

7.1 Genetics, populations, evolution, ecosystems (A-Level Only) - Inheritance and genetic crosses 2- Questions

Q1.

Most tigers have fur that is orange with black stripes. The orange colour is controlled by a single gene. The dominant allele, **T**, leads to the production of orange fur and the recessive allele **t** leads to the production of white fur. The black stripes are controlled by a different gene. The dominant allele of this gene, **A**, leads to the production of stripes and the recessive allele, **a**, leads to the production of unstriped fur. A tiger with white fur and no stripes is called a snowy tiger.

- (a) What is meant by a *recessive* allele?

(1)

- (b) A tiger with orange, striped fur was heterozygous for the gene for coat colour and for the gene for stripes. It was mated with a snowy tiger. Complete the genetic diagram.

Orange, striped tiger × Snowy tiger

Parental genotypes

Genotypes of gametes

Genotypes of offspring

Phenotypes of offspring

(4)

- (c) Snowy tigers inhabit the same grasslands as orange, striped tigers. These grasslands are dominated by very tall grass plants. Snowy tigers are less successful hunters. Suggest why.

(2)

(Total 7 marks)

Q2.

Chickens have a structure called a comb on their heads. The drawings show two types of comb.



Pea comb



Single comb

The shape of the comb is controlled by two alleles of one gene. The allele for pea comb, **A**, is dominant to the allele for single comb, **a**.

The colour of chicken eggs is controlled by two alleles of a different gene. The allele for blue eggs, **B**, is dominant to the allele for white eggs, **b**.

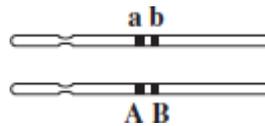
The genes for comb shape and egg colour are situated on the same chromosome.

A farmer crossed a male chicken with the genotype **AaBb** with a female chicken that had a single comb and produced white eggs.

- (a) What was the genotype of the female parent?

(1)

The diagram shows how the alleles of the genes were arranged on the chromosomes of the male parent.



- (b) Which **two** genotypes will be most frequent in the offspring?

(1)

- (c) The farmer could identify which of the female offspring from this cross would eventually produce blue eggs. Explain how.

(Extra space) _____

(2)

- (d) Genes **A** and **B** are close together on the chromosome. This is important when trying to identify which of the female offspring would produce blue eggs. Explain why.

(Extra space) _____

(2)

(e) Suggest **two** environmental factors which are likely to affect egg production.

1. _____

2. _____

(2)

In chickens it is the males which are XX and the females which are XY.

(f) A gene on the X chromosome controls the rate of feather production. The allele for slow feather production, **F**, is dominant to the allele for rapid feather production, **f**.

A farmer made a cross between two chickens with known genotypes. He chose these chickens so that he could tell the sex of the offspring soon after they hatched by looking at their feathers.

Which of the crosses shown in the table did he make? Explain your answer.

Cross	Genotype of male parent	Genotype of female parent
A	$X^F X^F$	$X^f Y$
B	$X^F X^f$	$X^f Y$
C	$X^f X^f$	$X^F Y$
D	$X^F X^f$	$X^F Y$

Answer _____

Explanation _____

(Extra space) _____

(3)

(g) Female chickens are more likely than male chickens to show recessive sex-linked

characteristics. Explain why.

(Extra space)

(3)

(Total 14 marks)

Q3.

The inheritance of body colour in fruit flies was investigated. Two fruit flies with grey bodies were crossed. Of the offspring, 152 had grey bodies and 48 had black bodies.

- (a) Using suitable symbols, give the genotypes of the parents. Explain your answer.

Genotypes _____

Explanation _____

(2)

- (b) Explain why a statistical test should be applied to the data obtained in this investigation.

(2)

- (c) A species of insect, only found on a remote island, has a characteristic controlled by a pair of codominant alleles, C^M and C^N .

- (i) What is meant by *codominant*?

(1)

- (ii) There were 500 insects in the total population. In this population, 300 insects had the genotype $C^M C^M$, 150 had the genotype $C^M C^N$ and 50 had the genotype $C^N C^N$. Calculate the actual frequency of the allele C^N by using these figures. Show your working.

Answer _____

(2)

- (iii) Use your answer to (ii) and the Hardy-Weinberg equation to calculate the number of insects that would be **expected** to have the genotype $C^N C^N$.

Answer _____

(3)

(Total 10 marks)

Q4.

One form of baldness in humans is controlled by two alleles, **B** and **b**, of a single gene. This gene is not on the X chromosome but the expression of the gene is affected by the sex of a person.

Men who are **BB** or **Bb** will become bald. Men who are **bb** will not become bald. Women who are **BB** will become bald. Women who are **Bb** or **bb** will not become bald.

One type of colour blindness is controlled by a sex-linked gene, found on the X chromosome. The dominant allele X^A leads to normal colour vision and the recessive allele X^a leads to colour blindness.

- (a) (i) Give all the possible genotypes of a bald man who has normal colour vision.

(1)

- (ii) Give all the possible genotypes of a woman who will not become bald and who carries one allele for colour blindness.

(1)

- (b) A mother and a father are both heterozygous for the gene for baldness. The father has normal colour vision and the mother is heterozygous for the gene for colour blindness. Complete the genetic diagram to show the probability of a son of this couple being colour blind but not becoming bald.

