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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

**62 Minutes** 

**Score** 

Percentage

**/52** 

%

## **Biology**

**Mark Scheme** 

## AQA AS & A LEVEL

3.6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments (A-level only)

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1	(a)	(i)	Decreases;  Accept any word that means a decrease e.g. shorter/ narrower/smaller etc	1	
		(ii)	Nothing / stays the same length / does not change;	1	
(	(b)	1.	Two marks for correct answer of 29545-30455;  Correct answer = 2 marks outright. Range allows for a 1mm error in measuring		
		2.	One mark for incorrect answers in which candidate clearly divides measured width by actual width;  Ignore rounding up	2	
(	(c)	(Idea	a ATP is needed for:)		
		1.	Attachment / cross bridges between actin and myosin;  Accept the role of ADP in attachment		
		2.	'Power stroke' / movement of myosin heads / pulling of actin;  Not just 'filaments slide' as given in the question stem		
		3.	Detachment of myosin heads;		
		4.	Myosin heads move back / to original position / 'recovery stroke'	3 max	[7]



- 2
- (a) 1. Fields of view randomly chosen;
  - 2. Several fields of view;
  - 3. All same species (of animal / hamster);

Reject general statements related to sample size. All mark points relate directly to information provided in Resource A. Accept 'all (Mesocricetus) auratus'.

- 4. Same muscle / organ used / only diaphragm used;
- 5. Used at least 8 (animals) in each (age) group.

4 max

(b) (i) 15

Correct answer = 2 marks. Allow 1 mark for showing

69 ÷ 4.6

OR

answer of 10 / 10.1 (correct calculation using fast in error.)

2

- (ii) 1. (Calculation) used mean (number of capillaries);
  - 2. Variation in number of capillaries per fibre.

Note: maximum of **1** mark for this question. Ignore reference to an anomaly or calculation errors.

1 max



(c) (i) (Removing diaphragm means) animals / hamsters are killed.

1

- (ii) 1. (Suggests) significant (difference) between young and adult; MP1, MP2, MP4 and MP5 can include use of figures but check figures are used correctly.
  - 2. (Suggests) not significant (difference) between adult and old; Statements related to 'results being significant / not significant' do not meet the marking points. It is the difference that is significant or not. However, only penalise this error once.
  - 3. For slow and fast fibres;

This MP can be given in the context of either MP1 or MP2 but only allow once. As well as this context there must be a reference to 'both' types of fibre.

4. (Suggests) significant (difference) between young and old for <u>fast</u> (fibres)

OR

(Suggests) not significant (difference) between young and old for slow (fibres);

All aspects of either approach required to gain credit.

5. (Suggests) significant (difference) where means ± SD do not overlap

OR

(Suggests) not significant (difference) where means ± SD overlap; *All aspects of either approach required to gain credit.* 

6. Stats test is required (to establish whether significant or not).

4 max

[12]



(a) 1. (Phosphocreatine) provides phosphate / phosphorylates;

Accept P<sub>i</sub> or P in circle Reject phosphorus

2. To make ATP;

Accept:

 $ADP + CP \rightarrow ATP + C$ 

Neutral – provides ATP

(b) One suitable suggestion;

eg

- 1. Genetic differences;
- 2. Level of fitness / amount of regular exercise done / mass of muscle;
- 3. Sex;
- 4. Ethnicity
- 5. Metabolic rate;
- 6. Number of fast / slow muscle fibres Neutral lifestyle / diet / illness

1 max

2

- (c) 1. Fast muscle fibres used for rapid / brief / powerful / strong contractions;
  - 2. Phosphocreatine used up rapidly during contraction / to make ATP;
  - 3. (As people get older) slower metabolic rate / slower ATP production / slower respiration;
  - 4. ATP used to reform phosphocreatine;

[7]



4 (a)

Function	Name	
Attaches to Z ine at the end of	1. Actin;	

the sarcomere	
	2. ATPase / myosin (head);
Covers binding site on actin in relaxed myofibril	3. Tropomyosin;

Accept water
Accept troponin

(b) 1. Can't form myosin / thick filaments;

Neutral: prevents actin and myosin sliding filament action

2. Can't pull / can't move actin / slide actin past / (myosin) have to be joined / fixed to pull actin;

Accept: myosin can't pull on each other

- 3. Myosin moves / if attached doesn't move;
- 4. Can't move actin towards each other / middle of sarcomere / between myosin / can't shorten sarcomere / can't pull Z lines together.

