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GCSE (9-1)

Examiners' report

# GATEWAY SCIENCE BIOLOGY A

**J247** 

For first teaching in 2016

**J247/03 Summer 2023 series** 

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#### Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. A selection of candidate answers is also provided. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

A full copy of the question paper and the mark scheme can be downloaded from OCR.

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# Paper 3 series overview

J247/03 is the first higher tier paper in the J247 Gateway Biology suite. J247/03 assesses content from specification topics B1-B3 and B7. Therefore, to perform well on this paper candidates need to have a sound knowledge of the theory covered in topics B1-B3 and be able to apply the skills and understanding that they have developed in the practical activities covered in topic B7. There are also questions involving the assessment of key mathematical requirements from Appendix 5e of the specification. This paper is not synoptic and so does not contain any material covered by topics B4-6.

# Candidates who did well on this paper generally:

#### performed calculations correctly, including giving their answer to the required number of significant figures (Question 19 (b)) or to the nearest whole number (Question 21 (b) (ii))

- made suitable conclusions when provided with data presented in graphical form (Question 21 (c) and Question 23 (c))
- could use information provided to explain aspects of novel biological processes or procedures (Question 25 (b) and Question 21 (a))
- used their knowledge of the different stages of protein synthesis to explain the consequences of a mutation (Question 24 (a)).

# Candidates who did less well on this paper generally:

- made errors in calculations, such as using the incorrect method to calculate percentage change or made errors in converting their answer to three significant figures (Question 19 (b))
- gave conclusions that could not be deduced from the information provided in Question 21 (c) and Question 23 (c))
- described the process of protein synthesis without explaining the effect that a mutation would have on the various molecules involved (Question 24 (a))
- confused practical techniques for measuring the rate of photosynthesis with methods to measure the rate of transpiration (Question 22 (c)).

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## Section A overview

Candidates performed particularly well this series on the multiple-choice section of this paper. Questions 1, 2, 11 and 13 were usually answered correctly. Questions 7, 10 and 14 discriminated between students at different grades well, but were still answered correctly by over half of the candidates. Question 14 was the most challenging question in this section with some candidates missing the fact that the valve had to be at the junction of the heart and blood vessel.

#### C

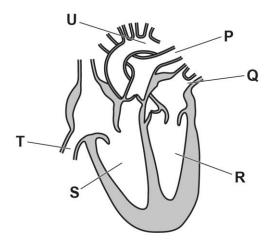
Qu	esti	on 1 and 2		
	A person was in an accident and their <b>memory</b> is affected.			
	Which part of the brain is most likely to have been injured?			
	Α	Cerebrum		
	В	Hypothalamus		
	С	Medulla		
	D	Pituitary		
	You	ir answer	[1]	
2	Single-celled algae found in the ocean absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide.			
	WI	hich process inside the cells of the algae uses this carbon dioxide?		
	Α	Homeostasis		
	В	Photosynthesis		
	С	Respiration		
	D	Temperature regulation		
	Yo	our answer	[1]	
	•	the majority of candidates answered correctly, there were a small number that confused		
⊐⊂r	אוואווי	no with photosynthesis and so answered C.		

6

4	Water passes through a plant and is lost in transpiration.			
	What is the correct route for water to move in this process?			
	Α	From the phloem to the stomata		
	В	From the stomata to the phloem		
	С	From the stomata to the xylem		
	D	From the xylem to the stomata		
	You	r answer	[1]	
		ates answered incorrectly, they tended to reverse the direction of water movement and so gaver C.	/e	
Qu	estic	on 5		
5	How	are mineral ions absorbed by plant roots?		
	Α	By active transport		
	В	By diffusion		
	С	By osmosis		
	D	By translocation		
	You	r answer	[1]	
This	was	one of the more challenging questions with diffusion and osmosis acting as distractors for		

some candidates.

7 The diagram shows the main structures in the heart.



Blood flows from the lungs back to the heart and is then pumped to the body.

Which order of structures does blood go through?

