PEARSON EDEXCEL A-LEVEL BIOLOGY B · 9BI0

BIOLOGY



EXAM QUESTION PACK

TOPIC 8: ORIGINS OF GENETIC VARIATION

TRANSFER OF GENETIC INFORMATION

SCORE	PERCENTAGE
/85	%

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Q1.

The photograph shows a tawny owl. These owls live in areas close to the Arctic Circle.



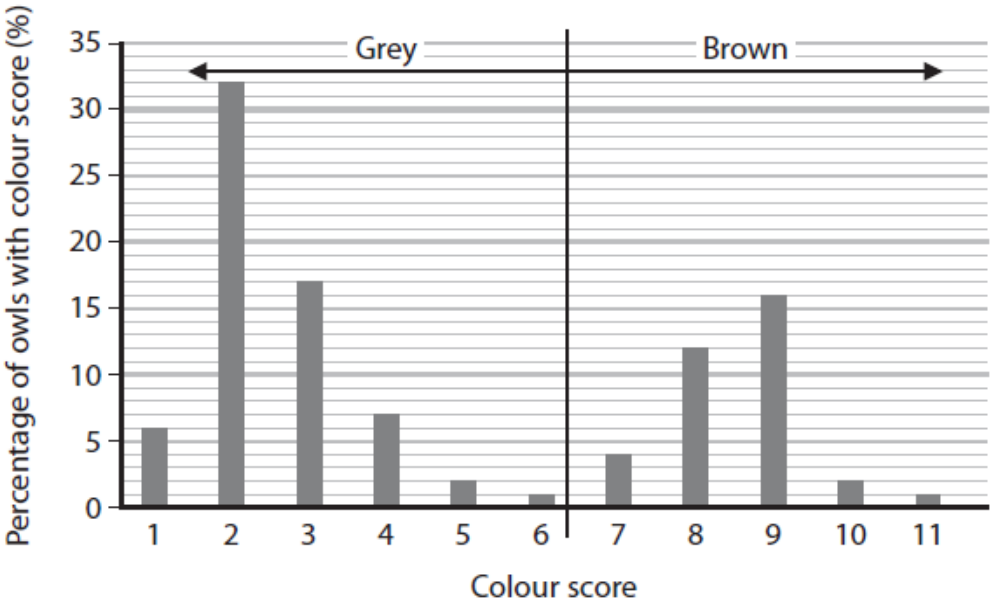
(Source: © LINDA WRIGHT/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY)

Scientists investigated the feather colours of a population of tawny owls. Feather colours of the owls were scored on a scale of 1 to 11, according to how grey or brown they were.

Grey feathered owls were given a score between 6 and 1, with 1 being the most grey.

Brown feathered owls were given a score between 7 and 11, with 11 being the most brown.

The graph shows the percentages of owls in the population with each of the colour scores.



The scientists concluded that feather colour in owls is controlled by a single genetic locus. The brown allele is dominant to the grey allele.

(i) State what is meant by a dominant allele.

(1)

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(ii) Explain the range of feather colours, shown in the graph, in this population of owls.

(2)

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(iii) In this population of 120 owls, 84 of them were grey.

Calculate the number of owls that are heterozygous for feather colour.

Use the Hardy-Weinberg equation

$$p^2 + 2pq + q^2 = 1$$

(3)

Answer .....

(Total for question = 6 marks)