Accept: contract for shorten

3

3

[6]

3



5

(a) 1. Splitting / breakdown / hydrolysis of ATP;

2. (Muscle) contraction requires energy / ATP;

Accept 'uses energy'. Reject idea of 'movement' of muscles requiring energy.

Reject suggestion that 'energy is produced'.

3. Use of ATP by myosin.

Accept a reference to any use of ATP by myosin. No credit for any further detail.

2 max

(b) Fast because (lots of) ATPase allows rapid **hydrolysis** of ATP

Slow because (lots of) ATPase allows rapid synthesis of ATP.

Accept either approach as some texts refer to ATPase as the enzyme at the end of the ETC in mitochondria.

1

- (c) 1. Need light to see colour / brown / yellow;
  - Requires reference to light.
  - 2. Cannot see colour / brown / yellow with electrons / an electron microscope;

Requires reference to electrons / electron microscope. Accept 'see black and white with electrons / electron

microscope'.

3. No organelles are visible.

Accept appropriate named examples of organelles.

2 max

[5]



6

(a) (i) (Group) 5 / marathon runners.

Must only include this group and no other.

1

(ii) 1. (5 / marathon runners) have highest percentage of slow fibres:

Maximum of 1 mark if the wrong fibres have been identified.

2. (Slow fibres) use <u>aerobic respiration</u> / <u>aerobic respiration</u> occurs in mitochondria;

Either approach requires identification of aerobic respiration.

3. (Slow fibres) best for endurance / long periods of exercise / to avoid fatigue.

2 max

(b) 1. No (overall) change in number of fibres;

Reject any suggestion of an increase in number of fibres.

2. Increase in <u>diameter</u> of fibres;

'Size' without qualification is insufficient.

- 3. (Due to) training / exercise;
- 4. (Long-distance) cyclists have more / higher percentage of slow fibres (than fast);

A comparison is required to meet this MP.

- 5. Slow fibres of wider diameter than fast fibres;
- 6. (Long-distance) cyclists have more mitochondria;
- 7. (Long-distance) cyclists have more capillaries (in muscles).

Idea of 'more' (than non-athletes) is required to gain credit. Accept converse (for non-athletes) in MP4, MP6 and MP7.

3 max

(c) 1. Weightlifting favoured by / weightlifters have a high proportion of fast / low proportion of slow fibres

OR

Weightlifters have more fast / fewer slow fibres than non-athletes; But (cannot tell because):



Reward for general statement or comparison with non-athletes.

For 'proportion', accept percentage (or idea of a ratio).

 Do not know what 'weightlifters' (tested) were born with / had before started weightlifting / training OR

Don't know if there has been a change (in proportion due to weightlifting / training);

3. No information about age / gender / number of weightlifters (in sample).

For this MP, accept another relevant factor that might affect 'weightlifter' e.g. weights lifted, sex, diet, ethnicity, country of birth.

Ignore general statements about 'other factors'.

2 max

[8]



- 7
- (a) 1. Calcium ions diffuse into myofibrils from (sarcoplasmic) reticulum;
  - 2. (Calcium ions) cause movement of tropomyosin (on actin);
  - 3. (This movement causes) exposure of the binding sites on the actin;
  - 4. Myosin heads attach to binding sites on actin;
  - 5. Hydrolysis of ATP (on myosin heads) causes myosin heads to bend;
  - 6. (Bending) pulling actin molecules;
  - 7. Attachment of a new ATP molecule to each myosin head causes myosin heads to detach (from actin sites).

5 max

- (b) 1. Releases relatively small amount of energy / little energy lost as heat; Key concept is that little danger of thermal death of cells
  - 2. Releases energy instantaneously;

    Key concept is that energy is readily available
  - 3. Phosphorylates other compounds, making them more reactive;
  - 4. Can be rapidly re-synthesised;
  - 5. Is not lost from / does not leave cells.

2 max

[7]