from their parents.

Elephants without tusks were left alone by hunters, leading to an increased likelihood they would breed and pass on the tuskless trait to their offspring.

Researchers have long suspected that the trait, only seen in females, was linked to the sex of the elephant. After the genomes of tusked and tuskless elephants were sequenced, analysis revealed that the trend was linked to a mutation on the X chromosome that was fatal to males, which did not develop properly in the womb, and dominant in females.

The study has revealed that tusked and tuskless animals eat different plants.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-59008037>

SECTION B –continued
TURN OVER

a. What is the selective pressure acting on the elephants, and how does this effect allele frequencies?

2 marks

b. What is a biological consequence of the pressure identified in ‘a’?

2 marks

c. Outline the process by which the allele for tuskless elephants became more prevalent in the Mozambique elephant population.

4 marks

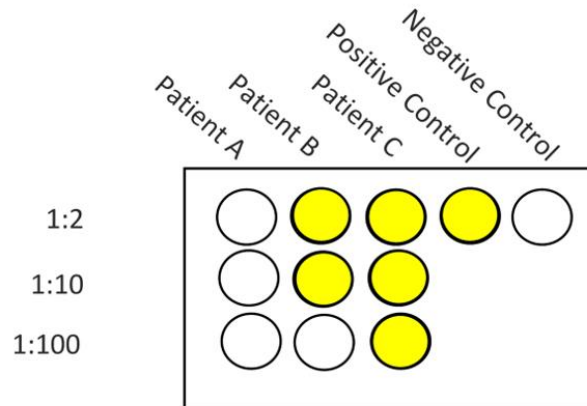
SECTION B – continued

Question 7 (15 marks)

ELISA is a test that may be used to identify if an individual has HIV. A blood sample is taken and mixed with antigens complementary to antibodies produced by an infected individual in response to the virus.

Three patients who had been exposed to HIV were tested against 3 dilution factors: 1:2, 1:10 and 1:100. The dilution factors show how much antigen is in each sample that the patient's blood is mixed with. A higher dilution factor has less antigens present.

The results for Patient A, Patient B and Patient C are shown below:



a. What is the purpose of the positive and negative control?

2 marks

b. Identify two controlled variables for this test.

2 marks

c. What do the results suggest about Patient A, B and C's HIV status?

3 marks

SECTION B – continued
TURN OVER

d. What does the dilution factor suggest about patient B?

2 marks

e. Suggest a limitation of the test above, and how this could be improved for future tests.

2 marks

f. A local parliamentarian suggested that those who work in high risk industries, such as the medical field, should be routinely tested for HIV to minimise potential outbreaks and spread, as HIV has no cure. It was proposed that every 6 months they undertake a mandatory blood test. Discuss one ethical and one social issue that may arise from the parliamentarian's suggestion.

4 marks

END OF QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK