2

1

1

AQA Biology GCSE - Variation & Evolution



Mark schemes

Q1.

(a)

Classification group
Kingdom
Phylum
Class
Order
Family
Genus
Species

all 4 correct = 2 marks 2 or 3 correct = 1 mark 0 or 1 correct = 0 marks

(b) Geospiza fortis

ignore underlining or attempted italics or upper and lower case letters

(c) offspring have similar beak depths to parents

ignore same beak depths

ignore positive correlation / described

(d) parents of a given beak depth produce offspring with several beak depths

allow spread of results for a given parental beak depth about line of best fit allow range of phenotypes for a given parental beak depth

(e) colonisers of Isabela have a range of beak depths

allow colonisers of Daphne have a

range of beak depths

due to different combinations of alleles of several genes or due to different alleles of one gene or

(f)

Q2.

(a)

(b)

(c)



due to mutation 1 large range of (sizes / species of) seeds / food (on Isabela) large(r) seeds (on Isabela) allow small range of (sizes / species of) seeds / food on Daphne allow small(er) seeds on Daphne 1 more competition for seeds / food (on Isabela) allow less competition for seeds / food on Daphne ignore competition unqualified 1 birds with larger beaks get enough food to (survive and) reproduce (on Isabela) allow birds with smaller / medium beak sizes get enough food to (survive and) reproduce on Daphne 1 (survivors) pass on (beneficial) alleles to offspring allow pass on genes / mutation ignore pass on chromosomes / characteristics 1 Isabela is a large island with more species of plants or Isabela is a large island with more variety in seed / food sizes or Isabela is a large island with more plants / seeds / food 1 less competition for seeds / food enough seeds / food for both bird species [13] 3.7 1 2 1 (different combinations of alleles cause) many / 22 values allow continuous variation or



	in-between values or large range of values	
	or	
	there are not only two values	
	allow there are not only 3 values if 3 is given in part (b)	1
(4)	different protein made	
(d)	different protein made allow change in shape (of enzyme) or	
	change in 3-D structure	
	ignore denature	
		1
	active site changed	
		1
	so substrate does not fit / bind	
	allow description of substrate	
	allow cannot form E-S complex	
	ignore lock and key description	1
(e)	produces (some) offspring with high-fat milk or	
	not all offspring have low-fat milk <i>ignore</i> reference to alleles	
		1
(f)	takas lass tima (ta obtain rasulta) ar	
(f)	takes less time (to obtain results) or more offspring at the same time	
	allow other sensible suggestion – e.g.	
	allows screening or allow cow 7 to	
	continue to produce eggs or avoid injury to cow 7 during mating or giving birth	
		1
(g)	male gametes correct: d (and d)	
(9)	male gametes correct. a (and a)	1
	female gemeter correct, D and d	
	female gametes correct: D and d	1
	allow 1 mark if gametes are correct but	
	gender not identified	
	correct derivation of offspring genotypes from given gametes	
	allow 2 × 2 or 2 × 1 derivation	
		1
	Dd identified as low-fat and dd identified as high-fat in offspring	
	if DD offspring are produced, must also	
	identify as low-fat	4
		1



(h) find female with low(est) fat in milk and high(est) milk yield allow choose from 7, 9, 12, 13 which has the highest yield

find male whose female offspring have high(est) milk yield and low(est) fat in milk

allow choose from 16 or 18 whose female offspring has the highest yield

1

or

find female with lowest fat in milk or cow 13 (1)*

*or

allow female with high(est) milk yield

find male whose female offspring have high(est) milk yield (1)*

*or

allow male whose female offspring have lowest fat in milk / male 16

cross the best (for both features) female with the best male

1

1

select best offspring (for both features) from each generation and repeat for several generations

[16

[16]

Q3.

(a)

Classification group	Name
Class	Mammalia
Order	Primates
Family	Lemuroidea
Species	catta

all 4 correct = 2 marks 2 or 3 correct = 1 mark 0 or 1 correct = 0 marks

2

(b) Lemur catta

ignore capitalisation / non-capitalisation of initial letters ignore italics / non-italics ignore underlining / non-underlining



			1	
	(c)	carried by (favourable) currents on masses of vegetation allow description of currents from Figure 2		
		ignore swimming	1	
	(d)	isolation of different populations	1	
		habitat variation between lemur populations allow examples – biotic (e.g. food / predators) or abiotic (e.g. temperature)	1	
		genetic variation or mutation (in each population)	1	
		better adapted survive (reproduce) and pass on (favourable) allele(s) to offspring		
		allow natural selection or survival of the fittest and pass on (favourable) allele(s) to offspring allow gene(s) / mutation as an alternative to allele(s)		
		anomative to ancie(s)	1	
		(eventually) cannot produce fertile offspring with other populations allow cannot reproduce 'successfully' with other populations		
		ignore cannot reproduce unqualified	1	
				[9]
Q4.		loca awasting as loca water loca		
	(a)	less sweating so less water loss	1	
		(as) no / little water available in desert	1	
	(b)	(fat store) can be metabolised / respired to water	1	
		(little urine) conserve water	1	
		(hard mouth) not damaged by spines on plants / on food or not damaged by hard / dry food	1	
	(c)	dromedary / C.dromedarius and bactrian / C. bactrianus		

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no mark for the names, but must be identified because same genus ignore 'both are Camelus' 1 (d) any two from: the fossil record oldest fossils in N. America or newer fossils in S. America / in Asia / in Africa allow numbers for ages (45 Mya and 3 Mya / 6 Mya) chemical / DNA analysis of living species allow radioactive dating of fossils 2 (e) isolation of separate camel populations by sea or by mountains 1 habitat variation / described between populations allow examples - biotic (e.g. food / predators) or abiotic 1 genetic variation / mutation in each population 1 45 million years is sufficient time to accumulate enough mutations natural selection or better adapted survive to reproduce 1 pass on favourable allele(s) allow gene(s) [14] (a) white blood cells have the same DNA / genes / chromosomes or have the gene for GH allow have all the genes allow all body cells (except RBCs) have all of the genes 1 enzyme has specifically-shaped active site (b)

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Q5.



the 2 antibiotic resistance genes have different (sequence of) bases

1

1

only Tetracycline-resistance gene fits (active site of) enzyme or only Tetracycline-resistance gene is complementary to (active site of) enzyme

1

(c)

Ampicillin	Tetracycline
✓	×
×	×
√	✓

1 mark for each correct row if no other mark, allow 1 mark for one correct column

1 1 1

(d) clone produced by asexual reproduction allow by 'mitosis'

1

all DNA / all genes are copied allow GH gene copied allow plasmid copied

1

every cell receives a copy

or

receives every gene

or

receives GH gene

or

receives plasmid

or

genetically-identical cells

[10]

Q6.

- (a) any two from:
 - so that they do not have specific genetic defects
 - to produce docile cats or so they are not aggressive

 allow descriptions of aggression such as biting and
 scratching
 - for aesthetic reasons

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allow descriptions of suitable aesthetic reasons

2

 (b) (cats) are more likely to pass on (recessive) disorders or more likely to be susceptible to diseases

1

(c) Level 2 (3-4 marks):

A detailed and coherent explanation is given, which logically links the process of selective breeding with explanations of how this produces cats that do not cause allergic reactions.

Level 1 (1-2 marks):

Simple statements are made relating to process of selective breeding, but no attempt to

link to explanations.

0 marks:

No relevant content.

Indicative content

process:

- parents with the desired characteristic are selected
- the parents are bred together to produce offspring
- offspring with the desired characteristics are selected and bred
- this is repeated over many generations.

explanations:

- parents who produce the least Fel D1 are initially selected
- in their offspring there will be individuals with differing amounts of Fel D1 produced
- care is taken to ensure cats are healthy and avoid possible problems associated with selective breeding
- over time the population of (selectively bred) cats will produce less Fel D1

[7]

4

Q7.

(a) three billion

1

(b) mutation(s)

1

breed / reproduce

in this order only allow pass on their genes

[3]



Q8.

(a)	any two from:				
	•larg	er / longer / thicker			
		allow examples eg fewer toes or bones fused			
	•	fewer (bones in total)			
		allow smaller surface area touching the ground fewer bones touching the ground			
	•	lewer bories touching the ground	2		
			_		
(b)	(i)lar	ge(r) surface / area in contact with the ground or			
		low / less pressure on ground			
			1		
		(so) less likely to sink into mud / ground			
		or			
		(so) could run fast(er)			
		allow easy / easier to escape predators			
		, , ,	1		
	(ii)	variation (in size / number / arrangement of bones)			
		allow mutation(s) (in size / number / arrangement of bones)			
			1		
		(and) those with large(r) / few(er) bones more suited to running or run			
		faster (on harder / drier ground)	1		
			Ţ		
		these survive and breed			
		allow ref to offspring for breed			
		and when to onephing for breed	1		
		(so) genes / DNA (for larger / fewer bones) passed on			
		allow alleles passed on			
		·	1		
				[8]	