Father

Mother

Genotypes of parents

Gametes

Genotypes of sons

Probability of son being colour blind but not becoming bald _____

(4)

Q5.

Hair type in dachshund dogs is controlled by two genes which are on different chromosomes.

Dogs with the **H** allele have wiry hair and dogs with the genotype **hh** have non-wiry hair.

The length of wiry hair is always the same. Dogs with non-wiry hair have either long or short hair. The length of non-wiry hair is controlled by another gene. Dogs with the **D** allele have short hair and those with the genotype **dd** have long hair.

- (a) Give all the possible genotypes for dachshunds with non-wiry, short hair.

_____ (1)

- (b) What type of interaction is occurring between the two genes? Explain your answer.

_____ (2)

- (c) A wiry-haired male with the genotype **HhDd** was mated with a non-wiry, long-haired female with the genotype **hhdd**. Complete the genetic diagram to show the ratio of offspring phenotypes expected in this cross.

<i>Parental phenotypes</i>	Wiry-haired male	Non-wiry, long-haired female
<i>Parental genotypes</i>	HhDd	hhdd
<i>Gametes</i>		
<i>Offspring genotypes</i>		
<i>Offspring phenotypes</i>		
<i>Ratio of offspring phenotypes</i>		

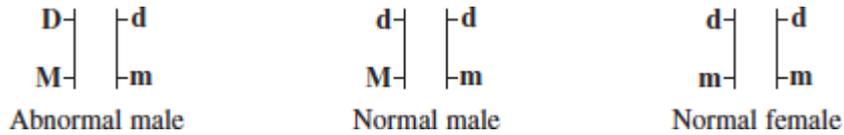
(3)
(Total 6 marks)

Q6.

- (a) Explain **one** way in which the behaviour of chromosomes during meiosis produces genetic variation in gametes.

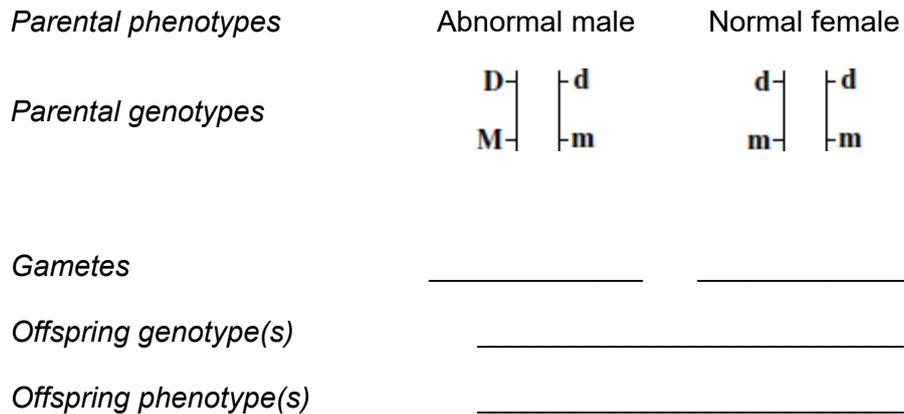
(2)

- (b) In mosquitoes, the sex of an individual is determined by one gene. Males have the genotype **Mm** and females **mm**. Another gene is carried on the same chromosome. Normal males and females are homozygous **dd** for this gene. Abnormal males have a dominant **D** allele. The possible genotypes are shown below. The vertical lines represent homologous chromosomes.



During meiosis, allele **D** causes the homologous chromosome carrying the **m** allele to disintegrate. Cells lacking this chromosome do not develop further.

Complete the genetic diagram to show how allele **D** is transmitted from an abnormal male to his offspring.



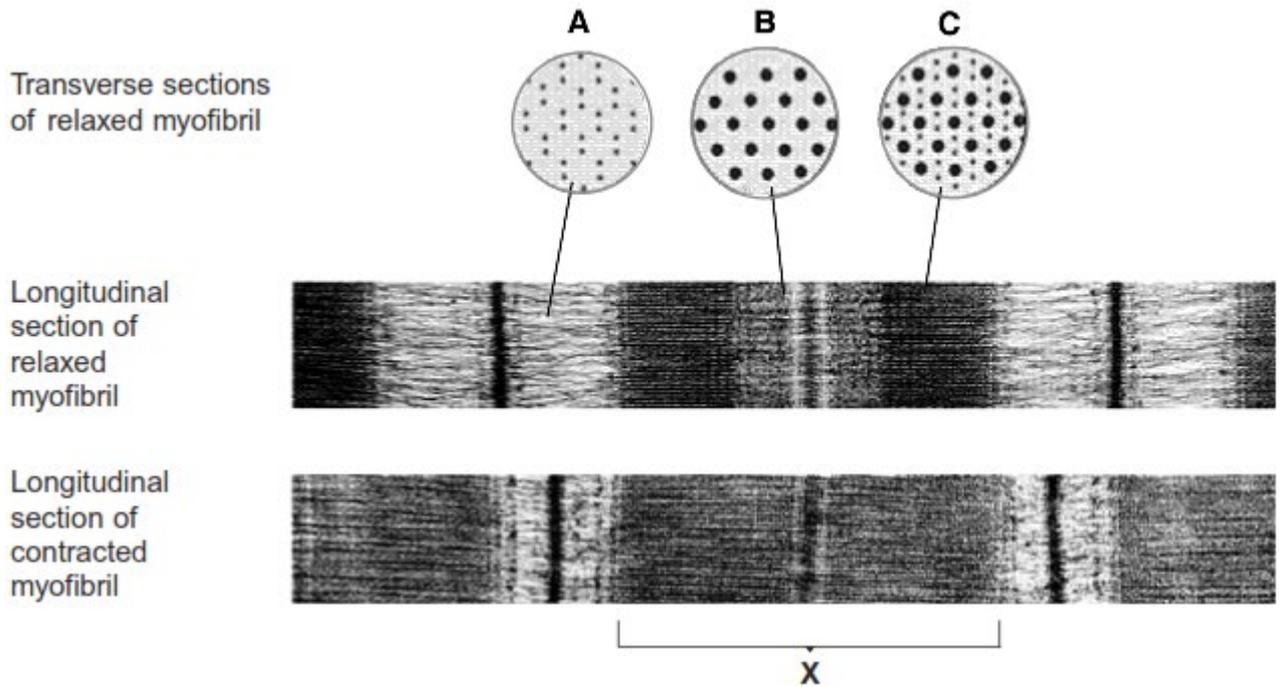
(3)