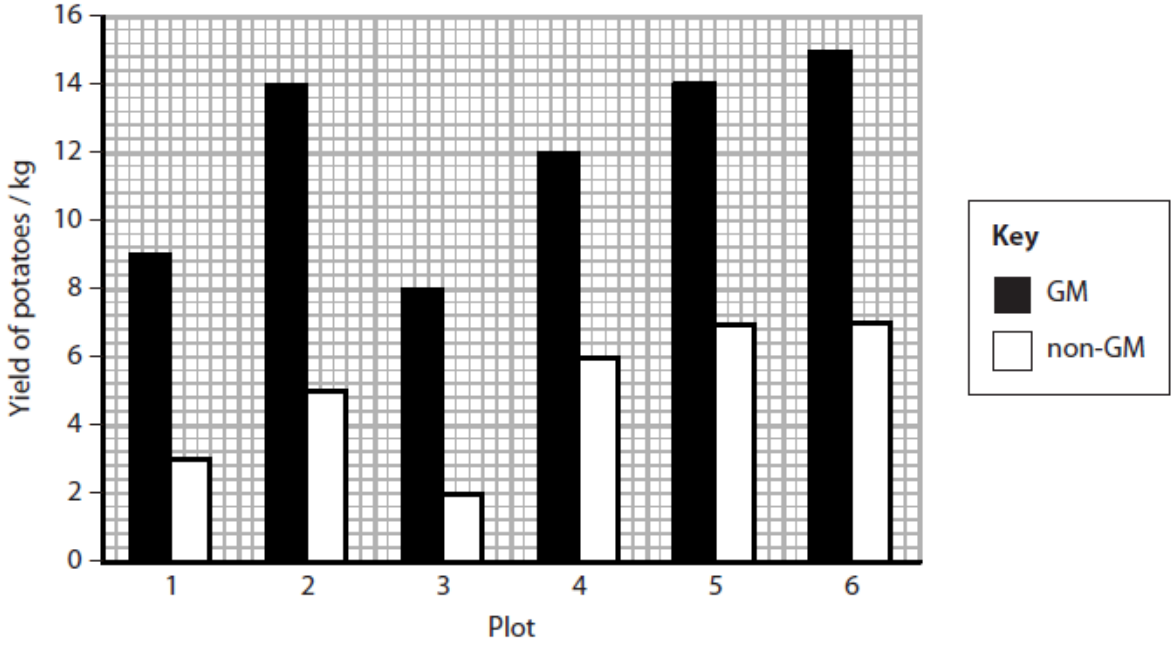
Q2.

Tomato plants and potato plants are both affected by a fungal disease called blight.

In 2014, a study was carried out to compare the yield of potatoes genetically modified (GM) for blight resistance with the yield of non-modified (non-GM) potatoes.

The study was carried out using 96 plants of each variety, equally divided between six different plots.

The graph shows the results of this study.



(i) Calculate the percentage change in yield due to blight resistance in plot 2.

(2)

Answer ..... %

(ii) The raw data for potato yield in this study are shown in the table.

Plot number	Potato yield / kg	
	GM	non-GM
1	9.0	3.0
2	14.0	5.0
3	8.0	2.0
4	12.0	6.0
5	14.0	7.0
6	15.0	7.0
Mean	12.0	5.0
Standard Deviation	2.9	2.1

A Student's *t*-test was used to compare the potato yields.

State a suitable null hypothesis for this test.

(1)

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(iii) Calculate the *t* value for the data to compare GM with non-GM potato yields, using the

formula:

(3)

$$t = \frac{x_{-1} - x_{-2}}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{n_2}\right)}}$$

Answer .....

(iv) The table shows the critical values of t with 10 degrees of freedom.

Significance level (p)	0.2	0.1	0.05	0.025	0.01	0.005
Critical value of *t*	1.37	1.81	2.23	2.63	3.17	3.58

Use your value of *t* to test the validity of the null hypothesis.

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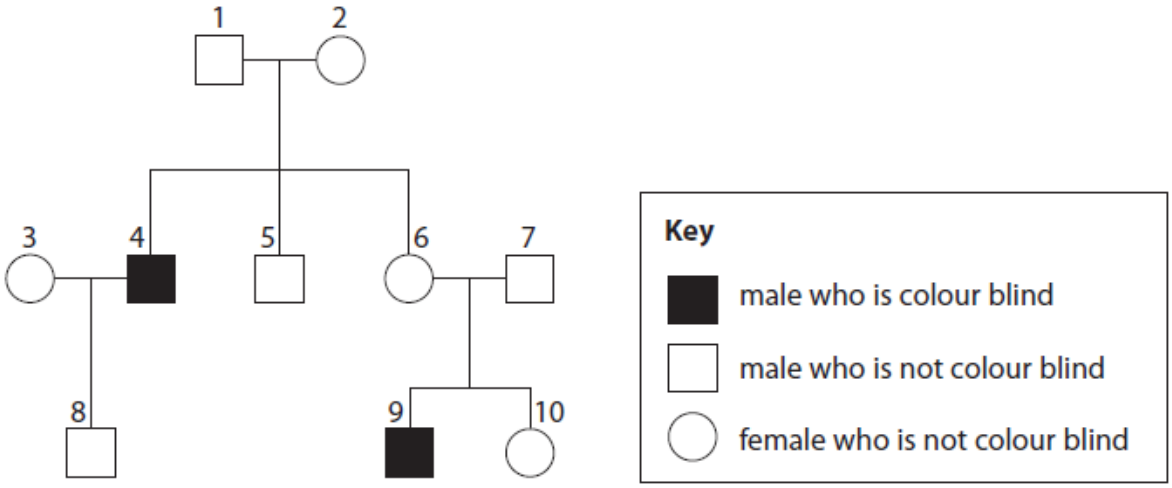
Q3.

