

A Level OCR Biology

23 Manipulating genomes – answers

Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO Spec reference										
1(a)	Any two from: classification ✓ disease (risk) analysis ✓ forensics / criminal investigations / paternity testing ✓		2 max	AO1 6.1.3(c)										
1(b)(i)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Stage of DNA profiling</th> <th>How is this achieved?</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>amplification of DNA</td> <td>PCR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>digestion / fragments produced / AW</td> <td>the use of restriction endonucleases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>separation (of fragments)</td> <td>electrophoresis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>visualisation of banding patterns</td> <td>hybridisation / radioactive probes / fluorescent probes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Stage of DNA profiling	How is this achieved?	amplification of DNA	PCR	digestion / fragments produced / AW	the use of restriction endonucleases	separation (of fragments)	electrophoresis	visualisation of banding patterns	hybridisation / radioactive probes / fluorescent probes	One mark per correct row	4	AO1 6.1.3(c) 6.1.3(d) 6.1.3(e)
Stage of DNA profiling	How is this achieved?													
amplification of DNA	PCR													
digestion / fragments produced / AW	the use of restriction endonucleases													
separation (of fragments)	electrophoresis													
visualisation of banding patterns	hybridisation / radioactive probes / fluorescent probes													
1(b)(ii)	fragments should not be placed at the anode / be placed at the cathode ✓ (because) DNA is negatively charged / moves towards the positive electrode ✓ <i>idea that</i> electrophoresis should not (necessarily) be run for 2 hours ✓ <i>idea that</i> electrophoresis needs to be stopped before fragments reach the anode ✓	Accept progress of electrophoresis should be monitored	4	AO3 2.1.3(g) 6.1.1(b)										
1(b)(iii)	more variation (in VNTRs) ✓ <i>idea of</i> profiles more likely to be unique / differentiate ✓	Accept reverse argument	2	AO2 2.1.3(g) 6.1.1(b) 6.1.3(c)										
1(c)	<i>idea that</i> profiling produces a fingerprint / unique pattern (from a specific section of DNA) ✓ <i>idea that</i> sequencing determines the order of DNA bases ✓		2	AO1 6.1.3(a) 6.1.3(c)										
2(a)	hydrogen ✓ 55 °C ✓ (free) nucleotides ✓	Accept any temperature value in the range 50–56 °C	3	AO1 6.1.3(d)										

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2(b)(i)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Number of cycles</th> <th>Number of fragments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>2⁶</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>256</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>10^{3.3113}</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Number of cycles	Number of fragments	4	16	6	2 ⁶	8	256	11	10 ^{3.3113}	Award one mark per correct box Accept correct 2 ⁿ and log ₁₀ values (i.e., 2 ⁴ and 10 ^{1.2}) for row 1.	4	AO2 6.1.3(d)
Number of cycles	Number of fragments													
4	16													
6	2 ⁶													
8	256													
11	10 ^{3.3113}													
2(b)(ii)	Any two from: not enough primers ✓ not enough (free) nucleotide ✓ primers do not join ✓ temperature damage to fragment / template / strand ✓ strands fail to separate ✓	Accept alternative wording for 'not enough'	2 max	AO2 6.1.3(d)										
3(a)(i)	DNA polymerase ✓		1	AO2 6.1.3(a)										
3(a)(ii)	<i>idea of</i> add solutions of each nucleotide (A, T, G, C) separately / one at a time ✓	Accept ensure each nucleotide produces a different wavelength / type of light	1	AO3 6.1.3(a)										
3(a)(iii)	Any four from: luciferin is the substrate ✓ (which is) complementary (in shape) to the active site of luciferase ✓ luciferin binds to active site ✓ induced fit ✓ enzyme–substrate / luciferase–luciferin complex ✓		4 max	AO2 2.1.4(c)										

