



A-Level Biology

Receptors

Mark Scheme

Time available: 64 minutes

Marks available: 44 marks

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Mark schemes

1.

- (a) 1. Circular muscle contracts;
2. Radial muscle relaxes;

Accept, for one mark 'both muscles contract' or 'both muscles relax' as names of muscles are in the diagram.

Reject muscles constrict.

2

- (b) 1. High (visual) acuity;
2. (Each) cone is connected to a single neurone;
3. (Cones send) separate (sets of) impulses to brain;

Accept no retinal convergence.

Accept 'bipolar/nerve cell' for neurone.

Accept 'optic nerve' for brain.

Reject 'signals', 'messages' for 'impulses'.

Accept 'action potential'.

3

- (c) 1. Correct answer of 0.6 (%) = **2 marks**;;
Ignore any numbers after 0.6, 2.58, 2.6 and after 0.43.
2. Incorrect answer but shows number sequence 7065 / 7068 / 7069 / (ignore position of decimal point) = **1 mark**

OR

Final answer number sequence has 64 / 65 (ignore preceding zeros, numbers that follow and position of decimal point) = **1 mark**

OR

Final answer is 2.58 / 2.6 (%) = **1 mark**

OR

Final answer of 0.43 (%) = **1 mark**;

2

- (d) 1. High (visual) sensitivity;
Accept retinal convergence.
2. Several rods connected to a single neurone;
Accept 'bipolar/nerve cell' for neurone
Accept 2, 'many' or
3. Enough (neuro)transmitter to reach/overcome threshold

OR

Spatial summation to reach/overcome threshold; more for 'several'

Reject 'signals', 'messages' for 'impulses'.

Accept named neurotransmitter.

Accept depolarisation, 'action potential' or 'generator potential' for 'to reach threshold'.

*Generator potentials combine to reach threshold/
 depolarisation/action potential/generator potential.*

3

[10]

2.

- (a) 1. Membrane more permeable to potassium ions and less permeable to sodium ions;
 2. Sodium ions actively transported / pumped out and potassium ions in.

2

- (b) 1. (Pressure causes) membrane / lamellae to become deformed / stretched;
 2. Sodium ion channels in membrane open and sodium ions move in;
 3. Greater pressure more channels open / sodium ions enter.

3

- (c) 1. Threshold has been reached;
 2. (Threshold or above) causes maximal response / all or nothing principle.

2

- (d) 1. Less / no saltatory conduction / action potential / impulse unable to 'jump' from node to node;
 2. More depolarisation over length / area of membranes.

2

[9]

3.

(a) The colour of the square has no effect on the duration of the afterimage / there is no difference in the duration of the afterimage **with** squares of different colours;

Accept other ways of expressing the null hypothesis but reference must be made to colour of square and the duration of the afterimage

*Reject 'there is no difference in the duration of the afterimage **and** the colour of the square'*

1

(b) Standard error (with 95% confidence limits)/t test because looking for differences between means / measurements (from different samples);

Test and reason required for the marking point

1

(c) 1. (When staring at purple) red (sensitive) and blue (sensitive) cones are stimulated / green (sensitive) cones are not stimulated;

2. Red and blue cone cells become exhausted / stop working;

3. (Afterimage due to) green (sensitive) cone cells working;

Allow 1 extra mark up to the maximum of 3 for additional detail to marking point 2 e.g. exhaustion of pigment, exhaustion of neurotransmitter, exhaustion of ATP

3

(d) 25% = 2 marks;

$15 - 12/12 \times 100 = 1$ mark;

2

[7]

4.

(i) no (photo)receptor cells at **Y** / no rods and cones;

1

(ii) **X** has many / only cones / more cones than **Z**; which each synapse to a single neurone / bipolar cell / no retinal convergence;

OR

Z has mainly rods / more rods than cones; which share / converge on neurones / bipolar cells;

2

[3]

- 5.** (a) (i) 1 and 2 share neurone but 2 and 3 have separate neurones (to brain);
Ignore wrong names of neurones 1
- (ii) 1 unit is sub-threshold / 3 units are above threshold / give sufficient depolarisation;
(1 unit) No impulses / no action potential / in (sensory) neurone / does not stimulate (sensory) neurone / 3 units → impulses;
(Spatial) summation / sufficient neurotransmitter released / from 3 receptors / insufficient N-T from one;
Reject 'temporal' 3
- (b) (i) (Three) different types of (cone) cells / types 6 and 7 sensitive to different wavelengths / different frequencies / different colours;
- (ii) Impulses along separate neurone from each receptor cell / each receptor cell connects to separate neurone; 2
- [6]**

- 6.** (a) **Two** marks for **three** correct structures,
one mark for **two** correct structures;;
- P = capsule/lamella(e)
P – accept connective tissue (with layers of viscous gel)
- Q = Sensory neurone
Q – accept axon
- R = Myelin (sheath)
R – accept Schwann cell(s) 2
- (b) 1.27% (second box) ticked; 1
- (c) 1. The student started to move her hand before the ruler was released;
Accept any descriptions of a pre-emptive strike
2. The ruler did not fall vertically/was not placed vertically;
3. The ruler stuck to her skin (a little); 1 max

(d) $12.9 \text{ (m s}^{-1}\text{)};$

Accept 1 mark

For use of reaction time of 136 ms/0.136 s in answer

OR

14.583 (answer including Trial 3)

2

- (e)
1. Time for synaptic transmission/transmission at neuromuscular junction;
 2. Time taken for muscles to contract;
 3. Time taken for (stretch-mediated) sodium ion channels to open (in the Pacinian corpuscle);
 4. Student may have been distracted;
 5. Time taken for coordination/comprehension (by the brain);

3 max

[9]