- A  $Q \rightarrow R \rightarrow P$
- $B T \rightarrow S \rightarrow P$
- $\mathbf{C} \quad Q \rightarrow R \rightarrow U$
- $D T \rightarrow S \rightarrow U$

[1]

About two thirds of the candidates answered correctly. The most common incorrect response was B, where candidates followed the passage of blood from vein to ventricle, to artery but did this on the right side of the heart rather than the left.

8	In an enzyme experiment, a student tries to measure pH by dipping universal indicator paper into a solution.		
	They then use a pH chart in their textbook.  They find it difficult to compare the indicator paper with the pH chart and cannot read the pH numbers on the chart.		
	Which statement could explain why?		
	A The student is colour blind.		
	B The student is colour blind and long-sighted.		
	C The student is colour blind and short-sighted.		
	<b>D</b> The student is short-sighted.		
	Your answer	[1]	
	andidates answered incorrectly, then it was nearly always because they confused long and short- stedness and so choose option C.		
Qu	estion 10		
10			
	A drug is used to treat cancer. The drug stops the formation of microtubules that move chromosomes in cells.		
	chromosomes in cells.		
	chromosomes in cells.  Which statement explains how the drug stops more cancer cells being made?		
	chromosomes in cells.  Which statement explains how the drug stops more cancer cells being made?  A Chromosomes will be replicated but the chromosomes will not separate in mitosis.		
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	chromosomes in cells.  Which statement explains how the drug stops more cancer cells being made?  A Chromosomes will be replicated but the chromosomes will not separate in mitosis.  B Dividing cells will not replicate their chromosomes.  C Four cells will be produced at the end of mitosis.	[1]	

9

#### Question 11 and 13

11	Wha	hat is the correct sequence in a reflex arc?		
	Α	$Effector \to receptor \to sensory \; neurone \to relay \; neurone \to motor \; neurone$		
	В	Motor neurone $\rightarrow$ sensory neurone $\rightarrow$ relay neurone $\rightarrow$ effector $\rightarrow$ receptor		
	С	Receptor $\rightarrow$ sensory neurone $\rightarrow$ relay neurone $\rightarrow$ motor neurone $\rightarrow$ effector		
	D	Receptor $\rightarrow$ relay neurone $\rightarrow$ sensory neurone $\rightarrow$ effector $\rightarrow$ motor neurone		
	You	r answer	[1]	
13	Whi	ch molecules are all polymers?		
	Α	DNA, amino acids and starch		
	В	Fatty acids, glycerol and amino acids		
	С	RNA, glucose and fatty acids		
	D	Starch, protein and DNA		
	You	r answer	[1]	
Qu	estic	on 14		
14	Whi	ich blood vessels have a valve at the junction between the blood vessel and the heart?		
	Α	Aorta and pulmonary artery		
	В	Aorta and vena cava		
	С	Aorta, pulmonary artery and pulmonary vein		
	D	Aorta, pulmonary artery, pulmonary vein and vena cava		
	You	ir answer	[1]	

This was the most challenging question with a significant number of candidates choosing option D.

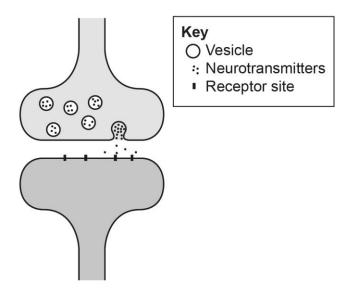
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15 Synapses are junctions between neurones.

For an impulse to be generated in another neurone, a neurotransmitter chemical diffuses across the gap and binds to receptor sites.

This process is shown in the diagram.



Which direction can an impulse pass across a synapse?

- A Only from the neurone that contains the vesicles to the neurone that contains the receptor sites
- B Only from the neurone that has the receptor sites to the neurone that contains the vesicles
- C Either way across a synapse because the neurotransmitter can diffuse either way
- **D** Either way across a synapse because the neurotransmitter is produced by both neurones

Your answer		[1]
-------------	--	-----

The majority of candidates answered this question correctly with only a minority being distracted by option C.

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#### Section B overview

Candidates scored well on the first two questions which were common with the foundation tier paper. The only exception was Question 16 (b) (i) where candidates seemed to find the requirement to produce a biological drawing very challenging.

In questions involving practical skills the responses were mixed. In Question 19 (a) there was confusion between the movement of water and the movement of solute in osmosis. In Question 22 (a), candidates answered well when asked about control variables but seemed to find it much more difficult in Question 22 (c) to describe modifications to the experiment.

#### Question 16 (a)

**16** (a) The contents of sub-cellular structures found in eukaryotic cells enable the structure to perform its function.

Draw lines to connect each **sub-cellular structure** to its **contents**. Then draw lines to join each of the **contents** to its correct **function** within the cell.

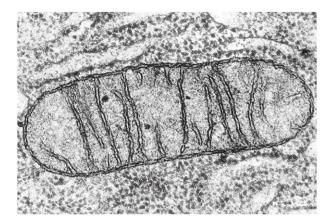
Sub-cellular structure	Contents	Function
cell membrane	chlorophyll	allows communication with other cells
chloroplast	enzymes	catalyses reactions in aerobic respiration
mitochondria	receptors	needed for photosynthesis

[4]

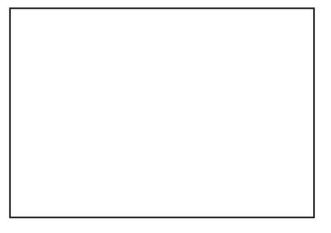
Virtually all the candidates followed the instructions and most scored all 4 marks.

## Question 16 (b) (i)

(b) The image is of a mitochondrion.



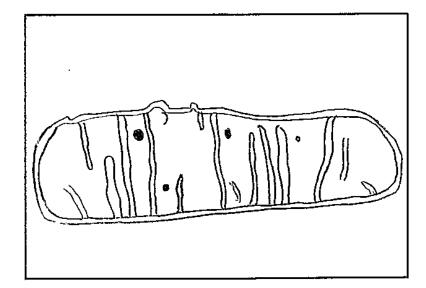
(i) Draw the mitochondrion in the box. Your drawing should be a scientific drawing.



[2]

The ability to make accurate scientific drawings is an important skill highlighted in PAG 1 and in Working Scientifically. It has not been commonly tested on previous papers and that may be one reason why candidates found this question challenging. Their diagrams were often very sketchy, rather than showing clear lines. Others included shading. Some diagrams were clear but were drawn as textbook representations of a mitochondrion rather than the one shown in the micrograph.

#### Exemplar 1



Exemplar 1 shows a diagram that scored both marking points. The lines are clear, without sketching, and the candidate has attempted to replicate the internal structure of this mitochondrion.

#### **OCR** support



The <u>Practical skills booklet</u> that is available on Teach Cambridge contains instructions for staining cheek cells which can then be used as practice for drawing biological structures.

# Question 16 (b) (ii)

		1
	Reason	
	Type of microscope	
	Explain your answer.	
(ii)	What type of microscope was used to create the image of the mitochondrion?	

The majority of candidates correctly identified the electron microscope and gave reasons involving the magnification or resolution. There were references to the image being in black and white but these were ignored and did not negate any correct reasons.

Qu	estion	16	(c)
~ ~			\ <b>~</b> /

(c)	Name <b>one</b> structure found in both an animal cell and a prokaryotic cell.	
		[1]

A small number of responses stated mitochondria but most candidates answered correctly.

# Question 17 (a)

17 (a) Arteries, capillaries and veins are blood vessels found in the human circulatory system.

Put ticks (✓) in each row to identify which blood vessels have each feature.

Feature	Arteries	Capillaries	Veins
Have valves along their length			
Have a very thick muscle wall			
Have a wide lumen			

[3]

Most candidates scored all 3 of the available marks here. If they did lose a mark, it was often on the bottom row. Perhaps the term lumen was not familiar to them, although it is used in the specification.

