



# **A-Level Biology**

## **Insect and Fish Gas Exchange**

### **Mark Scheme**

**Time available: 78 minutes**

**Marks available: 62 marks**

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## Mark schemes

1.

- (a)
1. Tracheoles have thin walls **so** short diffusion distance to cells;
  2. Highly branched / large number of tracheoles **so** short diffusion distance to cells;
  3. Highly branched / large number of tracheoles **so** large surface area (for gas exchange);
  4. Tracheae provide tubes full of air **so** fast diffusion (into insect tissues);
  5. Fluid in the end of the tracheoles that moves out (into tissues) during exercise **so** faster diffusion through the air to the gas exchange surface;

**OR**

- Fluid in the end of the tracheoles that moves out (into tissues) during exercise **so** larger surface area (for gas exchange);
6. Body can be moved (by muscles) to move air **so** maintains diffusion / concentration gradient for oxygen / carbon dioxide;

1. Do not accept unqualified references to thin membranes.

Max 2 if any reference to blood

Ignore references to spiracles

5. Accept 'water' for fluid.

Accept 'cells' and 'tissues' as interchangeable words.

3 max

- (b)
1. Damselfly larvae has high(er) metabolic / respiratory (rate);
  2. (So) uses more oxygen (per unit time / per unit mass);  
*Idea of 'more / high' is needed for both mark points.*
2. Accept 'needs' for 'uses'
  2. Ignore references to absorbing / obtaining / uptake of more oxygen

2

- (c) Mean SA =  $9.85 \text{ mm}^2 / 9.9 \text{ mm}^2$  ;  
Percentage uncertainty of SA = 18.5 / 18.7 / 19;  
*If both answers incorrect 1 mark for*  
Percentage uncertainty of dimensions 11.8 / 12 and 6.70 / 6.7  
Surface area correctly calculated with correct units but not rounded to appropriate sf ( $9.8532 \text{ mm}^2$ )  
Surface area correct (with appropriate sf) but no / incorrect unit given  
*Both answers correct = 3 marks*  
*1 answer correct only = 2*  
*Both answers incorrect = max 1*

3 max

- (d) 1. Don't use shading;  
 2. Only use single lines / don't use sketching (lines) / ensure lines are continuous / connected;  
 3. Add further labels / annotations;  
 4. Don't cross label lines;  
 5. Add magnification / scale (bar);

*Reject 'colour in'.*

*Reject 'use of electron microscopes'*

*Ignore 'use a sharp pencil'*

2 max

[10]

2.

- (a) (i) Spiracle;

*Accept: Spiracles*

1

- (ii) Tracheole/trachea;

*Accept: Tracheoles/tracheae*

*Ignore: System*

1

- (b) 1. Oxygen used in (aerobic) respiration;  
 2. (so) oxygen (concentration) gradient (established);

*Accept description of gradient*

*Ignore: 'along gradient idea' unless direction is made clear*

*Ignore: movement through gas/water*

*Reject: gradient in wrong direction*

3. (so) oxygen diffuses in; 2 and 3.

*Accept: oxygen moves down a diffusion gradient for 2 marks*

3

- (c) 1. Abdominal pumping/pressure in tubes linked to carbon dioxide release;

*MP1 relates to description of link shown in graphs*

2. (Abdominal) pumping raises pressure in body;

*Needs idea of causation, not just description of correlation*

3. Air/carbon dioxide pushed out of body /air/carbon dioxide moves down pressure gradient (to atmosphere);

*Reject ref to concentration gradients/diffusion*

3

[8]

3.

- (a) increasing carbon dioxide concentration / partial pressure;  
 (decrease in oxygen negates)

1

- (b) (oxygen is used in) respiration therefore diffuses (from tracheae) to tissues;  
 oxygen unable to enter organism;

2

- (c) spiracles not open all the time;  
therefore there is less water loss  
(by diffusion through spiracles);

2

[5]

4.

