

Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2017

Pearson Edexcel GCE In Biology Spec A (9BN0) Paper 01 The Natural Environment and Species Survival



Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information, please visit our website at www.edexcel.com.

Our website subject pages hold useful resources, support material and live feeds from our subject advisors giving you access to a portal of information. If you have any subject specific questions about this specification that require the help of a subject specialist, you may find our Ask The Expert email service helpful.

www.edexcel.com/contactus

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk

Summer 2017
Publications Code 9BN0_01_1706_MS
All the material in this publication is copyright
© Pearson Education Ltd 2017

General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1(a)(i)	1(a)(i). The only correct answer is D - the sperm cell releases enzymes that digest the zona pellucida	
	A is not correct because the enzymes are released by the sperm and digest the zona pellucida	
	B is not correct because enzymes are released by the sperm	
	C is not correct because the enzymes digest the zona pellucida	1

Question Number	Answer	Mark
1(a)(ii)	1(a)(ii). The only correct answer is A – one copy of each gene different alides of some genes	
	B is not correct because sperm can contain a different allele of a gene	
	C is not correct because sperm will contain one copy of each gene	
	D is not correct because sperm contain one copy of each gene and can have a different allele of some genes	1

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
1(b)	A description that makes reference to three of the following:		
	fusion of sperm cell (membrane) with egg cell membrane (1)	ALLOW sperm cell binds to egg cell membrane	
	cortical granules release contents (into zona pellucida) (1)		
	 contents of cortical granules react with the zona pellucida / zona pellucida { thickens / hardens } (1) fusion of { sperm and egg / haploid } nuclei (1) 		3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(a)	An explanation that makes reference to the following:	ALLOW converse	
	hydrophilic parts associate with water (1)	ALLOW phosphate groups associate with water	
	• hydrophobic parts {associate with each other / repel water }(1)	ALLOW fatty acids face away from water	
	 a bilayer forms with hydrophobic parts pointing { in towards the centre of the bilayer / towards each other } (1) 	ALLOW annotated diagram to show arrangement of phospholipids	3

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(b)(i)	2(b)(i). The only correct answer is B -	
	against a solute concentration guidient through a partially permeable membrane	
	A is not correct because in osmosis water moves against a solute concentration gradient - through a partially permeable membrane	
	C is not correct because in osmosis water moves against a solute concentration gradient - through a partially permeable membrane	
	D is not correct because in osmosis water moves against a solute concentration gradient - through a partially permeable membrane	1

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(b)(ii)	2(b)(ii). The only correct answer is A – Active transport	
	B is not correct because exocytosis s an export process	
	C is not correct because osmosis describes the movement of water (solvent) molecules	
	D is not correct because passive diffusion take place down a concentration gradient	1

Question Number	Answer	Mark
2(b)(iii)	2(b)(iii). The only correct answer is D - Protein	
	A is not correct because carrier molecules or channel used for facilitated diffusion are proteins	
	B is not correct because carrier molecules or channel used for facilitated diffusion are proteins	
	C is not correct because carrier molecules or channel used for facilitated diffusion are proteins	

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(c)(i)	A description that makes reference to three of the following:		
	chloride ions leave cells (through the CFTR channel protein) (1)	NOT active transport of chloride ions ALLOW chloride ions move into the mucus	
	sodium ions leave the cells (following the chloride ions) (1)		
	increasing the solute concentration in the mucus (1)	ALLOW NaCl, Na ⁺ or Cl ⁻ instead of solute	
	water moves out of the cells by osmosis (into the mucus) (1)	ALLOW description of osmosis	3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
2(c)(ii)	An explanation that makes reference to the following:		
	 (triplet code) is shown by three bases coding for an amino acid (1) 		
	 non-overlapping code e.g. ATT codes for amino acid I and then AAA code for amino acid K (1) 		
	• degenerate code as both ATT and ATC code for amino acid I (1)		3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(a)	A description that makes reference to three of the following:		
	(large) circular DNA (1)	ALLOW nucleoid NOT two marks for plasmids are circular DNA	
	DNA not associated with histone proteins (1)		
	(small / several) plasmids (1)		
	located in the cytoplasm / not inside a nucleus (1)		3

Question Number		Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(b)(i)			Example of calculation	
	• correct values taken from	the graph (1)	55 - 45 (= 10)	
	• correct answer with units	(1)	= 2 au min ⁻¹	
			ALLOW an answer between 1.6 au and 2 au per minute	
			or	
			0.0267 to 0.0333 au per second	
			Correct answer with units, with no working gains full marks	
			Correct answer with no units, gains one mark only	2