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3(b)	bioinformatics is the creation of databases / algorithms / software / tests (that can be used to solve biological questions) ✓ <i>idea that</i> computational biology is the application of bioinformatics, i.e., how the data are analysed to interpret the data ✓		2	AO1 6.1.3(b)								
4(a)(i)	(using) DNA ligase ✓		1	AO2 6.1.3(f)(ii)								
4(a)(ii)	<i>idea of</i> to distinguish GM mosquitoes from normal / wild mosquitoes ✓		1	AO2 6.1.3(f)								
4(a)(iii)	Any two from: stops transcription ✓ prevents DNA polymerase from binding (to DNA promoter) ✓ <i>idea of</i> causes post-transcriptional (mRNA) editing ✓		2 max	AO2 2.1.3(g) 6.1.1(b)								
4(a)(iv)	males do not bite humans / females could bite humans ✓		1	AO2 6.1.3(f)								
4(a)(v)	<i>idea of</i> to allow GM males to develop and be released ✓		1	AO2 6.1.3(f)								
4(b)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Method of vector transfer</th> <th>Organisms for which this method can be used</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>viral (transfer) / liposomes</td> <td>animals</td> </tr> <tr> <td>viral (transfer) / bacteriophage / plasmid and electroporation / plasmid and culture heating</td> <td>bacteria</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>A. tumefaciens</i> infection</td> <td>plant(s) / named plant taxon</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Method of vector transfer	Organisms for which this method can be used	viral (transfer) / liposomes	animals	viral (transfer) / bacteriophage / plasmid and electroporation / plasmid and culture heating	bacteria	<i>A. tumefaciens</i> infection	plant(s) / named plant taxon	Award one mark per correct box	3	AO1 6.1.3(f)(ii)
Method of vector transfer	Organisms for which this method can be used											
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5(a)(i)	Any two from: stem cells are undifferentiated / a source of new red blood cells ✓ all (new) red blood cells (derived / differentiated from these stem cells) would be healthy ✓ no rejection by the immune system ✓	Accept alternative wording	2 max	AO2 2.1.6(j) 2.1.6(m) 6.1.3(h)												
5(a)(ii)	(gene therapy) avoids immune response / rejection ✓	Accept reverse argument	1	AO1 6.1.3(h)												
5(a)(iii)	<i>idea of effects of germline / embryonic gene therapy are uncertain</i> ✓ <i>idea of lack of consent may breach human rights</i> ✓ <i>idea of technology could be used for unethical applications</i> ✓		2 max	AO2 6.1.3(h)												
5(b)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Therapy type</th> <th>somatic cell therapy</th> <th>germline therapy</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>May require repeat treatments</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>May target stem cells</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Is currently being applied to develop treatments for diseases</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Therapy type	somatic cell therapy	germline therapy	May require repeat treatments	✓		May target stem cells	✓	✓	Is currently being applied to develop treatments for diseases	✓		Award one mark per correct row	3	AO1 6.1.3(h)
Therapy type	somatic cell therapy	germline therapy														
May require repeat treatments	✓															
May target stem cells	✓	✓														
Is currently being applied to develop treatments for diseases	✓															
6	Any five from: <i>idea that the best method will depend on the application/aim/research being conducted</i> ✓ <i>points supporting the student</i> (RS II) is quickest / has the shortest sequencing time ✓ (RS II) can read the longest sequences ✓ <i>points not supporting the student</i> (RS II) is the most expensive ✓ (RS II) cannot read many bases per run compared to the Illumina methods ✓ (RS II) has the highest error rate ✓		5 max	AO3 6.1.3(a)												

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO Spec reference
7	<p>Level 3 (5–6 marks) Outlines most of the differences between semi-conservative replication and PCR, with no or few omissions or errors.</p> <p><i>There is a well-developed line of reasoning, which is clear and logically-structured and uses scientific terminology at an appropriate level. All the information presented is relevant and forms a continuous narrative.</i></p> <p>Level 2 (3–4 marks) Outlines some differences between semi-conservative replication and PCR.</p> <p><i>There is a line of reasoning presented with some structure and use of appropriate scientific language. The information presented is mostly relevant.</i></p> <p>Level 1 (1–2 marks) Outlines some relevant aspects of semi-conservative replication and PCR.</p> <p><i>The information is communicated with only a little structure. Communication is hampered by the inappropriate use of technical terms.</i></p> <p>0 marks No response or no response worthy of credit.</p>	<p>Indicative content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-conservative replication occurs in cells / PCR occurs <i>in vitro</i> • Chromosomes are replicated in semi-conservative replication, (shorter) DNA fragments are replicated in PCR • Strands are separated using helicase in semi-conservative replication / high temperatures break strands in PCR • PCR can be used to replicate and double DNA quantities many times / each semi-conservative replication doubles DNA quantities once • DNA polymerase is resistant to high temperatures in PCR (i.e. Taq DNA polymerase) / in most cases, DNA polymerase is not resistant to high temperatures in semi-conservative replication Primers added in PCR 	6	AO1 2.1.3(e) 6.1.3(d)

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO Spec reference
8	<p>Level 3 (5–6 marks) Describes the use of PCR in both applications, with no or few errors and omissions. <i>There is a well-developed line of reasoning, which is clear and logically structured and uses scientific terminology at an appropriate level. All the information presented is relevant and forms a continuous narrative.</i></p> <p>Level 2 (3–4 marks) Describes the use of PCR in both applications, with some errors and omissions. <i>There is a line of reasoning presented with some structure and use of appropriate scientific language. The information presented is mostly relevant.</i></p> <p>Level 1 (1–2 marks) Describes some correct aspects of the use of PCR, with significant errors and omissions. <i>The information is communicated with only a little structure. Communication is hampered by the inappropriate use of technical terms.</i></p> <p>0 marks No response or no response worthy of credit.</p>	<p>Indicative content:</p> <p><i>DNA sequencing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amplifies DNA quantities to provide sufficient material for the sequencing process • Interrupted / chain termination PCR • Some nucleotide bases are modified to terminate the growing chain and stop PCR • Different chain lengths are produced • The final bases can be read through different colours of fluorescence • Credit references to other sequencing techniques that use PCR <p><i>Forensic analysis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often small amounts of DNA are present at crime scenes • PCR amplifies the quantity of DNA available • For use in electrophoresis / DNA profiling • Credit references to relevant DNA sequences (e.g., VNTRs) <p>Credit details of the PCR process</p>	6	AO1 6.1.3(a) 6.1.3(b) 6.1.3(d)

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Skills box answers

Question	Answer
1	5
2	UGACAGAGUCUCCUC
3	ACU, GUC, UCA, GAG, GAG
4	Introns are removed from strands of pre-RNA
5	$51 \times 3 = 153$ $2 \times 3 = 6$ = 159 bases