**AQA GCSE Science Combined Higher** 

### **Practice** answers

**B1** 



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
01.1	A – chloroplast		1	AO2
	B – nucleus		1	1.1.2
	C – cell membrane		1	
01.2	when filled with cell sap		1	A01
	it puts pressure on cell wall		1	1.1.2
	keeping the cell rigid / supporting plant		1	
01.3	nucleus		1	AO2
				1.1.1
01.4	leaf / stem		1	AO2
	contains chloroplasts		1	1.1.2
02.1	wear gloves / wash hands – methylene blue / stain is an	allow 1 mark for safety measure and 1 mark for	2	A01
	irritant	linked explanation		1.1.5
	or			
	disinfect work surfaces / dispose of used swabs – to prevent spread of possible infection			
02.2	makes nucleus / subcellular structures more visible		1	AO1
				1.1.5
02.3	use a higher-power objective lens	allow use an electron microscope	1	AO1
				1.1.5

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
02.4	length of the cell = 4.8 cm	award full marks for correct answer with no	1	AO2
	<u>4.8</u> = 0.0036 cm	working shown	1	1.1.5
	1350	accept 35 μm for 3 marks		Ms1c
	= 36 μm	allow 0.0036 cm for 2 marks	1	
03.1	group of cells with similar structure working together to		1	A01
	perform a function			1.1.3
03.2	lignin builds up in cell walls		1	A01
	cells die		1	1.1.3
	form (long hollow) tubes		1	
03.3	long hollow tubes		1	A01
	allow water/ mineral ions to move easily around plant		1	1.1.3
	lignin makes cells very strong		1	
	can withstand pressure of water moving / help support the plant stem		1	
03.4	phloem		1	A01
				1.1.3
04.1	chloroplast		1	AO2
				1.1.2
05.1	Level 3: Two advantages and two disadvantages are detailed	and accurate. Evaluation is clear and coherent.	5–6	AO2 × 4
	Level 2: Some advantages and disadvantages are correct. Evaluation is attempted but may not be clearly		3–4	AO3 × 2
	explained.		-	1.1.5

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
	Level 1: One or two advantages / disadvantages given, but ev	aluation is missing or lacks clarity and coherence.	1–2	
	No relevant content.		0	
	Indicative content Advantages of electron microscope:	award 2 marks for 2 advantages, 2 marks for 2 disadvantages, 2 marks for explanations of points		
	<ul><li>higher magnification</li><li>higher resolution</li></ul>	(accept reverse answer as a disadvantage of other		
	<ul> <li>scanning electron microscopes can be used to examine the surface structure of cells/structures</li> </ul>	technique)		
	Advantages of light microscope:			
	<ul> <li>do not damage living cells / can be used to observe living things</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>light microscopes are cheaper</li> </ul>			
	more readily available			
	can be used by less-skilled operator			
	Evaluation:			
	<ul> <li>light microscopes are appropriate to use when the whole organism / behaviour of the organism is to be studied / without damaging the organism</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>electron microscopes are appropriate to use when detail of (sub-cellular) structures is required</li> </ul>			

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
05.2	diameter of amoeba: $10 \mu\text{m} = 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{m}$		1	AO2
	diameter of egg cell: 0.1 mm = $1 \times 10^{-4}$ m		1	Ms 1c, 2h
	difference in order of magnitude: $5 - 4 = 1 / a$ factor of 10		1	
06.1	Α		1	AO2
				1.1.5
				1.1.2
06.2	where protein synthesis takes place / proteins are made		1	AO1
				1.1.2
06.3	mitochondria		1	AO2
				1.1.2
06.4	Level 3: All key steps are identified and logically sequenced.		5–6	A01
	Level 2: Most steps are identified, but the method is not fully	logically sequenced.	3–4	1.1.2
	Level 1: Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not r	nade clear.	1–2	1.1.5
	No Relevant content		0	

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
	Indicative content			
	<ul> <li>cut slice of plant (using a knife of scalpel)</li> </ul>			
	place on microscope slide			
	<ul> <li>add a drop of stain (such as iodine)</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>carefully lower a coverslip onto the slide</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>use a piece of filter paper to soak up any liquid from aroun</li> </ul>	d the edge of the coverslip		
	<ul> <li>put the slide on the microscope stage at its highest setting</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>choose the lowest powered objective lens</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>lower slide using focusing knob until the cells come into for</li> </ul>	cus		
	repeat with higher objective lens to	get a more detailed image		
07.1	1 μm		1	A01
				1.1.1
07.2	plant cell walls contain cellulose / bacterial cell walls		1	A01
	contain peptidoglycan			4.1.1.3
07.3	in eukaryotic cells DNA is contained in nucleus		1	A01
	long strands called chromosomes		1	1.1.1
	in bacteria cells DNA is found in cytoplasm / not in a nucleus in a single loop		1	
	also have extra small rings of DNA / plasmids		1	
07.4	flagellum / flagella		1	A01
				1.1.1

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
08.1	any <b>four</b> from:		4	A01
	the visual pigment detects / is affected by light			1.1.1
	light causes a chemical change in visual pigment			
	the chemical change creates an impulse			
	impulse passed through synapses to the optic nerve / through optic nerve to the brain			
	(lots of) mitochondria transfer (lots of) energy for the cell to reform the visual pigment / reverse change in the visual pigment			
08.2	6 000 000	allow 2×10 <sup>6</sup> with no working shown for 3 marks	1	AO3
	3			1.1.3
	= 2 000 000		1	
	= 2×10 <sup>6</sup>		1	
09.1	a cell that is adapted / has special features to perform a		1	AO2
	particular function			1.1.3
				Ms 1b
09.2	то contract (and relax)		1	AO1
				4.1.1.3