The retina is the light sensitive structure in the eye.

Red-green colour vision is controlled by a single gene located on the X chromosome.

Colour blindness is caused by a recessive allele for the red-green colour vision gene.

The diagram shows the inheritance pattern of colour blindness for a family.



(i) Explain how the diagram shows that red-green colour blindness is caused by a recessive allele.

(2)

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(ii) Use a genetic diagram to determine the probability that the next child of individuals 6 and 7 is a male who is colour blind.

(3)

Answer .....

(Total for question = 5 marks)

Q4.

A defect in the cone cells of the retina can result in colour blindness.

(a) Which is the visual pigment found in cone cells?

(1)

☒ **A** iodopsin

☒ **B** opsin

☒ **C** retinol

☒ **D** rhodopsin

(b) The table below shows the distribution of different cones involved in colour blindness.

Population	Distribution of different cones / percentage of population (%)			
	Normal cones	L-cone defect	M-cone defect	S-cone defect
Men	91.40	2.45	6.14	0.01
Women	99.52	0.04	0.36	0.04

(i) The population of London is 12 million, of which 55% are men.

Calculate the number of men in London who are colour blind.

(3)

Answer .....

(ii) The allele for one defect in cone cells is recessive and carried on the X chromosome.

Explain why more men than women are colour blind.

(2)

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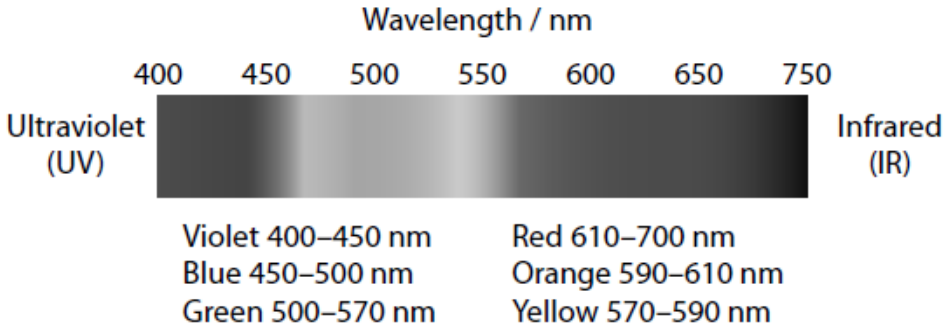
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(iii) L-cones respond to long wavelengths of light.

M-cones respond to medium wavelengths of light.

S-cones respond to short wavelengths of light.

The visible light spectrum is shown below.



Analyse the data to explain why red/green colour blindness is the most common throughout the population.

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(Total for question = 10 marks)

Q5.

The diagram shows four varieties of rabbit.



Fur colour in rabbits is controlled by four different alleles:

- the allele for brown fur, C, is dominant to all other alleles
- the allele for chinchilla fur, c^{ch}, is dominant to the alleles for Himalayan and albino
- the allele for Himalayan fur, c^{h}, is dominant to the allele for albino
- the allele for albino fur, c, is recessive to all other alleles

(i) Describe how new combinations of alleles are produced in meiosis.

(2)

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(ii) State all the possible genotypes of a rabbit with brown fur.

(1)

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(iii) Two parent rabbits with brown fur were mated. Two of the F_1 offspring had chinchilla fur.

The F_1 rabbit offspring with chinchilla fur were mated.

The F_2 generation consisted of some rabbits with chinchilla fur and the rest having Himalayan fur.

Use genetic crosses to deduce the genotypes of the two parent rabbits with brown fur.

(3)

Answer .....

(Total for question = 6 marks)

Q6.

In the fruit fly, *Drosophila*, the allele for normal wings (**N**) is dominant to the allele for vestigial (small) wings (**n**).

The allele for red eyes (**R**) is dominant to the allele for sepia eyes (**r**).

In an investigation, students crossed homozygous parent flies. Flies with normal wings and red

eyes were crossed with flies with vestigial wings and sepia eyes.