# Question 17 (b)

(b)	Chronic venous insufficiency (CVI) is a condition caused by faulty valves found in some
	blood vessels in the legs.

Describe how CVI will affect the person's blood circulation. Suggest **one** symptom of this condition.

Effect on b	olood circulat	ion	 	 	
Symptom			 	 	

[2]

Most responses appreciated that CVI could lead to the backflow of blood but the resulting symptoms did not always follow.

## Question 17 (c)

(c) The volume of blood pumped from the left ventricle into the aorta during one contraction is 70 ml.

Calculate the volume of blood that will be pumped into the aorta in one hour if a person has a resting heart rate of 76 beats per minute.

Volume = ..... ml/hour [2]

The correct value of 319200 was the most common response here. Some candidates did not multiply by 60 to convert from minutes to hours and so only scored 1 mark.

#### Question 17 (d)

(d) Red blood cells contain haemoglobin to transport oxygen.

Give <b>one</b> other feature of red blood cells.  How does this other feature allow the cell to perform its function?	
low does this other readure allow the cen to perform its function?	
	[2]

The most common features stated were the lack of a nucleus or the biconcave shape of the red blood cell. To score 2 marks they needed to combine the feature with an explanation.

#### Misconception



A significant number of candidates linked the biconcave shape of the red blood cell to the amount of oxygen that can be transported. A correct response needed to focus on the rate of diffusion of gases.

#### Question 18 (a)

18 (a) The colour of a person's urine changes depending on the concentration of their blood.

Complete the sentences below to describe why a person will have urine that is dark in colour.

Use the words in the list.

ADH	FSH	glucagon	hypothalamus
medulla	pituitary gland		

If a person has not consumed enough water, the concentration of the blood increases.

This is detected by receptors in the ......

These receptors send a message to the ......

This causes more ...... to be released into the bloodstream.

[3]

This question was also well answered with many candidates scoring 3 marks. If a mistake was made, it was often locating the receptors in the medulla rather than in the hypothalamus.

# Question 18 (b)

(b)	Give <b>one</b> factor, other than lack of water intake, that could cause a person to have
	concentrated urine.

......[1]

Sweating and high salt intake were common correct responses. Some candidates incorrectly referred to the intake of alcohol.

#### Question 18 (c)

is that proteins can enter the tubule and pass out in the urine.
Describe a test that could be used to determine if a patient has nephritis.

(c) Nephritis is a condition where part of the kidney tubule becomes inflamed. The result of this

#### **Misconception**



Testing for biological molecules is the focus of PAG 2. Some candidates show confusion between Benedict's, biuret and iodine tests, including how they are carried out and what they test for.

#### **OCR** support



Testing for biological molecules has been tested on a number of previous examination papers. <a href="ExamBuilder"><u>ExamBuilder</u></a> can be used to find and use those questions with candidates as practice material.

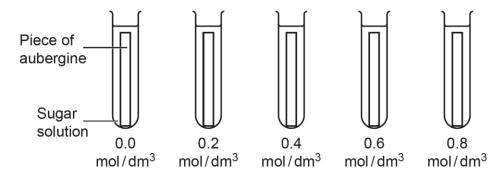
#### Question 19 (a)

19 An aubergine is a fruit with a thick, shiny skin.

A student does an experiment to find the solute concentration in the cells of an aubergine.

They follow this method:

- Remove the skin and cut five pieces of aubergine of equal size.
- Weigh each piece before placing into one of 5 different sugar solutions.
- Leave for 4 hours.
- · Remove the pieces of aubergine and reweigh.



The table shows their results.