- (a) 1. Spiracles (lead) to tracheae (that lead) to tracheoles;  
2. Open spiracles allow diffusion of oxygen from air

**OR**

Oxygen diffusion through tracheae/tracheoles;

3. Tracheoles are highly branched so large surface area (for exchange);  
4. Tracheole (walls) thin so short diffusion distance (to cells)

**OR**

Highly branched tracheoles so short diffusion distance (to cells)

**OR**

Tracheoles push into cells so short diffusion distance;

5. Tracheole walls are permeable to oxygen;  
6. Cuticle/chitin in tracheae impermeable so reduce water loss;  
7. Spiracles close (eg.during inactivity) preventing water loss;  
*Accept 8. (Tiny) hairs around spiracles reduce evaporation*

5 max

- (b) Breathing in

1. Diaphragm (muscles) contract **and** diaphragm flattens;  
*Accept lungs or thorax for 'thoracic cavity'*  
2. External intercostal muscles contract **and** ribcage pulled up/out;  
3. (Causes) volume increase **and** pressure decrease in thoracic cavity (to below atmospheric pressure);

Breathing out

4. Diaphragm (muscles) relaxes **and** internal intercostal muscles contract;  
5. (Causes) volume decrease **and** pressure increase in thoracic cavity (to above atmospheric pressure);  
*Accept labelled structures in correct position on a diagram*

[10]

5.

- (a) 1. Water and blood flow in opposite directions;  
*Accept: diagram if clearly annotated*
2. Maintains concentration / diffusion gradient / equilibrium not reached / water always next to blood with a lower concentration of oxygen;  
*Must have the idea of 'maintaining' or 'always' in reference to concentration / diffusion gradient*  
*Accept: constant concentration / diffusion gradient*
3. Along whole / length of gill / lamellae;  
*Accept: gill plate / gill filament*

3

- (b) 1. (Thicker lamellae so) greater / longer diffusion distance / pathway;  
*Q Neutral: 'thicker' diffusion pathway*
2. (Lamellae fuse so) reduced surface area;  
*Accept: reduced SA:VOL*

2

- (c) (i) Correct answer of **5.1** or **5.14(2857)** (dm<sup>3</sup>) = 2 marks;;  
*Allow 1 mark max for an answer of 5 if the correct answer of 5.1 or 5.14(2857) is not shown*

One mark for incorrect answers that show **36** or **0.4 × 90** or **90 ÷ 7**;

2

- (ii) 1. Increased metabolism / respiration / enzyme activity;  
*Accept: enzymes work more efficiently*
2. Less oxygen (dissolved in water);  
*Neutral: references to increased kinetic energy (of water molecules)*

1 max

[8]

6.

- (a) 1. Many lamellae / filaments so large surface area;  
2. Thin (surface) so short diffusion pathway;  
*1 & 2 must each have a feature and a consequence*

2

- (b) 1. Water and blood flow in opposite directions;  
*Allow diagram showing counter-flow*
2. Blood always passing water with a higher oxygen concentration;
3. Diffusion gradient maintained throughout length (of gill)  
**OR**  
Diffusion occurs throughout length of gill  
**OR**  
If water and blood flowed in same direction equilibrium would be reached;

3

[5]

7.

- (a) F = Filament **and**  
G = (Secondary) lamella(e) / (gill) plate;  
*Reject gill arch*  
*Accept primary lamella(e) for F*

1

- (b) 1. Water **and** blood flow in opposite directions;
2. Maintains diffusion/concentration gradient of oxygen  
*Accept: converse for carbon dioxide*  
*Accept: equilibrium not reached*
- OR**
- Oxygen concentration always higher (in water);
3. (Diffusion) along length of lamellae/filament/gill/capillary;  
*Accept: all/whole of lamellae/filament/gill/capillary*

3

[4]

8.

- (a) 1. Large surface area provided by lamellae / filaments increases diffusion / makes diffusion efficient;;

*Q Candidates are required to refer to lamellae or filaments. Do not penalise for confusion between two*

2. Thin epithelium / distance between water and blood;  
3. Water and blood flow in opposite directions / countercurrent;  
4. (Point 4) maintains concentration gradient (along gill) / equilibrium not reached / as water always next to blood with lower concentration of oxygen;  
5. Circulation replaces blood saturated with oxygen;  
6. Ventilation replaces water (as oxygen removed);

6

- (b) Mixing of air and water (at surface);

Air has higher concentration of oxygen than water;

Diffusion into water;

Plants / seaweeds near surface / in light;

Produce oxygen by photosynthesis;

2 max

- (c) Not much oxygen near sea bed;

Toadfish haemoglobin (nearly) saturated / loads readily at / has higher affinity for oxygen at low partial pressure (of oxygen);

2

- (d) The chimpanzee and the bonobo are more closely related (than to the gorilla);

They have identical amino acids / one of the amino acids is different in the gorilla;

2

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