All the F_1 offspring of this cross had normal wings and red eyes.

Flies from this F_1 generation were crossed and the phenotypes of their offspring (F_2 generation) were counted.

The results for the F_2 generation are shown in the table.

Drosophila phenotype	Number of *Drosophila* with each phenotype
normal wings and red eyes	885
normal wings and sepia eyes	322
vestigial wings and red eyes	286
vestigial wings and sepia eyes	107

The students thought that the genes for wing length and eye colour were on different chromosomes.

* In *Drosophila*, the allele for grey bodies (**G**) is dominant to the allele for black bodies (**g**).

In a second investigation, students crossed homozygous parent flies. Flies with normal wings and grey bodies were crossed with flies with vestigial wings and black bodies.

All the F_1 offspring had normal wings and grey bodies.

Flies from this F_1 generation were crossed and the phenotypes of their offspring (F_2 generation) were counted.

The results are shown in the table.

Drosophila phenotype	Number of *Drosophila* with each phenotype
normal wings and grey body	1105
normal wings and black body	85
vestigial wings and grey body	72
vestigial wings and black body	338

Explain the results of this second investigation.

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(Total for question = 6 marks)

Q7.

A gene for fur colour in cats is located on the X chromosome.

The alleles for black fur (X^B) and orange fur (X^o) are codominant.

Tortoiseshell cats have areas of black and orange fur.

(i) Give all the possible genotypes of a male, black cat with short fur.

(1)

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(ii) Explain why all tortoiseshell cats are female.

(2)

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(iii) In a genetic cross, a tortoiseshell cat with long fur was mated with an orange male cat, heterozygous for fur length.

Deduce the probability of producing a tortoiseshell cat with long fur from this cross.

Use a genetic diagram to support your answer.

(4)

(Total for question = 7 marks)

Q8.

The stems of tomato plants can be green or purple, hairy or smooth.

The allele for purple stems (P) is dominant to the allele for green stems (p). The allele for hairy stems (H) is dominant to the allele for smooth stems (h).

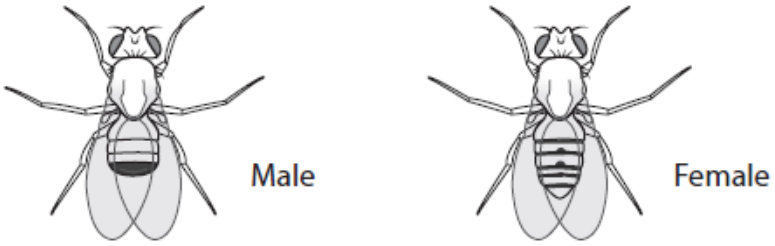
Two tomato plants, heterozygous for both stem characteristics, were crossed.

Draw a genetic diagram to show the expected ratio of phenotypes of the plants obtained from this cross.

(4)

Q9.

Fruit flies, *Drosophila melanogaster*, are often used in genetics investigations. The diagrams show male and female flies.



Actual size = 3 mm

Give one feature, visible in the diagrams, that you could use to distinguish between male and female flies and state how it differs between them.

(1)

Feature

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Difference

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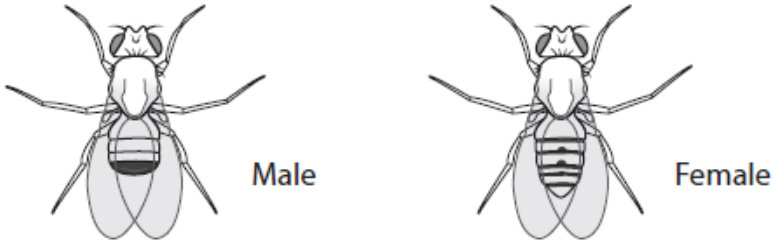
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(Total for question = 1 mark)

Q10.

Fruit flies, *Drosophila melanogaster*, are often used in genetics investigations. The diagrams show male and female flies.



Actual size = 3 mm

A scientist investigated the inheritance of several genes in fruit flies.

(i) A grey-bodied fly was crossed with a black-bodied fly.

All the offspring in the F_1 generation were grey-bodied.

Two of the grey-bodied flies from the F_1 generation were then crossed.

Determine the expected ratio of phenotypes of the offspring in the resulting F^2 generation by using a genetic diagram.

(2)

(ii) Normal fruit flies have long wings but some flies have very short wings called vestigial wings.