(Total 5 marks)

Q7.

Figure 1 shows sections through relaxed and contracted myofibrils of a skeletal muscle. The transverse sections are diagrams. The longitudinal sections are electron micrographs.

Figure 1



- (a) (i) The electron micrographs are magnified 40 000 times. Calculate the length of band **X** in micrometres. Show your working.

Length of band **X** = _____ μm (2)

- (ii) Explain the difference in appearance between transverse sections **A** and **C** in **Figure 1**.

(1)

- (b) Explain what leads to the differences in appearance between the relaxed myofibril and the contracted myofibril.

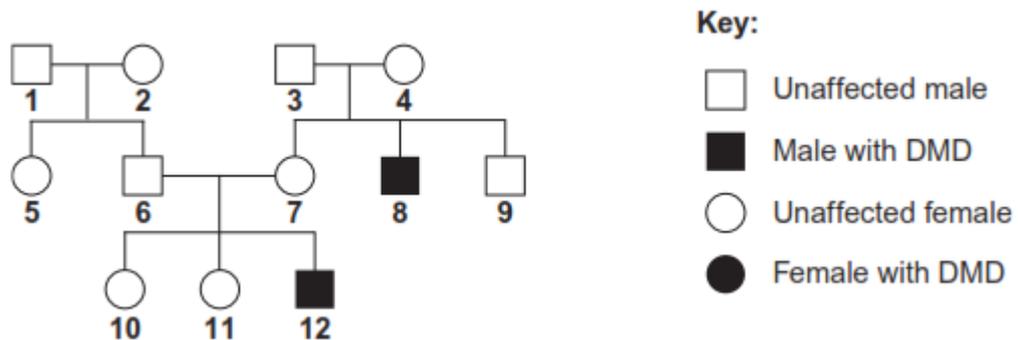
(Extra space)

(4)

- (c) Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) is a condition caused by the recessive allele of a sex-linked gene. A couple have a son with DMD. They want to know the probability that they could produce another child with DMD. They consulted a genetic counsellor who produced a diagram showing the inheritance of DMD in this family.

This is shown in **Figure 2**.

Figure 2



The couple who sought genetic counselling are persons **6** and **7**.

- (i) Give the evidence to show that DMD is caused by a recessive allele.

(1)

- (ii) Give the numbers of **two** people in **Figure 2** who are definitely carriers of muscular dystrophy.

(1)

- (iii) Complete the genetic diagram to find the probability that the next child of couple **6** and **7** will be a son with muscular dystrophy. Use the following symbols:

X^D = normal X chromosome

X^d = X chromosome carrying the allele for muscular dystrophy

Y = normal Y chromosome

6

7

<i>Parental phenotypes</i>	Unaffected	Unaffected
<i>Parental genotypes</i>	_____	_____
<i>Gametes</i>	_____	_____

Offspring genotypes _____

Offspring phenotypes _____

Probability of having a son with DMD _____

(4)

- (d) DMD is caused by a deletion mutation in the gene for a muscle protein called dystrophin. A deletion is where part of the DNA sequence of a gene is lost. People in different families may inherit mutations in different regions of this gene.

Scientists isolated the dystrophin gene from DNA samples taken from children **10**, **11** and **12**. They cut the gene into fragments using an enzyme. The scientists then used two DNA probes to identify the presence or absence of two of these fragments, called **F** and **G**. This allowed them to find the number of copies of each fragment in the DNA of a single cell from each child.

The table shows their results.

Child	Number of copies of gene fragment per cell	
	F	G
10 (unaffected girl)	2	1
11 (unaffected girl)	2	2
12 (boy with DMD)	1	0

- (i) The number of copies of gene fragments **F** and **G** shows that person **12** has DMD. Explain how.

(1)

- (ii) The number of copies of gene fragments **F** and **G** shows that person **12** is male. Explain how.

(2)

- (iii) The genetic counsellor examined the scientists' results. He concluded that person **10** is a carrier of DMD but her sister, **11**, is not.

