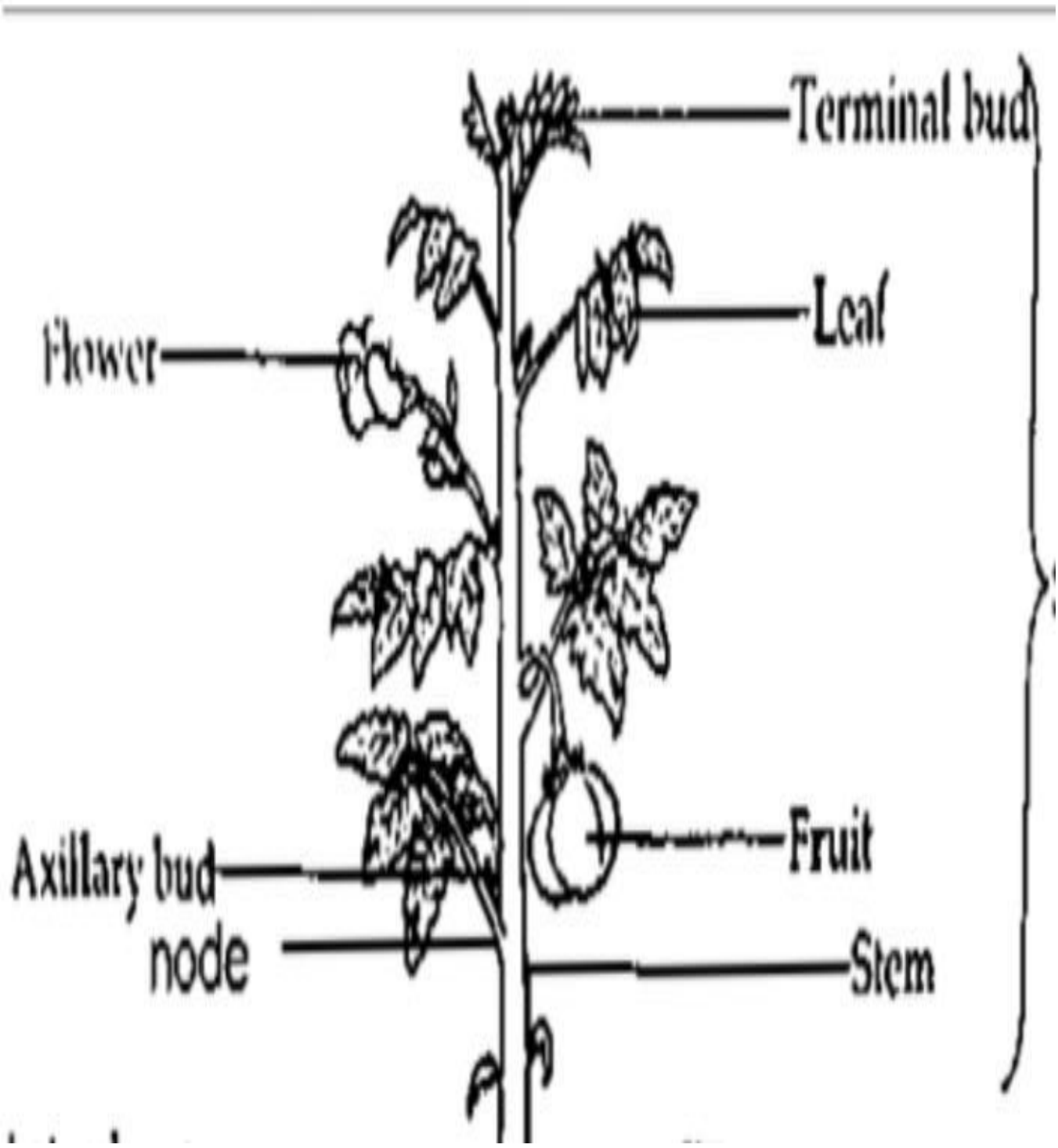
P.6 SCIENCE EXTRA 7

A DIAGRAM SHOWING A STEM



Functions of each part of the stem

Node:

it is w here a leaf or flower is fixed (grow s from)

Internode:

it is the region between two nodes

Terminal bud:

it is the growing tip of the plant

Axillary/lateral bud:

it grow s into branch or leaf or flower

An axillary bud is found in the axil

Axil: the angle between each leaf and the stem

FUNCTIONS OF THE STEMS TO PLANTS

- **They transport water and mineral salts from the roots to the leaves**
- **They transport glucose/starch from the leaves to other parts of a plant (they help in translocation)**
- **They hold up the leaves to get sunlight**
- **They hold the flower for pollination**

- They hold fruits for proper dispersal Green stems make food for the plant
- Some stems store food for the plant.

Translocation

This is the movement of food (glucose) from the leaves to other parts of a plant

- **FUNCTIONS OF STEMS TO MAN**
  Some stems provide food to man
- Some stems provide herbal medicine
- Some stems are sold for income
- Some stems provide timber
- Some stems provide wood fuel

- Some are used in vegetative propagation

TYPES OF STEMS

- Upright stem
- Weak stems
- Underground stems
- Weak stems
- These are stems which cannot support themselves upright.

Groups of weak stems

- Creeping stem
- Climbing stems

REASONS WHY PANTS CLIMB OTHERS (WHY DO PLANTS CLIMB OTHERS?)

- To get enough sunlight
- To get extra support

WAYS HOW PLANTS CLIMB OTHERS (HOW DO PLANTS CLIMB OTHERS?)

- Use of tendrils
- e.g passion fruits, cucumber, watermelon, gourd, pumpkin and cow peas
- Use of hooks
- e.g straw berry

- **Hooks are pointing downwards to prevent the climbing plant from slipping off the plant.**
- **By twining or clasping**
- **e.g morning glory, tomato, vanilla and some beans**

Activity

a) **Why do weak plants climb others?**

b) **Name the method used by passion fruit to climb others.**

c) **What are erect stems**

d) **How useful to a straw berry plant?**

e) Name the type of tropism where plants are sensitive to touch.