The allele for long wing (L) is dominant to the allele for vestigial wing (l).

The gene for wing length is located on chromosome 2.

The allele for normal antennae (A) is dominant to the allele for bushy antennae (a).

The gene for antennae shape is located on chromosome 3.

Two flies which are heterozygous for both characteristics are crossed.

Determine the ratio of phenotypes that you would expect in the next generation, using a genetic diagram.

(3)

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(iii) The allele for red eyes (R) is dominant to the allele for white eyes (r).

The scientist investigated the inheritance of eye colour.

The crosses used were:

cross 1 – a red-eyed female fly was crossed with a white-eyed male fly: half of the offspring were red-eyed females and half were red-eyed males

cross 2 – a white-eyed female fly was crossed with a red-eyed male fly: half of the offspring were red-eyed females and half were white-eyed males.

Explain the results of these crosses.

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(Total for question = 9 marks)

Q11.

In the fruit fly, *Drosophila*, the allele for normal wings (**N**) is dominant to the allele for vestigial (small) wings (**n**).

The allele for red eyes (**R**) is dominant to the allele for sepia eyes (**r**).

In an investigation, students crossed homozygous parent flies. Flies with normal wings and red eyes were crossed with flies with vestigial wings and sepia eyes.

All the F_1 offspring of this cross had normal wings and red eyes.

Flies from this F_1 generation were crossed and the phenotypes of their offspring (F_2 generation) were counted.

The results for the F_2 generation are shown in the table.

Drosophila phenotype	Number of *Drosophila* with each phenotype
normal wings and red eyes	885
normal wings and sepia eyes	322
vestigial wings and red eyes	286
vestigial wings and sepia eyes	107

The students thought that the genes for wing length and eye colour were on different chromosomes.

(i) State a null hypothesis for this investigation.

(1)

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(ii) A Chi squared test was carried out to test this hypothesis.

Complete the table.

(1)

Phenotype	Expected ratio	Observed results (O)	Expected results (E)	(O – E)	$(O - E)^2$	$\frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$
normal wings and red eyes	9	885	900			
normal wings and sepia eyes	3	322	300	22	484	1.61
vestigial wings and red eyes	3	286	300	−14	196	0.65
vestigial wings and sepia eyes	1	107	100	7	49	0.49

(iii) Calculate the value of Chi squared using the formula

(1)

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

Answer .....

(iv) The table shows some critical values of Chi squared at different degrees of freedom.

Degrees of freedom	*p* value				
	0.900	0.500	0.100	0.050	0.010
1	0.016	0.455	2.706	3.841	6.635
2	0.211	1.386	4.605	5.991	9.210
3	0.584	2.366	6.251	7.815	11.345
4	1.064	3.357	7.779	9.488	13.277

Use this table to comment on the results of the investigation.

(3)

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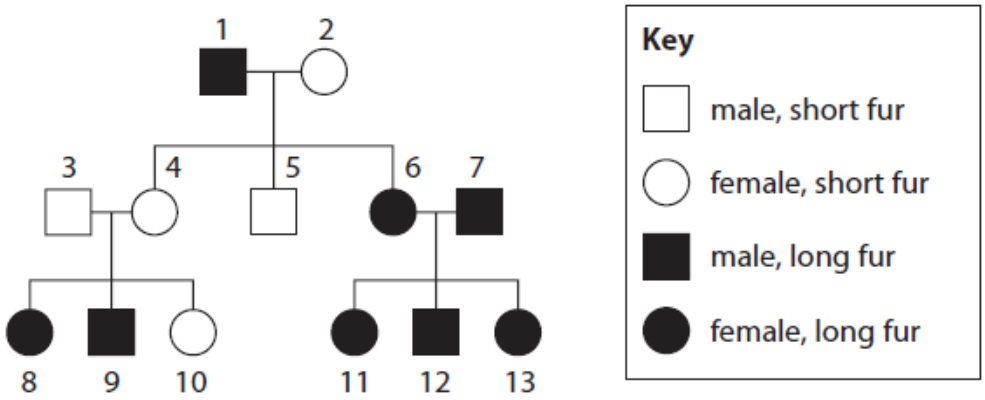
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(Total for question = 6 marks)

Q12.

In cats, the gene for fur length is not located on the X chromosome. The allele for short fur (F) is dominant to the allele for long fur (f).

The pedigree diagram shows the inheritance of fur length in a family of cats.