Describe and explain the evidence for this in the table.

(Extra space)

(3)

- (e) Person **12** took part in a trial of a new technique to help people with DMD.

Doctors took muscle cells from person **12**'s father and grew them in tissue culture.

They suspended samples of the cultured cells in salt solution and injected them into a muscle in person **12**'s left leg. They injected an equal volume of salt solution into the corresponding muscle in his right leg. Person **12** was given drugs to suppress his immune system throughout the trial.

Four weeks later, the doctors removed a muscle sample from near the injection site in each leg. They treated these samples with fluorescent antibodies. These antibodies were specific for the polypeptide coded for by gene fragment **G** of the dystrophin gene.

The results are shown in the table.

Location and treatment	Percentage of muscle fibres labelled with antibody
Left leg - injected with cultured cells suspended in salt solution	6.8

Right leg - injected with salt solution	0.0

- (i) Why was it necessary to treat person **12** with drugs to suppress his immune system?

(1)

- (ii) Explain why salt solution was injected into one leg and cultured cells suspended in salt solution into the other.

(1)

- (iii) This technique is at an early stage in its development. The doctors suggested that further investigations need to be carried out to assess its usefulness for treating people with DMD.

Explain why they made this suggestion.

(Extra space) _____

(4)

(Total 25 marks)

Q8.

In a breed of cattle the **H** allele for the hornless condition is dominant to the **h** allele for the horned condition. In the same breed of cattle the two alleles **C^R** (red) and **C^W** (white) control coat colour. When red cattle were crossed with white cattle all the offspring were roan. Roan cattle have a mixture of red and white hairs.

- (a) Explain what is meant by a *dominant* allele.

(1)

- (b) Name the relationship between the two alleles that control coat colour.

(1)

- (c) Horned, roan cattle were crossed with white cattle heterozygous for the hornless condition. Complete the genetic diagram to show the ratio of offspring phenotypes you would expect.

Parental phenotypes Horned, roan × hornless, white

Parental genotypes

Gametes

Offspring genotypes

Offspring phenotypes

Ratio of offspring phenotypes

(4)

(d) The semen of prize dairy bulls may be collected for in vitro fertilisation. The sperms in the semen can be separated so that all the calves produced are of the same sex. The two kinds of sperms differ by about 3% in DNA content.

(i) Explain what causes the sperms of one kind to have 3% more DNA than sperms of the other kind.

(2)

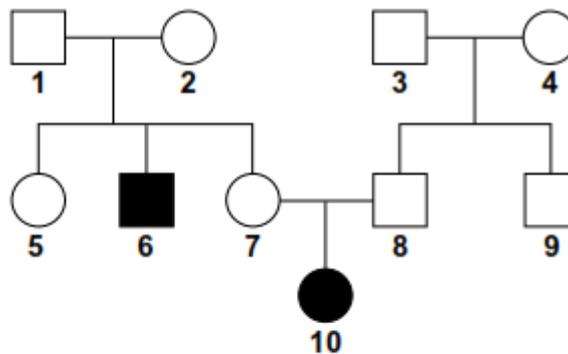
(ii) Suggest **one** reason why farmers would want the calves to be all of the same sex.

(1)

(Total 9 marks)

Q9.

The diagram shows the inheritance of cystic fibrosis in one family.



Key:  = Male with cystic fibrosis
 = Unaffected male
 = Female with cystic fibrosis
 = Unaffected female

(a) Cystic fibrosis is caused by a recessive allele.
Explain the evidence for this given in the diagram.

(2)

- (b) Couple **7** and **8** decide to have another child.
What is the probability that this child will be a girl with cystic fibrosis?
Complete the genetic diagram to explain your answer.
Use the symbols **N** for the dominant allele and **n** for the recessive allele.

	7	8
<i>Parental phenotypes</i>	Unaffected	Unaffected
<i>Parental genotypes</i>	_____	_____
<i>Genotypes of gametes</i>	_____	_____

Offspring genotypes _____

Offspring phenotypes _____

Probability of girl with cystic fibrosis _____

(4)

(Total 6 marks)

Q10.

Coat colour in Labrador dogs is controlled by two different genes. Each gene has a dominant and a recessive allele. The two genes are inherited independently but the effects of the alleles interact to produce three different coat colours. The table gives four genotypes and the phenotypes they produce.

Genotype	Phenotype
BbEe	black
bbEe	chocolate
Bbee	yellow
bbee	yellow

- (a) What colour coat would you expect each of the following genotypes to give?
- (i) **BBEe** _____
- (ii) **bbEE** _____

(2)

- (b) A **BbEe** male was crossed with a **bbee** female. Complete the genetic diagram to show the ratio of offspring you would expect.