Question	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
Number			
3(b)(ii)	An answer that makes reference to the following:		
	DNA contents doubles twice / two stages of DNA synthesis (1)	ALLOW two increases in uptake of bases	
	therefore two divisions (1)	ALLOW twice	2

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(b)(iii)	An explanation that makes reference to two of the following:		
	• because thymine is found only in DNA (1)	ALLOW RNA does not contain thymine	
	• other radioactive bases taken up by all nucleic acids (1)	ALLOW other bases taken up	
	• only DNA would be measured (1)	by RNA	
		ALLOW no need to separate DNA from RNA	2

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
3(c)	An answer that makes reference to the following:		
	 tetracycline { is bacteriostatic / stops bacteria dividing } (because the number of bacteria stays the same) (1) 		
	 penicillin {is bactericidal / kills bacteria } (because the number of bacteria decreases) (1) 		2

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
4(a)	A description that makes reference to the following:		
	• use of light (energy) to excite electrons in chlorophyll (1)	ALLOW electrons promoted to higher energy level ALLOW photosystem (PS) I or II for chlorophyll	
	 {photolysis / splitting of water} to produce oxygen, electrons and hydrogen ions (1) 	ALLOW correct equation	
	 electrons used { in the electron transport chain / to replace those lost by chlorophyll } (1) 	ALLOW electrons used in redox reactions / electrons move along electron carrier proteins	
	• generation of ATP / photophosphorylation (1)		
	• reduction of NADP (1)		5

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4(b)(i)	4(b)(i). The only correct answer is C – Stroma	
	A is not correct because light-independent reactions take place in the stroma	
	B is not correct because light-independent reactions take place in the stroma	
	D is not correct because light-independent reactions take place in the stroma	1

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4(b)(ii)	4(b)(ii). The only correct answer is C - RUBISCO (ribulose bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase)	
	A is not correct because RUBISCO (ribulose bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase) is the enzyme that fixes carbon dioxide	
	B is not correct because is not correct because RUBISCO (ribulose bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase) is the enzyme that fixes carbon dioxide	
	D is not correct because is not correct because RUBISCO (ribulose bisphosphate carboxylase/oxygenase) is the enzyme that fixes carbon dioxide	

Question Number	Answer	Mark
4(b)(iii)	4(b)(iii). The only correct answer is B – GP	
	A is not correct because glucose is made from the products of the light-independent reactions	
	C is not correct because RuBP is the molecule that CO ₂ combines with to form molecules of GP	
	D is not correct because starch is formed from glucose	1

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
5(a)	An explanation that makes reference to four of the following:		
	pollen preserved in peat bogs (1)		
	a plant species can be identified from its pollen (1)		
	climate affects the type of plants growing (1)	ALLOW conditions / temperature in place of climate	
	depth of peat correlates with period of time since pollen was produced (1)	ALLOW carbon-14 dating	
	changes in pollen over time indicate changes in climate (1)	ALLOW pollen quantity or type	4

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
5(b)(i)		Example of calculation	
	 correct values for carbon released by boreal forest and deciduous forest respiration (1) 	1013 - 322 = 691 (Boreal) 2165 - 1301 = 864 (Deciduous)	
	• correct use of values to calculate percentage increase (1)	= 173 ÷ 691	
	• correct answer (1)	deciduous release 25% (25.04%) more than boreal	
		Correct answer with no working gains full marks	3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
5(b)(ii)	An answer that makes reference to the following:	ALLOW converse for boreal forests for all points	
	• the ratio of NPP to GPP is higher in deciduous forests (1)	·	
	 NPP is higher / more of the carbon (fixed) is used to produce biomass (1) 		
	 (in deciduous forests) more carbon (dioxide) removed (by photosynthesis) than returned by respirat ion (1) 		3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
6(a)(i)	correct values taken from the graph (1)	Example of calculation $0.12 \div 2 =$	
	correct answer with correct units (1)	= 0.06 µmol dm ⁻³ min ⁻¹ = 0.06 µmol per dm ³ per minute or	
		= $0.001 \mu mol dm^{-3} s^{-1}$ = $0.001 \mu mol per dm^{3} per$ second	
		Correct answer with no units gains one mark	
		Correct answer with correct units but no working gains full marks	2

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
6(a)(ii)	curve that is less steep but reaches the same plateau (1)	e.g.	1

