

Biology GCSE - Personal Learning Checklist

AQA TRILOGY Biology (8464) from 2016 Topic T4.5 Homeostasis and response - PAPER 2

Remember to test yourself by doing an exam question!

AQA TRILOGY Biology (8464) from 2016 Topic T4.5 Homeostasis and response		R	A	G
4.5.1 Homeostasis	Describe what homeostasis is and why it is important stating specific examples from the human body			
	Describe the common features of all control systems			
4.5.2 The human nervous system	State the function of the nervous system and name its important components			
	Describe how information passes through the nervous system			
	Describe what happens in a reflex action and why reflex actions are important			
	Explain how features of the nervous system are adapted to their function, including a reflex arc (inc all types of neurone and the synapse)			
Required practical 7: plan and carry out an investigation into the effect of a factor on human reaction time				
4.5.3 Hormonal coordination in humans	Describe the endocrine system, including the location of the pituitary, pancreas, thyroid, adrenal gland, ovary and testis and the role of hormones			
	State that blood glucose concentration is monitored and controlled by the pancreas			
	Describe the body's response when blood glucose concentration is too high			
	Explain what type 1 and type 2 diabetes are and how they are treated			
	HT ONLY: Describe the body's response when blood glucose concentration is too low			
	HT ONLY: Explain how glucagon interacts with insulin to control blood glucose levels in the body			
	Describe how water, ions and urea are lost from the body			
	Describe the consequences of losing or gaining too much water for body cells			
	HT ONLY: Recall that protein digestion leads to excess amino acids inside the body and describe what happens to these			
	Describe how the kidneys produce urine			
	HT ONLY: Describe the effect of ADH on the permeability of the kidney tubules and explain how the water level in the body is controlled by ADH			
	Describe how kidney failure can be treated by organ transplant or dialysis and recall the basic principles of dialysis			
	Describe what happens at puberty in males and females, inc knowledge of reproductive hormones			
	Describe the roles of the hormones involved in the menstrual cycle (FSH, LH and oestrogen)			
	HT ONLY: Explain how the different hormones interact to control the menstrual cycle and ovulation			
4.5.4 Plant hormones	Describe how fertility can be controlled by hormonal and non-hormonal methods of contraception (giving specific examples from the spec)			
	HT ONLY: Explain how hormones are used to treat infertility, inc the steps in IVF			
	HT ONLY: Evaluate the risks and benefits of fertility treatments			
	HT ONLY: Describe the functions of adrenaline and thyroxine in the body, and recall where they are produced			
	HT ONLY: Explain the roles of thyroxine and adrenaline in the body as negative feedback systems			
Required practical 8: investigate the effect of light or gravity on the growth of newly germinated seedling				
HT ONLY: Explain the use of plant growth hormones are used in agriculture and horticulture (auxins, ethene and gibberellins)				

AQA TRILOGY Biology (8464) from 2016 Topic T4.6 Inheritance, variation and evolution			
	R	A	G
4.6.1 Reproduction	Describe features of sexual and asexual reproduction		
	Describe what happens during meiosis and compare to mitosis		
	Describe what happens at fertilisation		
	Describe the structure of DNA and its role in storing genetic information inside the cell		
	Explain the term 'genome' and the importance of the human genome (specific examples from spec only)		
	Describe how characteristics are controlled by one or more genes, including examples		
	Explain important genetic terms: gamete, chromosome, gene, allele, genotype, phenotype, dominant, recessive, homozygous and heterozygous		
	Explain and use Punnett square diagrams, genetic crosses and family trees		
	HT ONLY: Construct Punnett square diagrams to predict the outcomes of a monohybrid cross		
	Describe cystic fibrosis and polydactyly as examples of inherited disorders		
	Evaluate social, economic and ethical issues concerning embryo screening when given appropriate information		
	Describe how the chromosomes are arranged in human body cells, including the function of the sex chromosomes		
	Explain how sex is determined and carry out a genetic cross to show sex inheritance		
4.6.2 Variation and evolution	Describe what variation is and how it can be caused within a population		
	Describe mutations and explain their influence on phenotype and changes in a species		
	Explain the theory of evolution by natural selection		
	Describe how new species can be formed		
	Describe what selective breeding is		
	Explain the process of selective breeding, including examples of desired characteristics and risks associated with selective breeding		
	Describe what genetic engineering is, including examples, and how it is carried out		
	Explain some benefits, risks and concerns related to genetic engineering		
	HT ONLY: Explain the process of genetic engineering, to include knowledge of enzymes and vectors		
4.6.3 The development of understanding of	Describe some sources of evidence for evolution		
	Describe what fossils are, how they are formed and what we can learn from them		
	Explain why there are few traces of the early life forms, and the consequences of this in terms of our understanding of how life began		
	Describe some of the causes of extinction		
	Describe how antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria can arise and spread (inc MRSA)		
	Describe how the emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria can be reduced and controlled, to include the limitations of antibiotic development		
4.6.4 Classification	Describe how organisms are named and classified in the Linnaean system		
	Describe and interpret evolutionary trees		
	Explain how scientific advances have led to the proposal of new models of classification, inc three-domain system		
AQA TRILOGY Biology (8464) from 2016 Topic T4.7 Ecology			
	R	A	G
4.7.1 Adaptations, interdependence and competition	Recall what an ecosystem is		
	Describe which resources animals and plants compete for, and why they do this		
	Explain the terms 'interdependence' and 'stable community'		
	Name some abiotic and biotic factors that affect communities		
	Explain how a change in an abiotic or biotic factor might affect a community		
	Describe structural, behavioural and functional adaptations of organisms		
	Describe what an extremophile is		
4.7.2 Organisation of an ecosystem	Represent the feeding relationships within a community using a food chain and describe these relationships		
	Explain how and why ecologists use quadrats and transects		
	Describe and interpret predator-prey cycles		
	Required practical 9: measure the population size of a common species in a habitat. Use sampling to investigate the effect of one factor on distribution		
	Describe the processes involved in the carbon cycle		
	Describe the processes involved in the water cycle		
4.7.3 Biodiversity and the effect of human interaction on ecosystems	Describe what biodiversity is, why it is important, and how human activities affect it		
	Describe the impact of human population growth and increased living standards on resource use and waste production		
	Explain how pollution can occur, and the impacts of pollution		
	Describe how humans reduce the amount of land available for other animals and plants		
	Explain the consequences of peat bog destruction		
	Describe what deforestation is and why it has occurred in tropical areas		
	Explain the consequences of deforestation		
	Describe how the composition of the atmosphere is changing, and the impact of this on global warming		
	Describe some biological consequences of global warming		
	Describe both positive and negative human interactions in an ecosystem and explain their impact on biodiversity		
	Describe programmes that aim to reduce the negative effects of humans on ecosystems and biodiversity		