Parental phenotypes Black male × Yellow female

Parental genotypes **BbEe** **bbee**

Gametes

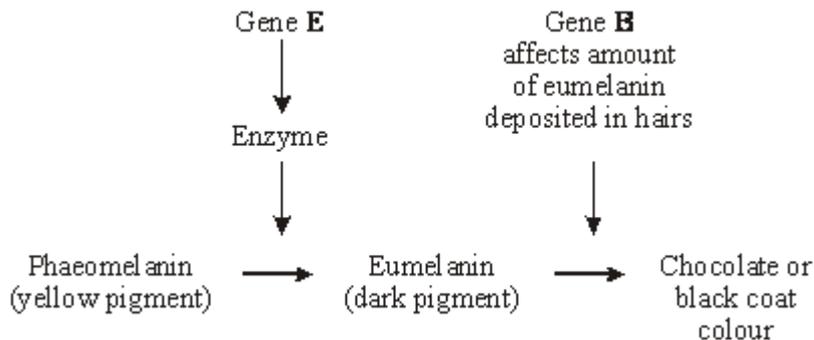
Offspring genotypes

Offspring phenotypes

Ratio of offspring phenotypes

(3)

- (c) The yellow coat colour of Labrador dogs is due to the presence of the pigment phaeomelanin in the hairs. The black and chocolate coat colours are due to different amounts of another pigment, eumelanin, deposited in these hairs. The more eumelanin there is, the darker the hair. The diagram shows the action of genes **E** and **B** in producing the different coat colours.



Use this information to explain how

- (i) the genotype **bbee** produces a yellow coat colour;

(2)

(ii) the genotype **BbEe** produces a black coat colour.

(2)
(Total 9 marks)

Q11.

A woman comes from a family with a history of the sex-linked condition haemophilia. A test was carried out to discover the sex of one of the embryos produced by IVF.

(i) Explain how observation of the chromosomes from an embryo cell could enable the sex to be determined.

(2)

(ii) The mother is known to carry the haemophilia allele. The father does not have haemophilia. What is the probability of their first child having haemophilia? Explain your answer.

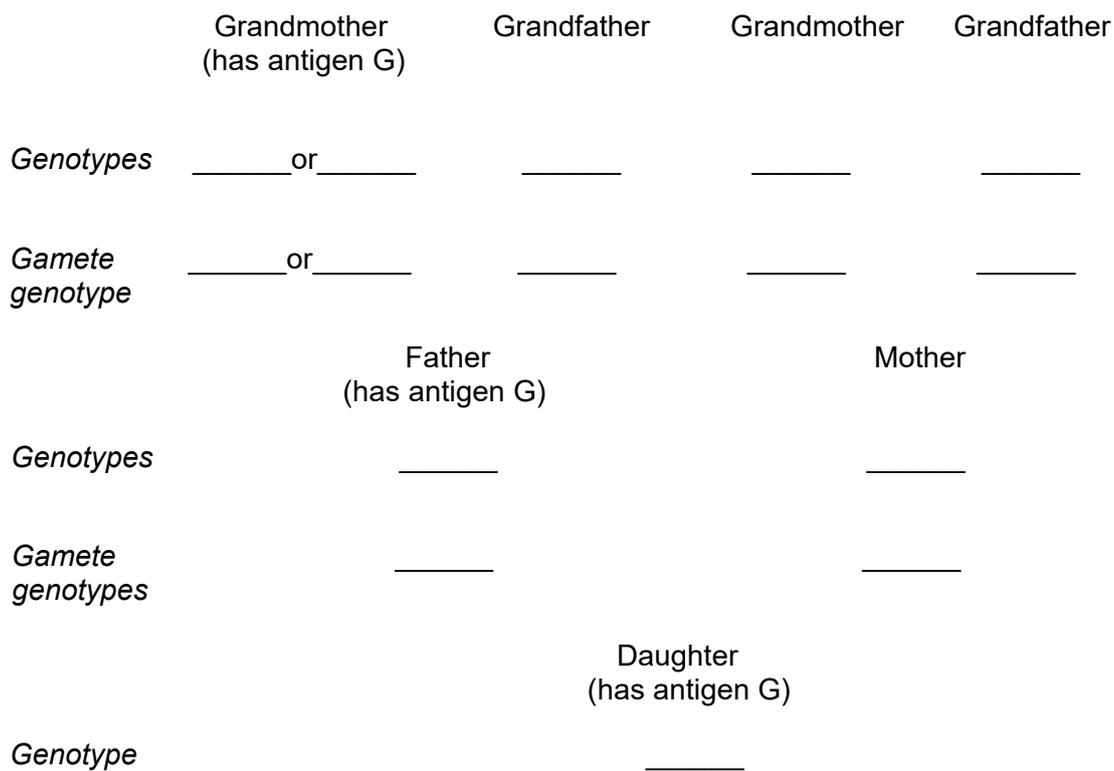
(3)
(Total 5 marks)

Q12.

(a) A protein found on red blood cells, called antigen G, is coded for by a dominant allele of a gene found on the X chromosome. There is no corresponding gene on the Y chromosome.

The members of one family were tested for the presence of antigen G in the blood.

The antigen was found in the daughter, her father and her father's mother, as shown in the genetic diagram below. No other members had the antigen.



(i) One of the grandmothers has two possible genotypes. Write these on the genetic diagram, using the symbol X^G to show the presence of the allele for antigen G on the X chromosome, and X^g for its absence.

(1)

(ii) Complete the rest of the diagram.

(3)

(iii) The mother and father have a son. What is the probability of this son inheriting antigen G? Explain your answer.

Probability _____

(2)

(b) During meiosis, when the X and Y chromosomes pair up, they do not form a typical bivalent as do other chromosomes. Explain why.

