

HSC Trial Examination 2020

Biology

Solutions and marking guidelines

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Section I

Answer and explanation	Syllabus content, outcomes and targeted performance bands
Question 1AOne advantage of bacterial cells is that they are produced every twenty minutes in ideal conditions. One disadvantage is that the daughter cells produced are genetically identical, resulting in less genetic diversity. This makes bacteria less able to survive environmental change, so A is correct. While less energy is required in binary fission, meiosis is not part of the process; B is incorrect. Binary fission occurs in prokaryotic cells, not eukaryotic cells, and although some bacteria are resistant to antibiotics, this is not related to binary fission. C is incorrect. The cells produced are genetically identical, but binary fission is asexual, requiring only one cell. D is incorrect.	Mod 5 Reproduction BIO12–12 Band 3
Question 2CProgesterone prepares the uterus for implantation of the embryo;C is correct. Oxytocin is associated with birth; A is incorrect. Oestrogenis responsible for the menstrual cycle and female features; B isincorrect. Luteinising hormone triggers ovulation and promotes thesecretion of progesterone; D is incorrect.	Mod 5 Reproduction BIO12–12 Band 2
Question 3AThe nucleotide chain is formed by alternating sugar and phosphate molecules; bases do not make up part of the chain. C and D are incorrect. In a nucleotide, the base must attach to the sugar; A is correct and B is incorrect.	Mod 5 Cell Replication BIO12–6, 12–12 Band 2
Question 4DA mutation at the point where DNA breaks may cause mutation, but this is not likely to benefit the offspring. D is the correct response. The chromosomes in crossing over are homologous. The point at which the DNA strand breaks may result in a mutation that damages the cell 	Mod 5 Genetic Variation BIO12–13 Band 4
Question 5BThe mother of the male in the third generation must be homozygous recessive. This means that the male must get one of these recessive alleles from his mother and the dominant allele, which is expressed, from his father. B is correct. While in this pedigree only males show 	Mod 5 Genetic Variation BIO12–6, BIO12–12 Band 5
Question 6DA mutagen can be anything that causes a mutation – for example, a chemical or a form of energy. D is correct. The mutagen results in a strand of DNA with a mutation, so A is incorrect. An amino acid sequence is a consequence of a mutation, so B is incorrect. tRNA 	Mod 6 Mutation BIO12–13 Band 2

Answer and explanation	Syllabus content, outcomes and targeted performance bands
Question 7DThe semen from one bull can be used to inseminate a large number of cows located in different areas. D is correct. The calves produced are not genetically modified, so they are safe for human consumption.A is incorrect. Artificial insemination is not cloning, so B is incorrect. The net effect of artificial insemination is a reduction in genetic diversity across the entire population, even if it is introducing new genes into a specific population. C is incorrect.	Mod 6 Genetic Technologies BIO12–12 Band 3
Question 8 B	Mod 6 Genetic Technologies
The process of taking multiple cuttings from one plant and growing them into another plant is whole organism cloning. B is correct. The plant is cloned, so A is incorrect. The plant is not genetically modified, it is just a copy, so C is incorrect. This process doesn't occur naturally in agriculture. D is incorrect.	BIO12–12 Band 3
Question 9CEach sperm has a different genetic combination, increasing the variation in offspring produced. C is correct. Increased rates of migration and mutagens producing beneficial alleles do not relate to fertilisation, so A and B are incorrect. Only one sperm entering an 	Mod 5 Genetic Variation BIO12–13 Bands 3–4
ova does not relate to genetic variation. D is incorrect. Question 10 B	Mod 6 Genetic Technologies
B is correct; a transgenic species has DNA from two different species. Transgenic relates to genes, not sex; A is incorrect. Transgenic species are produced in laboratories, so C is incorrect. Transgenic species do not produce unsafe products; a lot of medicine is produced through transgenic species. D is incorrect.	BIO12–13 Band 3
Question 11 B	Mod 8 Homeostasis
'A chemical produced by an organ in the body that is transported to another part of the body where it causes a change in other cells, tissues or organs' is the correct definition of a hormone.	BIO12–15 Band 2
Question 12 D	Mod 8 Epidemiology
Epidemiology is the study of why and how often diseases occur in different groups of people.	BIO12–15 Band 2
Question 13 B	Mod 7 Prevention, Treatment and Control
The virus that causes dengue fever is endemic in many tropical and sub-tropical regions outside of Australia. B is correct; cases of dengue fever in Australia can arise from people travelling to Australia from regions affected by the disease. The disease is then transmitted by mosquitoes. The disease is caused by a virus, not a bacterium, and is not caused by indirect contact; A and C are incorrect.	BIO12–14 Band 3
Question 14 A	Mod 7 Causes of Infectious Disease
The fly (not shown in the diagram) is the least likely to transmit the flu from one person to another.	BIO12–6, 12–14 Band 3
Question 15C	Mod 7 Causes of Infectious Disease
Viruses and prions are classed as non-cellular pathogens (B and D are incorrect) and are not living (C is correct and A is incorrect). This is because they cannot replicate outside of a host cell. Viruses can infect all types of organisms, from prokaryotic bacteria to eukaryotic human cells.	BIO12–14 Band 4