	Concentration of sugar solution				
	0.0 mol/ dm <sup>3</sup>	0.2 mol/ dm <sup>3</sup>	0.4 mol/ dm <sup>3</sup>	0.6 mol/ dm <sup>3</sup>	0.8 mol/ dm <sup>3</sup>
Mass before the experiment (g)	5.0	5.2	5.5	5.1	5.3
Mass after the experiment (g)	7.0	6.5	5.8	4.5	3.5
Percentage change in mass (%)	+40.0	+ 25.0	+5.50	-11.8	

(a)	Why did the student remove the skin from the aubergine before placing it in the sugar solution?
	[1]

Many candidates appreciated that the aubergine skin is impermeable and this would prevent osmosis from occurring. Some responses then went on to state that the solution, rather than water, would not be able to pass through. This error meant that candidates did not score the mark.

#### Question 19 (b)

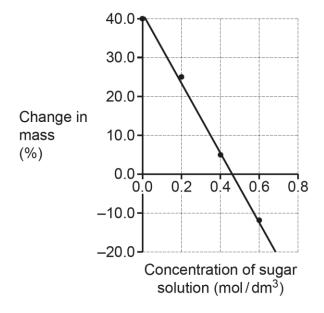
(b) Calculate the percentage change in mass for the piece of aubergine placed in 0.8 mol/dm<sup>3</sup>.
Give your answer to 3 significant figures.

Percentage change in mass = ..... % [3]

The majority of candidates scored full marks. The two most common errors here were as follows. Some candidates could not calculate the percentage change as they divided 3.5 by 5.3. Other candidates could calculate the percentage but then made rounding errors.

#### Question 19 (c)

(c) The student plots a graph to work out the solute concentration of the cells in the aubergine.



The student concludes that the solute concentration of the aubergine cells is 0.46 mol/dm<sup>3</sup>.

Explain why the student is correct.

.....[

This was correctly answered by most candidates.

#### Question 19 (d)

(d)	Describe how you could improve the method to determine the concentration of the cells in the aubergine with greater accuracy.	
		ro1

A number of candidates correctly stated that including intermediate concentrations in the experiment would improve accuracy. Only the higher scoring papers included reference to these concentrations being focused in the crucial area of 0.4 to 0.6 mol/dm<sup>3</sup>.

# Question 19 (e)

(e) Another student evaluates the method used in the experiment. This student finds that two errors were made.

For each error, decide if it is a random error or a systematic error.

Tick  $(\checkmark)$  one box for each error.

Error	Random error	Systematic error
Excess fluid was left on some aubergine pieces which will affect the mass.		
The scale used to weigh the aubergine pieces was not calibrated correctly.		

[1]

The difference between random errors and systematic errors is covered in the Working Scientifically section of the specification. Although it has not been tested many times on these papers, the question was well answered by most candidates.

#### Question 20 (a)

20 A student makes pineapple jelly using two different methods. Both methods use a protein called gelatin which causes the jelly to set.

Tinned pineapple is fresh pineapple which has been treated with heat.

#### Method 1

Fresh pineapple is added to the gelatin.

It is left for 2 hours.

The jelly does not set.

#### Method 2

Tinned pineapple is added to the gelatin.

It is left for 2 hours.

The jelly sets.

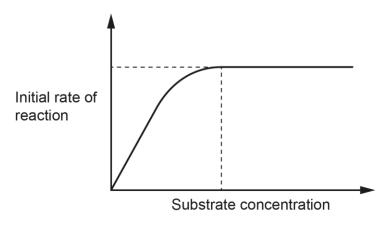
Pineapple contains an enzyme called bromelain. Bromelain digests proteins.

(a)	Explain why the jelly made with fresh pineapple does <b>not</b> set but the jelly made with tinned pineapple does set.
	Use your knowledge of enzymes.
	T <sub>4</sub>

Responses to this question were rather polarised. Successful answers highlighted that heat treatment of the tinned pineapple would have denatured the enzymes, changing the shape of the active site, resulting in gelatin not being digested. Whereas gelatin is digested by the enzymes in the fresh pineapple. Other answers stated that the heat treatment gave the optimum temperature for the enzymes to work, even though this would not explain why the jelly sets.