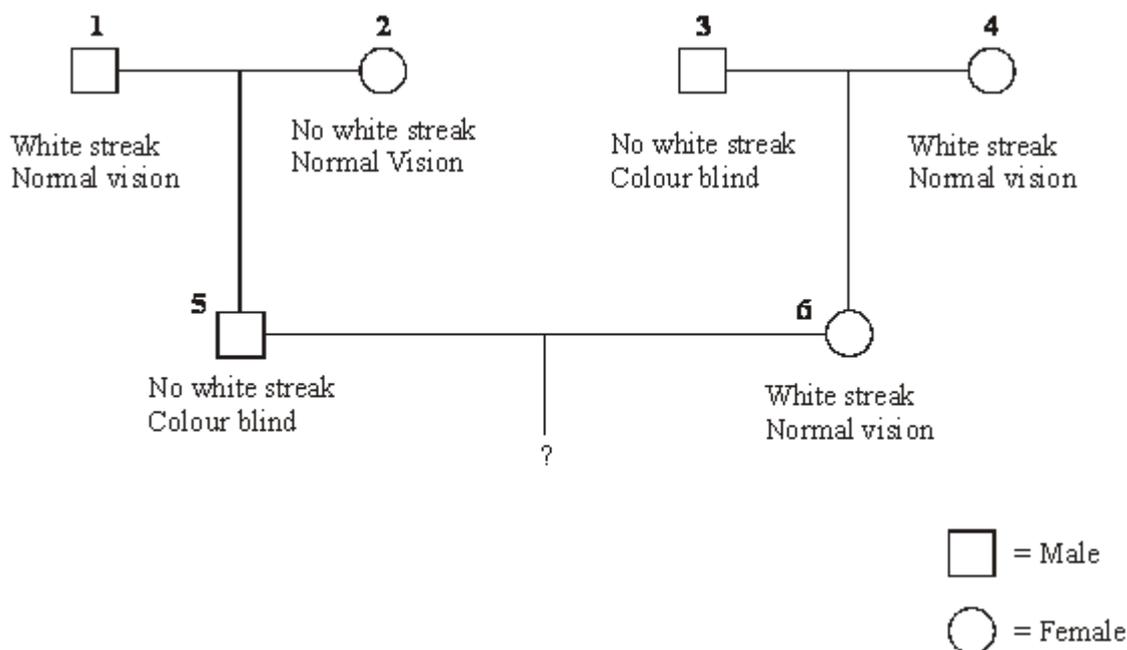
Q13.

Colour blindness is controlled by a gene on the X chromosome. The allele for colour blindness, X^b , is recessive to the allele for normal colour vision, X^B . The gene controlling the presence of a white streak in the hair is not sex linked, with the allele for the presence of a white streak, H , being dominant to the allele for the absence of a white streak, h .

- (a) Explain why colour blindness is more common in men than in women.

(2)

- (b) The diagram shows a family tree in which some of the individuals have colour blindness or have a white streak present in the hair.



- (i) What are the genotypes of individuals **5** and **6**?

Individual **5**

Individual **6**

(2)

- (ii) Give the possible genotypes of the gametes produced by individual **5**;

individual **6**.

(1)

- (iii) What is the probability that the first child of individuals **5** and **6** will be a colour blind boy with a white streak in his hair? Show your working.

Answer _____

(2)

(Total 7 marks)

Q14.

The production of pigment in rabbit fur is controlled by two genes.

One gene controls whether any pigment is made. This gene has three alleles. Allele **A** codes for the production of one form of the enzyme tyrosinase, which converts tyrosine into a black pigment. Allele **A^h** codes for the production of a second form of the enzyme, which becomes inactive at temperatures close to a rabbit's core body temperature, so only the face, ears, legs and tail are pigmented. A third allele, **a**, fails to code for a functional tyrosinase.

The other gene controls the density of pigment in the fur. This gene has two alleles. Allele **B** is dominant and results in the production of large amounts of pigment, making the fur black.

Allele **b** results in less pigment, so the fur appears brown.

- (a) How do multiple alleles of a gene arise?

(2)

- (b) The table shows some genotypes and phenotypes.

Genotype	Phenotype
A-B-	all fur black
aaB-	all fur white (albino)
A^habb	white body fur with brown face, ears, legs and tail (Himalayan)

(i) What do the dashes represent in the genotype of the black rabbit?

(1)

(ii) Give all the possible genotypes for a Himalayan rabbit with black face, ears, legs and tail.

(2)

(iii) Suggest an explanation for the pigment being present only in the tail, ears, face and legs of a Himalayan rabbit.

(2)

(c) Using the information given, explain why the phenotypes of rabbits with **AABB** and **AA^hBB** genotypes are the same.

(2)

(Total 9 marks)

Q15.

Coat colour in mice is controlled by two genes, each with two alleles. The genes are on different chromosomes.

One gene controls the pigment colour. The presence of allele **A** results in a yellow and black banding pattern on individual hairs, producing an overall grey appearance called

agouti. Mice with the genotype aa do not make the yellow pigment and are, therefore, black.

The other gene determines whether any pigment is produced. The allele **D** is required for development of coat colour. Mice with the genotype dd produce no pigment and are called albino.