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
6(a)(iii)	 An explanation that makes reference to the following: the slower the initial rate of reaction the longer it will take for a clot to form (1) 	Allow converse arguments	
	because fibrin will be produced more slowly (1)		2

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
6(b)(i)	An explanation that makes reference to the following:		
	• fibrinogen concentration is higher in individuals with CVD (1)		
	compare an individual's fibrinogen concentration with values in the table (1)	ALLOW females above 321and males above 324 or females above 328 and males above 329 are identified as being at risk	
	no overlap between fibrinogen concentrations for those with CVD compared with those without CVD (1)	ALLOW values above mean without CVD + SD or mean with CVD -SD identified as at risk	2

Question Number	Acceptable answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
6(b)(ii)	An explanation that makes reference to the following:		
	 increased concentrations of fibrinogen leading to increased fibrin (1) 		
	 increase the risk of blood clotting / more frequent and extensive clotting (1) 		
	• blocking lumen of {arteries / capillaries} (1)		3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
7(a)(i)	 A description that makes reference to three of the following: primary structure described as a repeating amino acid sequence (1) three polypeptide chains (1) 	ALLOW {proline / glycine / hydroxyproline} rich polypeptide chains	
	 chains coiled around each other (1) cross-linking between the chains (1) 	IGNORE alpha helix ALLOW {covalent / hydrogen / disulphide} bonding between chains	3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
7(a)(ii)	An answer that makes reference to one of the following:		
	to provide {strength / flexibility} (1)	ALLOW to support alveoli IGNORE to support capillaries	
	holds walls of capillaries and alveoli close together (1)		1

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
7(b)	An explanation that makes reference to three of the following:		
	thinner blood-gas barrier (1)		
	because of thinner { alveolar walls / capillary walls / extracellular matrix layer } (1)		
	therefore a reduced diffusion distance (1)		3
	a faster rate of { diffusion / gas exchange } (1)	ALLOW greater rate	

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
8(a)	An answer that makes reference to three of the following:		
	HPV strains 16 and 18 are { more associated with cervical cancer / not associated with genital warts } (1)		
	HPV strains 6 and 11 are { more associated with genital warts / not associated with cervical cancer } (1)		
	 (for the strains shown) greater percentage of cases of genital warts associated with HPV than cervical cancer (1) 	e.g. 89% for genital warts and 68% for cervical cancer	
	 quantitative comparison made to demonstrate the difference (1) 		3

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
8(a)(ii)	An explanation that makes reference to four of the following: Guardasil is developed from four strains of HPV, whereas Cervarix only developed from two (1)		
	 Guardasil provides protection against all four strains of HPV whereas Cervarix provides protection against two strains of HPV (1) 		
	both vaccines will provide immunity against (HPV 16 and 18) viruses that cause cervical cancer (1)		
	 Guardasil will also provide immunity against (HPV 6 and 11) viruses that cause genital warts (1) 		4

Question Number	Answer	Mark
8(a)(iii)	8(a)(iii). The only correct answer is A - artificial active immunity	
	B is not correct because vaccination produces artificial active immunity	
	C is not correct because vaccination produces artificial active immunity	
	D is not correct because vaccination produces artificial active immunity	1

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
8(b)	An explanation that makes reference to three of the following:		
	a vaccinated person will have memory T cells (1)	ALLOW a response that begins with 'T memory cells' / or statement that T memory cells are already present	
	(memory T cells) recognise (antigens specific to) the HPV-16 virus (1)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	T helper cells that activate {B cells / T killer cells} (1)	ALLOW cytotoxic T cells for T	
	(formation of) T killer cells destroy cells infected with virus (1)	killer cells	
			3

Question Number	Answer	Mark
8(c)(i)	8(c)(i). The only correct answer is D - from undifferentiated cells by mitosis	
	A is not correct because a B cell is a specialised cell produced by differentiation of a stem cell	
	B is not correct because a B cell is a specialised cell produced by differentiation of a stem cell	
	C is not correct because a B cell is a specialised cell produced by differentiation of a stem cell	1

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
8(c)(ii)	An answer that makes reference to the following:		
	{allele / gene} responsible for a trait is located on a sex chromosome (1)	ALLOW X or Y chromosome	
	expression of the trait is related to gender / one gender inherits only one allele for a trait (1)	e.g. males only have one allele but females have two alleles for a trait	2