## Question 20 (b)

**(b)** The graph shows the rate of an enzyme catalysed reaction as the concentration of substrate is changed.



Draw an  $\mathbf{X}$  on the graph to show where approximately 50% of the enzymes' active sites are occupied with substrate.

				 		[21
LAPIAIII	your deci	131011.				
Explain v	our deci	ision				

Candidates that realised that 50% occupation of the active sites would result in half of the maximum rate of reaction managed to put the X in the correct position. However, this question proved quite challenging.

#### Question 21 (a)

21 IVF is a fertility treatment which involves egg cells being fertilised by sperm in a laboratory before transferring embryos into a female's uterus.

In this procedure a female's natural menstrual cycle is controlled using hormones.

Four hormones are used:

- GnRH $\alpha$  a hormone that prevents the development of eggs
- hCG a hormone that triggers the final stage of egg development
- FSH
- progesterone.
- (a) Complete the table to identify the hormone that should be used at each stage of this procedure.

One has been filled in for you.

Stage in IVF procedure	Hormone to be used
A hormone is used to stop a female's natural cycle.	
The female is then stimulated to produce a large number of immature eggs.	
The eggs produced by the female are matured 12 hours before they are collected.	hCG
The female's uterus lining is maintained for 14 days after egg collection.	

[2]

Most candidates correctly identified the three hormones although there were a small number of responses where alternative hormones, other than those given, were used.

## Question 21 (b) (i)

(b) In IVF, the number of egg cells collected from each female differs.

This table shows the number of eggs collected from 10 females.

Female	Number of eggs collected
1	3
2	8
3	9
4	12
5	24
6	8
7	10
8	10
9	8
10	11

(i)	Write down two conclusions about the number of eggs produced by females in this
	process.

1		,
		,
2		,
••	[2]	

There were some good responses seen involving calculations of range, mean, mode or median. In many responses candidates came to conclusions that could not be made from this process and indeed did not focus on the number of eggs produced. Some other responses just quoted the data.

## Question 21 (b) (ii)

(ii) Only 60–80% of the eggs collected from a female will be mature and therefore able to be used for IVF.

Of the mature eggs collected, only 70–80% will be fertilised.

Calculate the **maximum** number of eggs that can be fertilised if a female produces 10 eggs in one cycle.

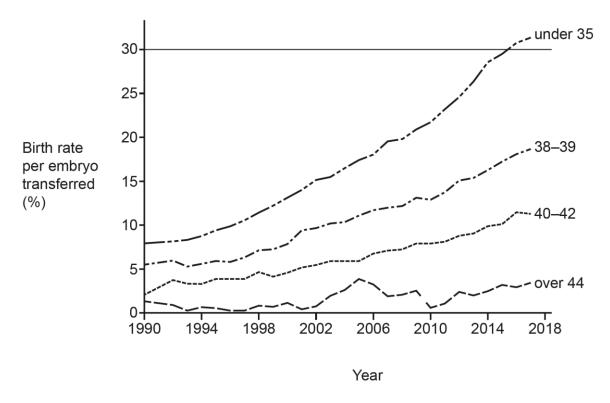
Give your answer to the nearest whole number.

Maximum number of eggs = ......[2]

The majority of candidates scored full marks here with a correct calculation. In a small number of cases, incorrect percentages were used for the calculation but 1 mark could still be scored if the answers were correctly rounded.

#### Question 21 (c)

(c) The graph shows the birth rate per embryo transferred for some different age groups of females between 1990 and 2017.



Give two conclusions that can be made from the graph.

Conclusion 1	
Conclusion 2	
	[2]

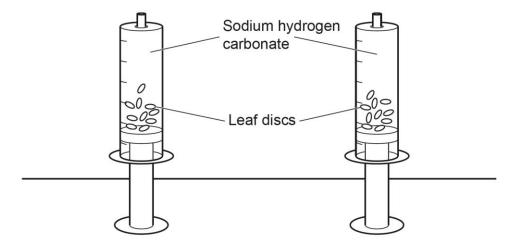
Answers that scored marks concentrated on the increase in birth rate for all groups over time and the difference in the birth rate between different aged females. As was the case in Question 21 (b) (i), some candidates made conclusions that could not deduced from the graph.