- (a) What type of gene interaction is occurring between the two genes? Explain your answer.

(2)

- (b) Give all the possible genotypes for a black mouse.

(1)

- (c) An agouti mouse of unknown genotype was crossed with an albino mouse of unknown genotype. Their offspring included albino, agouti and black mice.

- (i) What was the genotype of the agouti parent?

(1)

- (ii) Give **two** possible genotypes for the albino parent.

(1)

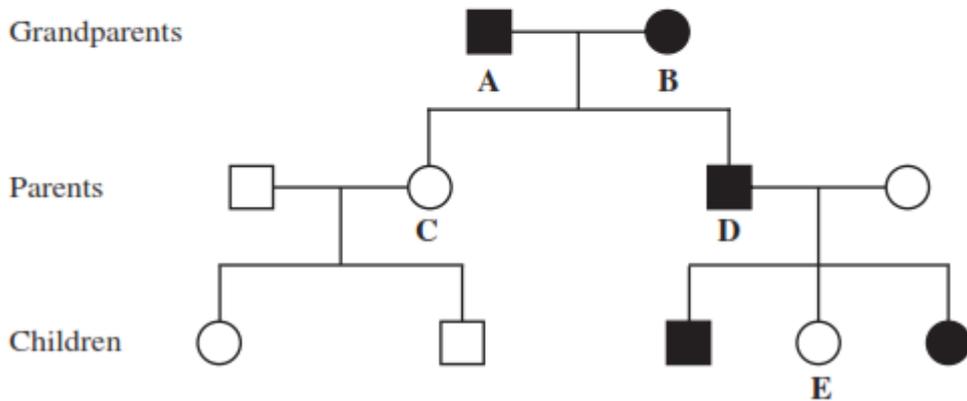
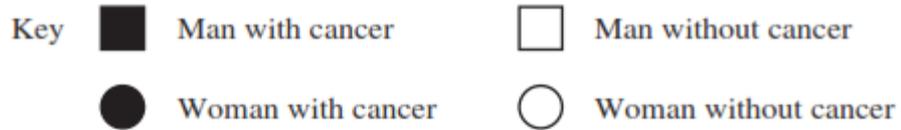
- (iii) Suggest how the actual genotype of the albino parent could be determined.

(2)

(Total 7 marks)

Q16.

Li-Fraumeni syndrome is a rare inherited condition. It makes someone much more likely to develop cancer at an early age. The diagram shows part of the family history of a family affected by Li-Fraumeni syndrome. Li-Fraumeni syndrome is caused by the dominant allele of a gene. The gene is not sex-linked.



The grandparents, **A** and **B**, had two children, girl **C** and boy **D**. Explain how the phenotypes of these children provide evidence that Li-Fraumeni syndrome is

- (a) caused by a dominant allele

(2)

- (b) **not** sex-linked.

(2)

- (c) This family's history of cancer was investigated when person **E** asked for genetic counselling. At the time she was 25 years old. What advice could a genetic counsellor give her about her probability of developing cancer?

(2)

- (d) Li-Fraumeni syndrome is caused by a mutation affecting a tumour suppressor gene called TP53. This gene codes for a protein that initiates the death of cells where damaged DNA cannot be repaired. The mutated TP53 gene leads to the production of a non-functional protein. Suggest how the non-functional protein may lead to cancer.

(Extra space) _____

(3)
(Total 9 marks)

Q17.

Figure 1 and **Figure 2** show the chromosomes from a single cell at different stages of meiosis.

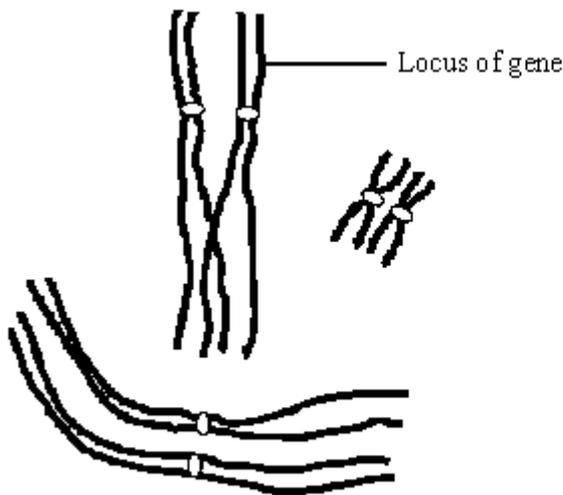


Figure 1

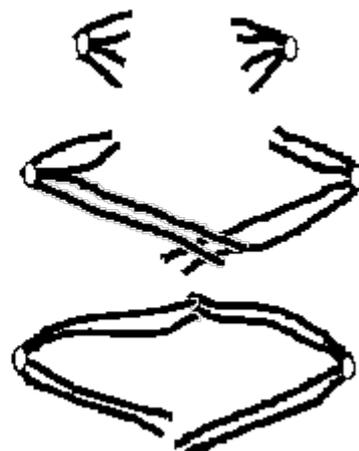


Figure 2

- (a) What is the diploid number of chromosomes in the organism from which this cell was taken?

(1)

- (b) Describe what is happening to the chromosomes at the stage shown in

(i) **Figure 1;**

(2)

(ii) **Figure 2.**

(2)

(c) (i) The genotype of this organism is **Bb**. The locus of this pair of alleles is shown in **Figure 1**.