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
09.3	digestive system	allow 1 mark for muscle location	2	A01
	to squeeze food along the gut	allow 1 mark for description of role in that location		4.1.1.3
	or			
	in the heart			
	so heart can contract to pump blood around the body			
09.4	to respire		1	AO1
	to transfer the energy needed for the cell to contract		1	4.1.1.3
09.5	contain proteins / actin and myosin	allow 1 mark for feature	2	A01
	that slide over one another to cause the cell to contract	allow 1 mark for explanation		4.1.1.3
	or			
	store glycogen			
	that can be broken down (into glucose) and used for respiration			
10.1	cell wall present		1	AO2
	cells fit clearly together / no gaps between cells / uniform		1	4.1.1.2
	appearance			4.1.1.5
10.2	1000	allow 77 (µm) with no working shown for 2 marks	1	AO2
	3			4.1.1.5
	= 77 (μm)		1	
10.3	vacuole		1	A01
				4.1.1.2

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
11.1	A		1	AO2 4.1.1.2
11.2	control what comes in and out of the cell		1	AO1 4.1.1.2
11.3	axon would be present to transmit impulses around the body dendrites / dendrons present to connect to other nerve cells	allow reference to myelin sheath and its function	1 1 1 1	AO1 4.1.1.3
11.4	length = π × d = 3.14 × 20×10 <sup>-6</sup> = 6.28×10 <sup>-5</sup> m / 62.8 μm	unit must be given to award mark allow 6.28×10 <sup>-5</sup> m / 62.8 μm with no working shown for 2 marks	1 1	AO2 4.1.1.1
11.5	$62.8 \mu\text{m} = 62800 \text{nm}$ $\frac{62800}{4}$ $= 15700$	allow 15 700 with no working shown for 3 marks	1 1 1	AO2 4.1.1.1
12.1	10 μm		1	AO2 4.1.1.5

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**Practice** answers



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
12.2	<ul> <li>similarities:</li> <li>presence of cytoplasm</li> <li>presence of cell membrane</li> <li>both contain genetic material</li> <li>cell wall found in prokaryotes and some (plant) eukaryotes</li> <li>differences:</li> <li>prokaryotes have plasmids</li> <li>prokaryotes have no nucleus</li> <li>prokaryotes have single loop of genetic material</li> <li>plant cell walls are made of cellulose, prokaryote cell walls are made of peptidoglycan / not made of cellulose</li> </ul>	award 1 mark per similarity or difference award a maximum of 4 marks for similarities <b>or</b> 4 marks for differences allow converse statements	6	AO1 4.1.1.1
12.3	1 μm cyanobacteria are prokaryotes, which are one order of magnitude smaller than typical eukaryotes	accept answer given in <b>12.1</b>	1 1	AO2 4.1.1.5
12.4	algal cells contain features / cell components / organelles also seen in plant cells: cell wall chloroplasts	ignore reference to nucleus and cell membrane	1 1 1	AO2 4.1.1.2

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specificatior reference
13.1	any <b>two</b> from:	award 1 mark for adaptation	4	A01
	<ul> <li>long tail – move</li> </ul>	award 1 mark for explanation of adaptation		4.1.1.3
	<ul> <li>lots of mitochondria – transfer energy needed to move the cell</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>acrosome contains digestive enzymes – to break down outer layers of the egg</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>nucleus – contains genetic material (to pass on)</li> </ul>			
13.2	sperm cells need to be alive / not damaged to observe		1	AO3
	movement			4.1.1.3
	light microscope are cheap / readily available / do not require high level of training to use		1	4.1.1.5
13.3	7.5 cm = 75 000 μm	allow 50 ( $\mu$ m) with no working shown for 3 marks	1	AO2
	<u>75 000</u> 1500		1	4.1.1.5
	= 50 (μm)		1	
14.1	Level 3: All key steps are identified and logically sequenced.		5–6	AO2
	Level 2: Most steps are identified, but the method is not fully logically sequenced.		3–4	4.1.1.5
	Level 1: Some relevant steps are identified, but links are not r	made clear.	1–2	
	No Relevant content		0	

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# **Practice** answers



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
	Indicative content			
	<ul> <li>wipe inside of the cheek with a cotton swab</li> </ul>			
	• smear cotton swab on the centre of the microscope slide			
	add a drop of stain			
	<ul> <li>carefully lower a coverslip onto the slide.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>use filter paper to soak up any liquid from around the edge</li> </ul>	e of the coverslip.		
	<ul> <li>put the slide on the microscope stage at its highest setting</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>choose the lowest powered objective lens</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>carefully lower slide using focusing knob until the cells con</li> </ul>	ne into focus		
	<ul> <li>for more detail repeat with higher power objective lens</li> </ul>			
14.2	cell membrane			4.02
14.2		allow additional label to mitochondria	1	AO2
	nucleus		1	4.1.1.5
	cytoplasm		1	4.1.1.2
14.3	magnification used		1	AO2
				4.1.1.5
14.4	the smallest object that can be viewed under a microscope		1	A01
				4.1.1.5
14.5	by using an electron microscope		1	A01
				4.1.1.5

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