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
9(a)	An answer that makes reference to the following:		
	 at the start of composting the percentage of organic carbon is less and the percentage of nitrogen is more when cow dung is added (1) 		
	 adding cow dung does not change the decrease in organic carbon (1) 	e.g. 12.8% and 12.7%	
	 adding cow dung causes {a slight / no change} to the increase in nitrogen (1) 	e.g. 0.43% compared with 0.47%	
	 adding cow dung has no significant effect on composting (of coffee husks) (1) 		3

Question Number	Answer		
*9(b)	Answers will be credited according to candidate's deployment of knowledge and understanding of the material in relation to the qualities and skills outlined in the generic mark scheme.		
	The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material which is indicated as relevant. Additional content included in the response must be scientific and relevant.		
	 standardisation of composition of compost heaps identification of species abundance of each species of organism in the sample determination of C:N / set up compost heaps with different C:N ratios time e.g. days / intervals / repetition of sampling other factors to monitor or control e.g. water / gases / humidity / temperature / aeration / mass sampling technique e.g. location of sample within compost heap / repetition of sampling 		

Level	Mark	Descriptor	
0	Marks	No awardable content	
Level 1	1-2	An explanation of how the investigation should be modified may be attempted but with limited analysis, interpretation and/or evaluation of the scientific information. Generalised comments made. The explanation will contain basic information with some attempt made to link knowledge and understanding to the given context.	Measure / set up compost heaps with different C:N ratios Observe species present over time
Level 2	3-4	An explanation of how the investigation should be modified will be given with occasional evidence of analysis, interpretation and/or evaluation of the scientific information. The explanation shows some linkages and lines of scientific reasoning with some structure.	Recording species present / numbers of each species / measuring C:N ratio Monitoring changes over time Control of relevant factors
Level 3	5-6	An explanation of how the investigation should be modified is given which is supported throughout by evidence from the analysis, interpretation and/or evaluation of the scientific information. The explanation shows a well-developed and sustained line of scientific reasoning which is clear, coherent and logically structured.	Description of a suitable sampling technique Linking species present or species density to C:N measurements Use of a statistical test to compare changes of time / C:N ratio Use information on numbers of species and population sizes to demonstrate succession

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
10(a)(i)	A answer that makes reference to the following:{alternative form / different form / version / variation} of a gene (1)	IGNORE type of gene	1

Question Number		Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
10(a)(ii)	•	correct use of Hardy-Weinberg equation (1)	Example of calculation $p^2+2pq+q^2=1$	
	•	correct calculation of probability of each homozygote (1)	p^2 = either 0.185 or 0.325 q^2 = either 0.325 or 0.185	
			or	
			2pq = 0.43 x 0.57 x 2 = 0.4902	
	•	correct answer (1)	frequency = 50.98 % / 51% (which is greater than 50%)	
			Correct answer with no working gains full marks	3

Question Number	Answer
*10(b)(i)	Answers will be credited according to candidate's deployment of knowledge and understanding of the material in relation to the qualities and skills outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material which is indicated as relevant. Additional content included in the response must be scientific and relevant. • feeding behaviours • anatomy • genetic differences
	 no information on whether they can interbreed to produce fertile offspring different locations do not indicate that they are different species no information on number of elephants used for DNA analysis GBA alleles K and L are exclusive to one type of elephant / genetic isolation

Level	Mark	Descriptor	
Level 0	Marks	No awardable content	
Level 1	1-2	An answer may be attempted but with limited interpretation or analysis of the scientific information with a focus on mainly just one piece of scientific information. The answer will contain basic information with some attempt made to link knowledge and understanding to the given context.	Makes reference to one of behavioural, phenotypic, anatomical or genetic differences
Level 2	3-4	An answer will be given with occasional evidence of analysis, interpretation and/or evaluation of more than one pieces of scientific information. The answer shows some linkages and lines of scientific reasoning with some structure.	Makes reference to more than one of behavioural, phenotypic, anatomical or genetic differences Also includes an interpretation of allele data or considers reasons why may not be different species
Level 3	5-6	An answer is made which is supported throughout by sustained application of relevant evidence of analysis, interpretation and/or evaluation of all pieces of scientific information. The answer shows a well-developed and sustained line of scientific reasoning which is clear and logically structured.	Also includes an interpretation of allele data and considers reasons why may not be different species

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
10(b)(ii)	An explanation that makes reference to three of the following:		
	• two populations are geographically isolated from each other (1)	ALLOW description of populations separated by a geographical feature	
	• therefore reduced gene flow between the two populations (1)		
	which leads to allopatric speciation (1)		
	• different selection pressures leading to natural selection (1)	ALLOW description of natural selection in context of selection pressures	3