



A-Level Biology

Classification and Taxonomy

Mark Scheme

Time available: 65 minutes

Marks available: 53 marks

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Mark schemes

1.

- (a) 1. (It shows) smaller groups within larger groups / larger groups containing smaller groups;

Accept groups within groups

2. With no overlap (between groups);

2

- (b) Family;

Accept phonetic spellings

1

- (c) 1. Sine song is (very) similar / same length (for both, so closely related).

2. (But) have different peaks / pulses (in pulse song);

Must give a difference, not just state they are different

Accept suitable differences eg number / length / amplitude / interval

2

- (d) 1. (Three) peaks (in pulse song) occur at the same time (since both female) / songs identical / male peaks are different;

Accept suitable differences in male peaks eg number / length / amplitude / interval

2. (Therefore) no male (song) to stimulate / cause mating;

OR

Nothing to stimulate / cause mating;

2

[7]

2.

- (a) 1. (Without genetic analysis / **X**) *mackloti* and *olivaceus* have a more recent common ancestor with each other (than with *papuana*);

2. (Genetic analysis indicates / **Y**) *papuana* and *mackloti* have a more recent common ancestor with one another (than with *olivaceus*);

Accept 'more closely related to' for 'more recent common ancestor'

2

(b)

Domain	Eukaryote
Kingdom	Animal
Phylum	Chordata
Class	Reptilia
Order	Squamata
Family	Python

;

All 5 correct = 1 mark
Any errors = 0 marks

1

(c) Genus / genera;

If the response has two answers no mark is awarded.

1

(d) 1. The (base) sequence of DNA;

Accept 'DNA hybridisation'

2. The (base) sequence of mRNA;

3. The amino acid sequence (of proteins);

3

[7]

3.

(a) 1. Same genus;

2. Same evolutionary origin / common ancestor.

2

(b)

Taxon	Name of Taxon
Domain	Eukarya
Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Chordata
Class	Mammalia
Order	Rodentia
Family	Muridae

3 correct = 2 marks

2 correct = 1 mark

1 or 0 correct = 0 marks

- (c) 1. (No) SDs of means of body sizes / sizes of parts of bodies overlap;
 2. Calculation of correct head and body: tail ratios;
 3. Almost identical, so same body shape / proportions; 3
- (d) 1. Breed the two mice together;
 2. (Same species) produce fertile offspring. 2
- [9]**

- 4.** (a) PKNJ. 1
- (b) *Lutra lutra*. 1
- (c) Bone / skin / preserved remains / museums. 1
- (d) 1. (Hunting) reduced population size(s), so (much) only few alleles left;
Accept bottleneck
2. Otters today from one / few surviving population(s);
Accept founder effect
3. Inbreeding.
Allow any two 2 max
- (e) 1. Population might have been very small / genetic bottleneck;
 2. Population might have started with small number of individuals / by one pregnant female / founder effect;
 3. Inbreeding.
Allow any two 2 max
- [7]**

- 5.** (a) 1. Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family;
 2. *Luscinia svecica*.
1 mark for each correct column
Allow Genus and Species if both placed in box for species but not if both placed in genus box 2
- (b) Number of different alleles of each gene.
Accept number of different base sequences (found) in each gene 1

- (c) 1. Has greater proportion of genes / percentage of genes showing diversity;
 2. Percentage is 35% compared with 28% / proportion is 0.35 compared with 0.28.
*Allow correct figures that are not rounded up, i.e., 34.9% / 0.349
 and 27.8% / 0.278*

2

[5]

6.

(a) Aves;

1

(b) Gallicolumba kubaryi;

Must have both words and in this order

Must be capital G

If starts with k, award mark as impossible to recognise difference

Ignore: underlining

Accept: phonetic spelling

Accept: G kubaryi (must be a capital / upper case G)

1

(c) No overlap.

1

[3]

7.

(a) 1. Recognise / identify / attract same species;

Ignore: references to letting them produce fertile offspring

2. Stimulates / synchronises mating / production / release of gametes;

3. Recognition / attraction of mate / opposite sex;

Accept finding a mate

Accept: gender

4. Indication of (sexual) maturity / fertility / receptivity / readiness to mate;

5. Formation of a pair bond / bond between two organisms (to have / raise young).

3 max

(b) 1. Use a (real) male (with intact wings / no wing removed);

Mark ignoring reference to birds / or other types of animals

Accept: use a real cricket, since only males sing

2. Determine (percentage) response (of females compared with L).

Accept: compare results with L

2

- (c) 1. Lowest / only 30% courtship with no song / K / (or) courtship still occurred when no song played / **K**;
Note: throughout, for courtship accept response / stimulation / reaction
Neutral: references to methodology
Answer must make clear there is no song / version K
2. Reduced courtship when no ticks / M / there is some courtship when no ticks / M;
3. Reduced courtship when no chirps / N / there is some courtship when no chirps / N;
Accept: use of figures from the table in an explanation
4. (So) courtship must involve a visual stimulus / other factor involved;
5. Chirps more important as lowest courtship when none / N / ticks less important as similar courtship when changed / M;
Must make comparison to gain mark
6. Data only show presence and absence of chirps / 0 and 7 chirps.
Note: 'courtship still occurred when no sound played so a visual stimulus / other factor / something else (e.g. pheromone?) must be involved'
 = 2 marks

4 max

[9]

8.

- (a) (i) Kingdom / phylum / class;
Accept Animalia / animal kingdom / Chordata / Chordates / Aves
Allow phonetic spelling
- (ii) Family;
- (b) 1. Shows the spread of the data / how data varies;
 1. *Reject range.*
Accept varies from the mean
2. Overlap = no difference / due to chance / not significant;
 2. *Allow converse*

1

1

2

- (c) 1. Different species would have different amino acid sequences;
Accept more closely related = more similar sequence
2. Amino acid sequence is the result of DNA / alleles / base sequence;
References to incorrect statements about coding negates second mark

2

[6]