#### Question 22 (a)

22 A student investigates the rate of photosynthesis in two different species of plant.

The student's method:

- Cut 10 leaf discs from a leaf of one of the plants.
- Place the discs into a syringe containing sodium hydrogen carbonate solution.
- Repeat this using a leaf from the other plant.
- Record the time it takes for the leaf discs to rise to the top of each syringe.



(a) Give **three** variables that the student must control to ensure that data collected for the two species of plant is valid.

1	
2	
3	
	[31

There were many good responses here giving three variables that should be controlled. There were still many vague references to the 'amount' of the solution. Candidates that stated volume and concentration could score 2 marks for those variables.

Question	22 (	(b)	)
-, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -, -		( )	,

(b)	Explain why the leaf discs rise to the top of the syringes.
	[1]
Most car	ndidates could explain this in terms of oxygen production.
Questi	on 22 (c)
(c)	Describe how the student could change their investigation to find the effect of light intensity

[3]

High scoring responses included reference to the inverse square law. A number of responses described completely new methods involving the counting of bubbles from pondweed, instead of describing how to change the investigation. There was also some confusion between photosynthesis and the use of a potometer to estimate transpiration.

# Exemplar 2

the student could have used one leaf from a plant and used an LED lamp at different distances from the plant and measured the rate of oxygen that is released by using a syringe.

Exemplar 2 shows a response that confuses this experiment with the pondweed experiment. It was given 1 mark for the use of a lamp at different distances from the plant material.

#### Question 23 (a)

23 (a) Hormones are released when an athlete is preparing for and running a marathon.

Complete the sentences below to describe the hormones involved before and during the race.

Use the words from the list.

adrenaline	digestive	endocrine	glucagon	glucose
glycogen	insulin	nervous	thyroxine	

Before the race, the athlete's body needs to prepare for action. The body responds by
secreting the hormone
This hormone causes blood to be diverted from the system to the muscles.
During the race, blood sugar levels will decrease, so another hormone called
will be released.
This results in stores of being used to maintain the blood sugar levels
allowing the athlete to complete the marathon.  [4]

Adrenaline was identified by most candidates but fewer could correctly identify the system in the second gap. As is often the case, there was some confusion between glycogen, glucose and glucagon but very few hybrid spellings were seen.

# Question 23 (b)

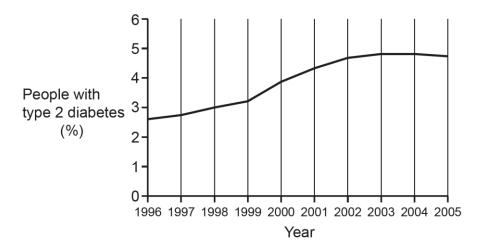
(b)	Hormones are part of the endocrine system.
	Describe <b>two</b> differences between the endocrine system and the nervous system.
	1

[2]

It was clear that some candidates had learned these differences and answered accurately and concisely. Some other responses involved vague references to homeostasis or specific actions.

## Question 23 (c)

(c) The graph shows the percentage of people with type 2 diabetes between 1996 and 2005.



the graph.	e graph.					
				[3]		

This question discriminated between students at different grades quite well. Most candidates could suggest reasons for the increase in the number of people with type 2 diabetes. However, only the highest scoring papers contained reasons for the levelling off of the numbers.

31

#### Question 24 (a)

24 (a) \* Beta thalassaemia is a genetic disorder caused by a mutation in DNA.

In this mutation, some bases are inserted into the gene that codes for the production of the haemoglobin protein.