Answer and explanation	Syllabus content, outcomes and targeted performance bands
Question 16BNeurofibromatosis is hereditary (50% chance of passing the disease onto offspring) and, therefore, non-infectious.	Mod 8 Causes and EffectsBIO12-6, 12-15Bands 3-4
Question 17APasteur sterilised a batch of broth, then split this batch into two groups.One group was exposed to a source of microbial cells (the air) and the other group was not. A is correct. B is incorrect; if cells could arise from non-living matter, then they should appear in sterile broth.	Mod 7 Causes of Infectious Disease BIO12–6 Bands 4–5
Question 18DHuman immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is altered and this replaces the faulty part of the body (gene). This is an example of genetic engineering; D is correct. The sterile environment is not a cure for the disease, as it only stops infections.	Mod 7 Prevention, Treatment and Control BIO12–15 Band 4
Question 19CC is correct; it describes vasoconstriction, which is an example of a physiological response. A is incorrect; it is a behavioural response.B is incorrect; it is a behavioural response and lizards are not endotherms. D is incorrect; it is a structural response.	Mod 8 Homeostasis BIO12–6 Band 3–4
Question 20BThe 'normal' level of glucose is maintained by two hormones: insulin and glucagon. When glucose levels increase, insulin is released from pancreatic β -cells, which allows the cells to take up glucose for energy or store it as glycogen in the liver. When glucose levels decrease, 	Mod 8 Homeostasis BIO12–6, 12–15 Band 6

Section II

	Sample answer				Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Ques	stion 21				
Terrestrial animals reproduce by internal fertilisation; the female reproductive system provides the fluid through which sperm can swim to the ova. One advantage is that the internal environment protects the zygote (and developing embryo) from predators.			 Mod 5 Reproduction BIO12–12 Band 4 Explains the use of internal fertilisation. AND Explains that a liquid environment is essential to internal fertilisation. AND Describes ONE advantage of internal fertilisation		
					 Explains the use of internal fertilisation. AND Explains that a liquid environment is essential to internal fertilisation 2
					• States that terrestrial animals use internal fertilisation
Ques	stion 22				
(a)	The pattern of i	inheritance is se	x-linkage.		Mod 5 Genetic VariationBIO12-12, 12-5, 12-6Band 4• Identifies the pattern as sex-linked1
(b)					Mod 5 Heredity
		X ^D	Y		BIO12–12, 12–5, 12–6 Bands 3–4 • Constructs an appropriate model. AND
	XD	$X^{D}X^{D}$	X ^D Y		Demonstrates likelihood of
	X ^d	X ^D X ^d	X ^d Y		producing a male with dominant trait is 50% AND
					• Demonstrates likelihood of producing a female with dominant trait is 100%
					 Constructs an appropriate model. AND Demonstrates likelihood of producing a male with dominant trait to is 50% OR Demonstrates likelihood of producing a female with dominant trait is 100%

	Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Que	stion 23	
(a)	0.15	Mod 5 Genetic VariationBIO12–12Band 3• States the correct frequency 1
(b)	The statement is invalid because the frequency of alleles in a population cannot be used to determine the likelihood of offspring with those alleles in individual crosses where the genotypes are known. The frequency data is applied at the population level. Information about the pattern of inheritance is not provided in the question. For example, it is not known if the gene is sex-linked or if the alleles are co-dominant.	 Mod 5 Genetic Variation BIO12–12 Band 4 Assesses the validity of the statement. AND Demonstrates that population data is NOT linked to individual crosses. AND Demonstrates the absence of information about the pattern of inheritance
Que	stion 24	
$\frac{\mathbf{q}}{\mathbf{a}}$	gel electrophoresis	Mod 6 Mutation BIO12–12 Band 2 • Identifies ONE relevant technology 1
(b)	Gel electrophoresis is used to measure lengths of DNA. It has been used for profiling individuals and can also be used for sequencing DNA. A terminating nucleotide can be added to the DNA strand. This means as the DNA polymerase builds a new strand, it stops every time it comes to a terminating base, providing strands of different lengths. These pieces of DNA are passed through a gel electrophoresis, with smaller strands travelling further than longer strands. The lengths of the strands are analysed to determine where the base is in the original DNA. The process is repeated for all types of bases. A computer processes the data from the gel electrophoresis to determine the position of each base. As the scientists know the code of the allele, analysis of the DNA fragments would determine if that fragment is present in any of the samples taken.	 Mod 5 Inheritance Patterns in a Population BIO12–12 Bands 4–5 Describes the technology, providing TWO points. AND Describes how the technology confirms presence or absence of the gene
(c)	Scientists cannot conclude that the recessive gene is no longer present in the population, as it may be present in members of the population from whom tissue was not collected.	Mod 6 Mutation BIO 12–13 Bands 4–5 • States whether it can be concluded that the gene is absent. AND • Demonstrates position with ONE use of evidence

6

Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Question 25	
(a)	Mod 6 Mutation BIO12-13 Bands 2-4 • Constructs a diagram with FOUR gametes, showing a gamete with ONE missing chromosome AND a gamete with ONE extra chromosome Extra chromosome • Constructs a diagram with FOUR gametes, showing a gamete with ONE missing chromosome OR a gamete with ONE missing chromosome OR a gamete with ONE extra chromosome OR a gamete with ONE extra chromosome OR a gamete with ONE extra chromosome OR a gamete with ONE

Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
(b) During meiosis, homologous chromosomes come together. When the cell divides, the homologous chromosomes separate. If a chromosome pair does not separate, an irregular number of chromosomes are produced. Then, when the second cell division occurs, two gametes receive one copy of the chromosome, one gamete receives two copies and one gamete does not receive a copy.	Image: A set of the set

	Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Que	stion 26	
(a)	Mutation I is a point mutation where guanine is substituted with adenine. Mutation II is a frameshift mutation that shifts the reading frame of the triplet codes.	 BIO12–12 Band 3–5 Identifies that mutation I is a point mutation and mutation. If is a frameshift mutation. AND Differentiates between point mutation and frameshift mutation 2
		• Identifies that mutation I is a point mutation and mutation II is a frameshift mutation
(b)	Mutation II is most likely to have the greater effect. Mutation II has a base inserted, resulting in a frameshift mutation that will shift the reading frame for the rest of the DNA sequence, changing the amino acids that are brought to the ribosome during protein synthesis. This may result in the polypeptide chain not forming. Mutation I is a substitution and may affect only one amino acid.	Mod 5 Cell ReplicationBIO12–12Bands 3–4• Correctly identifies mutation II.AND• Describes the effect of BOTHmutations on the amino acidsequence
		 Correctly identifies mutation II. AND Describes the effect of ONE of the mutations on the amino acid sequence

Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Question 27	
Since the beginning of agriculture the genetic make-up of populations has been changing. When farmers started gathering animals – for example, cows and goats – close to where they lived rather than hunting and gathering their food, they started to limit opportunities for these animal populations to reproduce. This meant that the gene pool available was reduced. The variation in the genes reduced even further when farmers started to select individuals within a population to breed based on their desired traits. This means biodiversity was reduced to artificial selection rather than natural selection. Over centuries farming intensified, causing habitat destruction. This resulted in less biodiversity in agricultural populations and a reduction in wild populations of organisms that evolved through natural selection. More recently, genetic engineering has further reduced biodiversity. Organisms are engineered to have genes that produce desired characteristics. Once the desired product is designed, the organisms are cloned. This practice is used more often in plants than animals and produces crops where every plant is genetically identical. This is a dramatic reduction in biodiversity. Emission of green-house gases increases the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and contributes to global warming. Current research is investigating possible ways for crops to have higher yields in this environment. For example, crops could be genetically engineered to withstand higher temperatures. While scientists may be able to engineer these crops, the biotechnology would still reduce the genetic variation in a species, because the crops would be genetically engineered with highly specific traits (such as tolerance to higher temperatures).	 BIO12–13 Bands 3–6 Describes an example of biotechnology from the past. AND Describes an example of biotechnology from the present. AND Describes a possible example of biotechnology for the future. AND Describes the effect of the biotechnology from the past on biodiversity. AND Describes the effect of the biotechnology from the present on biodiversity. AND Describes the possible effect of the biotechnology for the future on biodiversity. AND Describes the possible effect of the biotechnology for the future on biodiversity. AND Describes the possible effect of the biotechnology for the future on biodiversity.

Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide	
Question 28		
Recombinant DNA is used to produce large volumes of insulin for diabetes patients. The human insulin-producing gene is inserted into plasmids of bacterial cells by cutting the plasmid with the same restriction enzymes used to cut the gene. This produces 'sticky ends' with complementary base pairs so the plasmid can bind with the gene. Bacterial cells then take up the plasmids. Those cells with the recombinant DNA plasmids are selected and placed in conditions for optimal reproduction. The large numbers of recombined bacterial cells are then able to produce high yields of insulin for human use.	Mod 6 Genetic Change BIO12–13 Bands 4–5 • Identifies ONE technique. AND • Describes the technique. AND • Provides details of how the technique is applied 4 • Identifies ONE technique. AND • Identifies ONE technique. AND • Identifies ONE technique. AND • Provides details of how the technique is applied	
Question 29	-	
(a) The number of cases gradually decreases. This may be the result of, for example, fewer infections due to immunisation.	Mod 7 Prevention, Treatment and ControlBIO12-6, 12-15Bands 2-3• Gives an appropriate description.AND• Gives ONE likely cause.1	
 (b) Any one of: a smaller percentage of the population being immunised greater reporting of cases of the disease more efficient diagnosis of the disease 	Mod 7 Prevention, Treatment and ControlBIO12-6, 12-14Band 3• Gives ONE likely cause	
 (c) (i) The mortality rate for a disease is calculated by dividing the number of deaths from a specific disease over a defined period of time by the number of individuals diagnosed with the disease during that time. The resulting ratio is then multiplied by 100 to give a percentage value. 	Mod 8 Causes and Effects BIO12–15 Bands 3–4 • Gives a detailed explanation, including calculations involved 2 • Gives an explanation 1	
 (ii) The likelihood of a patient dying of a disease such as measles will depend upon their level of health at the time of infection and the quality of healthcare available to them. These will vary considerably in different countries. The better the health of a country's population and its available healthcare, the lower the mortality rate will be. 	Mod 7 Prevention, Treatment and ControlBIO12-6, 12-14Band 4• Gives at least TWO likely reasons 2• Gives ONE likely reason	
(d) Measles is not caused by a bacterium.	Mod 7 Causes of Infectious DiseaseBIO12-6Band 3• Gives the correct response 1	

Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
 Both posters are trying to raise awareness of measles and how infectious the disease is. It is implied that people should be immunised (vaccinated). Both posters use graphics and a short piece of text to get their message across. The graphics in poster 2 (the pictogram) are probably more easily interpreted than the graphics in poster 1 (the pie chart). The posters are unlikely to be effective by themselves, but would be used in conjunction with print, radio, TV and social media advertising. 	Mod 7 Prevention, Treatment and Control BIO 12–5, 12 –7, 12–15 Band 6 • Gives a detailed discussion, including at least FOUR relevant points. AND • Gives an assessment. 4 • Gives a detailed discussion, including at least THREE relevant points. AND • Gives a detailed discussion, including at least THREE relevant points. AND • Gives an assessment. • Gives an assessment.
Question 30	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
The innate immune response is the body's first line of defence against pathogens and is non-specific. It acts quickly to stop pathogens from entering and spreading through the body. It is made up of physical, chemical and cellular defences. Physical defences include skin, nasal hairs, mucus membranes, and coughing. Chemical defences include	Mod 7 Immunity BIO12–7, 12–14 Band 6 • Gives a detailed explanation. AND • Refers to innate immunity. AND • Refers to acquired immunity

Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Question 31	
Bush medicine is traditional Aboriginal Australian medicine, typically prepared from herbs and other plants. Because bush medicine such as Gumbi Gumbi has been discovered and developed by Aboriginal Australians, it is part of their heritage and belongs to them. If it is used by non-Indigenous Australians, then the source of this medicine and knowledge should be acknowledged.	• Explains the importance
	 Gives an outline. OR Explains the importance 2
Oursetion 22	• Gives some relevant information 1
Question 32 (a) (a) 1^{-1} 0^{-1} 1^{-1	Mod 8 Homeostasis BIO12-4 Band 4 • Uses an appropriate scale. AND • Plots points correctly. AND • Draws a line of best fit graph. AND • Labels axes correctly
(b) The greater the temperature of the leaf, the greater the rate of transpiration.	Mod 8 Homeostasis BIO12–4 Band 3 • Gives a reasonable conclusion 1
 Plants lose most of their water through stomates (openings in their leaves) via transpiration (evaporation). Some water is also lost through the waxy cuticle. To replace this water, plants take in water through their roots. The water travels via the xylem to leaves, where the whole process is repeated. 	Mod 8 Homeostasis BIO12-4 Band 3 • Gives an outline covering major points
Transpiration is thus responsible for a 'current' of water flowing through a plant. To change the water balance, plants have mechanisms to change the rate of transpiration.	• Gives an outline 1

		Sample answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide
Ques	stion 33		
(a)	The process is renal dialysis (haemodialysis). This process carries out some of the functions of the human kidney. Blood from the patient is passed through the dialysis machine, which helps to maintain the relative concentrations of minerals, salts and water in the blood. It also removes toxins. Dialysis uses the diffusion of solutes and ultra-filtration of fluid across a semipermeable membrane. Blood flows by one side of this semipermeable membrane, and a special dialysis fluid (dialysate) flows on the other side in the opposite direction. The dialysis fluid contains essential substances, such as glucose and sodium, that are present in the same concentrations as normal blood. Smaller particles pass through the membrane but larger substances, such as red blood cells and large proteins, do not.		Mod 8 Technologies and DisordersBIO12–15Band 4• Identifies the process.AND• Describes the process in detail 4• Identifies the process.AND
			details of the process
(b)	availa electr by a v are re The tr a pati	echnology enables people to live until a kidney becomes able for transplant. It filters blood and regulates olytes but doesn't replace the hormones produced working kidney. Additional medication and a special diet quired. reatment is usually carried out in a dialysis centre where ent will attend three or four days a week, each session g up to four hours, thus limiting the patients' movements.	Mod 8 Technologies and Disorders BIO12–14 Bands 4–5 • Gives at least THREE relevant examples of the benefits and limitations of the technology • Gives at least TWO relevant examples of the benefits and limitations of the technology • Gives at least TWO relevant examples of the benefits and limitations of the technology • Gives at least ONE relevant example of the technology
Oues	stion 34		
(a)	(i)	29 280 \div 6 100 000 = 0.48% or 4.8 cases per 100 people Incidence rates are calculated as the sum of all new cases of illness of a certain disease in a specific time period (such as a calendar year), divided by the size of the population. It may be expressed as a percentage or rate (such as per 1000 people).	Mod 8 Epidemiology BIO12–15 Bands 3–4 • Calculates the incidence of the disease1
	(ii)	192 760 \div 6 100 000 = 3.16% or 31.6 cases per 100 people Prevalence is the proportion of all the cases in the population at a given time. It may be expressed as a percentage or rate (such as per 1000 people).	Mod 8 Epidemiology BIO12–4 Bands 3–4 • Calculates the prevalence of the disease

	answer	Syllabus content, outcomes, targeted performance bands and marking guide	
For example:		Mod 8 Causes and Effects	
Disease caused by envir	Mod 8 Epidemiology Mod 8 Prevention	Mod 8 EpidemiologyMod 8 Prevention	
Cause	exposure to fibrous material, mineral silicates (asbestos)	BIO12–3, 12–15 Bands 4–5 • Identifies an appropriate disease.	
<i>Effect(s)</i> le	shortness of breath, appetite loss, decreased ability to exercise and premature death	 AND Presents answer in a table. AND Describes features of all FOUR of: cause effect(s) treatment/management means of prevention	
Treatment/management	reduced use of asbestos, reduced exposure to asbestos		
Means of prevention	taking oxygen and other measures to ease breathing		
lung', heavy metal poisoning	rickets, scurvy, skin cancer, 'black g or passive smoking.	 Identifies an appropriate disease. AND Presents answer in a table. AND Describes features of any THREE of: cause effect(s) 	