Label **two** chromosomes on **Figure 2** to show the location of the **B** allele and the location of the **b** allele.

(1)

(ii) How many genetically different gametes can be produced by meiosis from a cell with the genotype, **Bb Cc Dd**? Assume these genes are located on different pairs of homologous chromosomes. Show your working.

(2)

(Total 8 marks)

Q18.

A sex-linked gene controls fur colour in cats. Ginger-coloured fur is controlled by the allele **G**, and black-coloured fur is controlled by the allele **g**. Some female cats have ginger and black patches of fur. They are described as tortoiseshell. Male cats cannot be tortoiseshell.

(a) What is meant by a *sex-linked* gene?

(1)

(b) A male cat with the genotype $X^g Y$ mates with a tortoiseshell female.

(i) Give the phenotype of the male.

(1)

(ii) Give the genotype of the tortoiseshell female.

(1)

(iii) Complete the genetic diagram to show the genotypes and the ratio of phenotypes expected in the offspring of this cross.

<i>Parents</i>	Male	Tortoiseshell female
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<i>Parental genotypes</i>	$X^g Y$	_____
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Parental gametes

Offspring genotypes

Offspring phenotypes

Ratio

(3)

(c) The effect of the **G** and **g** alleles is modified by another gene. This gene is not sex-linked and it has two alleles. The allele **d** changes the ginger colour to cream and the black colour to grey. The dominant allele **D** does not modify the effect of **G** or **g**.

A cream-coloured male cat mated with a black female whose genotype was $X^g X^g Dd$. Male kittens of two different colours were produced. Complete the genetic diagram.

<i>Parental phenotypes</i>	Cream-coloured male	Black female
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Parental
genotypes

$X^gX^g Dd$

Parental
gametes

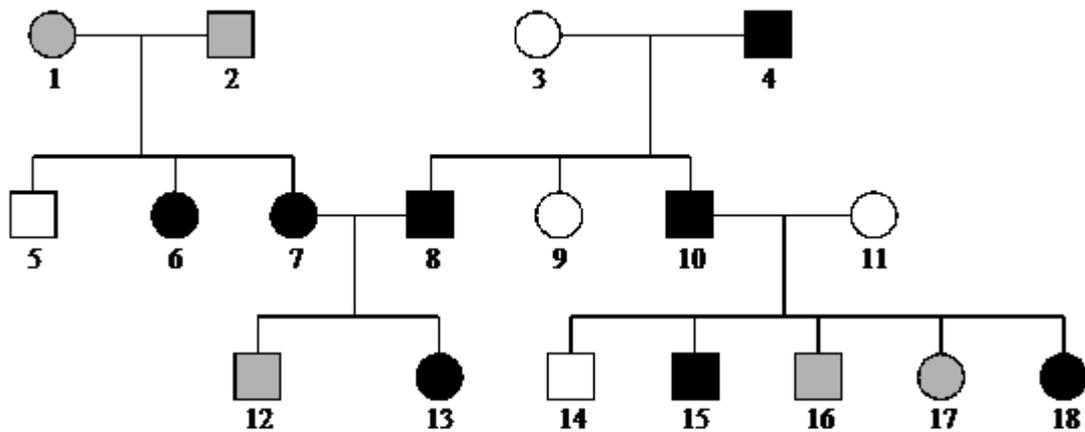
Male kitten
genotypes

Male kitten
colours

(3)
(Total 9 marks)

Q19.

The diagram shows the inheritance of coat colour in pigs through three generations.



Key: Square = male
Circle = female

● red
● sandy
○ white

- (a) Explain **one** piece of evidence from the diagram which shows that coat colour is **not** controlled by one gene with two codominant alleles.

(3)

Two hypotheses were put forward to explain the results, each based on the action of two pairs of alleles.

	Hypothesis 1	Hypothesis 2
Phenotype	Genotype	Genotype
Red	A_B_	A_B_ or A_bb
Sandy	A_bb or aaB	aaB_
White	aabb	aabb

(_ represents either a dominant or a recessive allele of the gene)

- (b) Assuming that Hypothesis 1 is correct, give **one** possible genotype for each of the following individuals in the diagram.

11 _____

10 _____

2 _____

(2)

- (c) Explain **one** piece of evidence from the diagram which shows that Hypothesis 2 should be rejected.

(2)

- (d) Individual 18 was crossed with a pig of genotype **Aabb**. Use Hypothesis 1 to predict the genotypes and the ratio of phenotypes expected in the offspring of this cross.

	Individual 18	Other parent
<i>Parental genotypes</i>	_____	Aabb
<i>Parental gametes</i>		

the red-flowered parent;

the white-flowered parent?

(2)

- (ii) The purple-flowered offspring were crossed. What phenotypic ratio would you expect in the next generation? Use a genetic diagram to explain your answer.

(4)

- (c) (i) Genetically, there are different types of white-flowered plants of this species. Give their different genotypes.

(1)

- (ii) You have samples of fresh petals from the two homozygous types of white flowers, and a pure sample of the red pigment, **K**. Explain, in outline, how you might distinguish the two types of petal from each other.

(2)

(Total 15 marks)