Explain now this mutation causes a different naemoglobin protein to be produced.
Use your knowledge of DNA and protein synthesis.
[6]

This was the level of response question on this paper. To obtain Level 3, candidates had to explain the impact the insertion of bases has on the base sequence of DNA, how this effects the mRNA produced and how this produces a different protein via the action of tRNA. Some candidates described protein synthesis in detail but did not link this to any changes in base sequence. Level one candidates often concentrated on DNA with no reference to mRNA or tRNA. Level 2 responses included mRNA changes but usually omitted references to tRNA.

#### Exemplar 3

* During protein synthesis DNA Unzips and the
complementary base pails attach (no thymine so
uracil binds to Adenine) (transcription)
* Due to the mutation caused by Beta Thalassacmia
the bases extra bases are inscrited onto the mRNA
"The mena detaines and the DNA ZIPS back up
. The menn leaves the nucleus through the
cytopiasm to Ribosome for translation
*Ribosome reads the mRNA in codons/tripicts
each cooling for another amino acid
HOWCUCE, the extra bases inscrted means that the
ribosome will read it differently than normal person [6]
without Beta Thalassaemia.
· As a result, an alternative haemoglobin protein is
produced as the amino acids that chain together
arc, different (due to extra bases).
(sequence)

Exemplar 3 shows an answer that was given Level 2, 4 marks. The response is well constructed and relevant, explaining how the change in DNA results in a change in mRNA and the protein produced. However, there is no reference to tRNA.

#### Question 24 (b)

(b)	The haemoglobin in the red blood cells of a person with beta thalassaemia does <b>not</b> function correctly.
	Suggest <b>one</b> symptom that a person with beta thalassaemia may have.
	Suggest <b>one</b> symptom that a person with beta thalassaemia may have.
	[1]

References to fatigue or tiredness were the most common correct responses seen here.

# Question 24 (c)

	(c)	Beta thalassaemia can be treated with stem cells. Stem cells are taken from a donor and placed in the vein of the patient.		
		Explain why using stem cells from a donor can be used as a treatment for this disease.		
		[2]		
fact	that	aspects to this response were the ability of stem cells to differentiate into red blood cells and the the donor would not have the mutation. Some answers focused on one of these two aspects but er scoring scripts contained references to both.		
Qu	esti	on 25 (a)		
25	(a)	Two students are discussing respiration.		
		One student says, 'I know all animals respire but I don't think plants need to.'		
		Explain why the student's statement is <b>not</b> correct.		
		[2]		

There was considerable confusion between photosynthesis and respiration in these responses. However, there were correct references to ATP production and processes such as active transport.

## Question 25 (b)

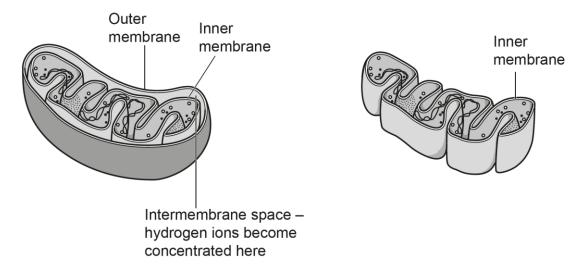
(b) Scientists researching how mitochondria produce ATP came up with a theory.

Their theory said:

- Hydrogen ions are transported into the space between the two membranes surrounding the mitochondria, shown in **Fig. 25.1**.
- The ions become concentrated in this space.
- The ions diffuse back into the mitochondria making ATP.

To test this theory the scientists removed the outer membrane of the mitochondria, as shown in **Fig. 25.2**.

Fig. 25.1 Fig. 25.2



The result of their experiment showed that less ATP is formed.

Explain how this result shows that their theory is correct.	

Although this question covered a high-level concept, candidates were provided with plenty of information in the question. Many interpretated this information correctly and gave good responses.

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Question 16 (b): Image of a mitochondrion - © CNRI / SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY, www.sciencephoto.com

Question 21 (c): Graph - HFEA, Fertility treatment 2018: trends and figures, 30 June 2020, www.hfea.gov.uk, UK statistics for IVF and DI treatment, storage, and donation

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