Explain how one piece of evidence from the diagram shows that the allele for short fur is dominant to the allele for long fur.

(2)

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(Total for question = 2 marks)

Q13.

The photograph shows a maize cob with smooth, wrinkled and different coloured grains.



© W.P. Armstrong 2001

The shape and colour of maize grains are controlled by two unlinked genes.

The allele for smooth seeds (A) is dominant to the allele for wrinkled seeds (a).

The allele for purple seeds (B) is dominant to the allele for yellow seeds (b).

(a) State all the possible genotypes of a smooth, purple grain.

(1)

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(Total for question = 1 mark)

Q14.

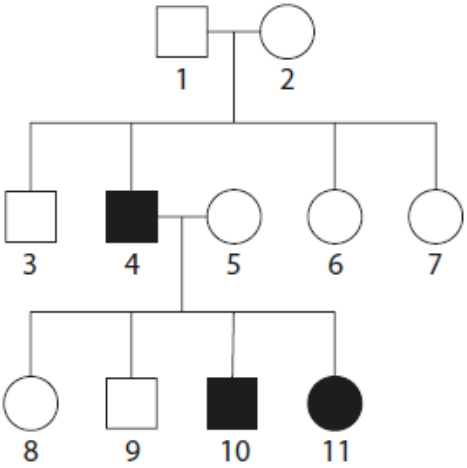
Answer the question with a cross in the box you think is correct ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

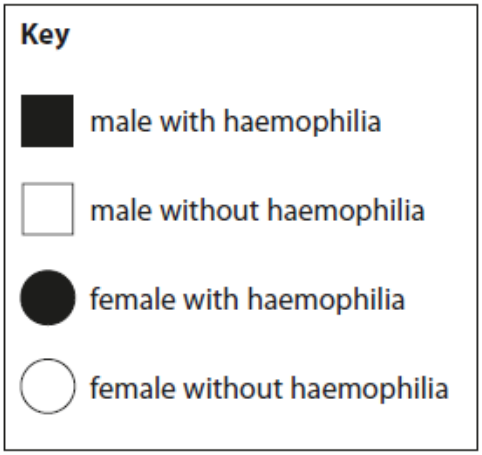
Haemophilia is a sex linked, genetic condition that prevents blood clotting.

X^H is the allele for blood clotting

X^h is the allele for haemophilia

The pedigree diagram shows a family that has individuals who have haemophilia.





(i) What are the genotypes of individuals 1 and 2?

(1)

☒ **A** X^HY and X^HX^H

☒ **B** X^hY and X^HX^h

☒ **C** X^hY and X^HX^H

☒ **D** X^HY and X^HX^h

(ii) Use a genetic diagram to determine the probability that the next child of individuals 4 and 5 will be a boy without haemophilia.

(3)

Answer .....

(Total for question = 4 marks)

Q15.

Anthocyanin is a purple pigment found in a range of vegetable plants.

The photograph shows some carrots from a variety called Purple Haze.



Purple cauliflower plants also contain anthocyanins.

Cauliflowers can be light purple, dark purple or white.

The photograph shows a dark purple cauliflower.



The colour in cauliflowers is controlled by a single gene with two alleles.

Purple colour is controlled by the allele Pr.

White colour is controlled by the allele pr.

In an investigation, dark purple cauliflowers were crossed with pure bred white cauliflowers.

The F1 generation cauliflowers were all light purple in colour.

(i) State the genotype of the F1 generation.

(1)

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(ii) The F1 generation was then self-fertilised to produce the F2 generation.

The numbers observed (*O*) in the F2 generation were:

31 white cauliflowers, 52 light purple and 20 dark purple cauliflowers.

It was concluded that the purple colour in cauliflowers is controlled by a single gene with two codominant alleles.

State the expected (*E*) number of each of the three phenotypes in the F2 generation.

(2)

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(iii) Calculate the value for Chi squared using these results.

Use the formula for Chi squared:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

(3)

Answer .....

(iv) The table shows some critical values for Chi squared.

Degrees of freedom	*p* value				
	0.900	0.500	0.100	0.050	0.010
1	0.016	0.455	2.706	3.841	6.635
2	0.211	1.386	4.605	5.991	9.210
3	0.584	2.366	6.251	7.815	11.345
4	1.064	3.357	7.779	9.488	13.277

Explain why the conclusion that colour in cauliflowers is controlled by a single gene with two codominant alleles is likely to be valid.

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