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Practice questions created by actual examiners and assessment experts

Detailed mark scheme

Suitable for all boards

Designed to test your ability and thoroughly prepare you



Time allowed

53 Minutes

/44

%

Biology

AQA AS & A LEVEL

Mark Scheme

3.8 The control of gene expression

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- 1 (a)
- 1. Closer the (amino acid) sequence the closer the relationship;
 - (Protein structure) related to (DNA) base / triplet sequence;
 Amino acid sequence is related to (DNA) base / triplet sequence = two marks;

2

(b) 1. Reference to base triplets / triplet code / more bases than amino acids / longer base sequence than amino acid sequence;

Different (base) triplets code for same amino acids = 2 marks:

Degeneracy of triplet code = 2 marks

2. Introns / non-coding DNA / degeneracy of code / more than one code for each amino acid;

Ignore reference to codon.

2

[4]



(a) (i) 1. Negative correlation; Accept: description for 'negative correlation' Neutral: 'correlation' Reject: positive correlation 2. Wide range; 3. Overlap; 4. (Graph suggests that) other factors may be involved (in age of onset); 2 / 3 Accept the use of figures from the graph 2 / 3 Can refer to age of onset or number of CAG repeats Ignore references to methodology 3 max (ii) 1. Age of onset can be high / symptoms appear later in life; Accept: 'gene' for 'allele' 2. (So) individuals have already had children / allele has been passed on; OR 3. Individuals have passed on the allele / already had children; 4. Before symptoms occur; 2 max (b) (i) 1. Person K; 2. (As has) high(est) band / band that travelled a short(est) distance / (er) so has large(st) fragment / number of CAG repeats; Must correctly link distance moved and fragment size 2 (ii) Run fragments of known length / CAG repeats (at the same time); Accept: references to a DNA ladder / DNA markers

Do not accept DNA sequencing

(iii) Homozygous / (CAG) fragments are the same length / size / mass;

Accept: small fragment has run off gel / travelled further

[9]

1

1



- 3 (a)
- 1. Carriers are heterozygous / have one normal copy and one mutant copy of gene / have one recessive allele / don't have the condition;
 - 2. Both have DNA that binds (about) half / 50% amount of probe (that non-carrier does);
 - 3. Probe binds to dominant / healthy allele so only one copy of exon in their DNA / have one copy of gene without exon / base sequence for probe to bind to:
 - 3. Accept normal and gene
 - 3. Accept have a deletion mutation

3

- (b) 1. Introns not translated / not in mRNA / (exons) code for amino acids / introns do not code for amino acids;
 - 1. Accept not expressed
 - 1. Accept polypeptide / protein for amino acids
 - 2. Mutations of these (exons) affect amino acid sequences (that produce) faulty protein / change tertiary structure of protein;
 - 2. Accept deletion leads to frameshift
 - 2. In this context, accept affects protein made
 - 3. So important to know if parents' exons affected, rather than any other part of DNA / introns;

Accept converse arguments involving - eg introns do not code for amino acids / proteins

Reject references to making amino acids, once

3

- (c) 1. Restriction mapping / described;
 - 2. DNA / base sequencing (of fragments) / description / name of method;

2

[8]



4 (a)	Reverse transcriptase;
(a)	Neverse transcriptase,

1

- Probe (base sequence) complementary (to DNA of allele A / where A is (and) binds by forming base pairs / hydrogen bonds;
 Accept gene A
 - 2. So (only) this DNA labelled / has green dye / gives out (green) light;

 Accept glows for green light

2

- (c) (i) 1. More probe binding / more cDNA / mRNA / more allele / gene A means more light;
 - 2. DNA (with A) doubles each (PCR) cycle;
 - 3. So light (approximately) doubles / curve steepens more and more (each cycle) / curve goes up exponentially / increases even faster;

3

- (ii) (G because)
 - 1. (Heterozygous) only has half the amount of probe for **A** attaching /

only half the amount of DNA / allele A (to bind to); Accept only one A to bind to

(So,) only produced (about) half the light / glow / intensity (of H) (per cycle of PCR);
 If reference to 'half' for point 1, allow 'less light' in 2.

2

[8]



5 (a)	1.	Cut (DNA) at same (base) sequence / (recognition) sequence; Accept: cut DNA at same place	
	2.	(So) get (fragments with gene) R / required gene. Accept: 'allele' for 'gene' / same gene	2
(b)	1. 2.	Each has / they have a specific base sequence; That is complementary (to allele r or R). Accept description of 'complementary'	2
(c)	1.	Fragments L from parent rr, because all longer fragments / 195 base pair fragments; Ignore: references to fragments that move further / less, require identification of longer / shorter or 195 / 135 Accept: (homozygous) recessive	
	2.	Fragments N from parent RR, because all shorter fragments / 135 base pair fragments; 1 and 2 Accept: A3 for 195 and A4 for 135 2. Accept: (homozygous) dominant	
	3.	(M from) offspring heterozygous / Rr / have both 195 and 135 base pair fragments. Accept: have both bands / strips Reject: primer longer / shorter	3
(d)	1. 2.	(Cells in mitosis) chromosomes visible; (So) can see which chromosome DNA probe attached to.	2
(e)	(i)	 For comparison with resistant flies / other (two) experiments / groups; Ignore: compare results / data / no other factors 	
		2. To see death rate (in non-resistant) / to see effect of insecticide in non-resistant / normal flies.	



Accept: 'pesticide' as 'insecticide'
Accept to see that insecticide worked / to see effect of
enzyme

2

- (ii) (PM must be involved because)
 - 1. Few resistant flies die (without inhibitor);
 - 2. More inhibited flies die than resistant flies;
 - 3. (PM) inhibited flies die faster (than resistant flies);

(Other factors must be involved because)

- 4. Some resistant flies die;
- 5. But (with inhibitor) still have greater resistance / die slower than non-resistant flies.

Accept: (with inhibitor) die slower than non-resistant flies

4 max

[15]