

Section 3: Extended Answer (20 marks)

[Each bullet point = 1 mark]

(a)

- Mutations may arise through random chance or through environmental influence.
- Environmental factors include certain chemicals (e.g. benzene), some viruses, X-rays, ionising radiation and UV radiation.
- Individuals need to be educated to avoid excess or unnecessary exposure to these factors (diet, smoking, alcohol, drugs).
- These agents cause a change to the DNA which can cause cancer or inherited defects.
- A change to the DNA in somatic cells can cause cancer which is not inherited.
- A change to the DNA in a germ-line (gametic) cell may be inherited.
- Most people carry many defective, recessive genes that are hidden by dominant, normal genes.
- Only the homozygous recessive genotype will affect the phenotype.
- The homozygous recessive phenotype is more likely to appear in closely related marriages, e.g. between first cousins.

(b)

- Researching (and drawing) a family pedigree, genetic counsellors may be able to determine the probability of a couple having a child with a particular genetic disease.
- E.g. if the couple are determined by the pedigree to be heterozygous for a particular disease, the likelihood of any child having the disease would be 0.25.
- Phenyl ketonuria (PKU), cystic fibrosis and sickle-cell anaemia are diseases which can be identified in this way.
- If the probability of having a child with a serious genetic disease is unacceptably high, the couple may choose to adopt or use assisted reproduction technology (e.g. IVF, GIFT, etc.), combined with donor gametes/s if necessary.
- Genetic testing provides a profile of an individual's DNA though it is not entirely complete.
- Genetic testing can show chromosomal abnormalities or the presence of abnormal proteins (which are indicators of abnormal genes).
- These tests can be carried out on both the parents and foetus (prenatal).
- Prenatal testing may involve amniocentesis, umbilical blood sampling or chorionic biopsy to examine the karyotype of the developing child.
- Karyotypes can be used to test for a number of conditions, including Down's syndrome.
- Karyotypes can be used to determine the sex of the foetus and therefore in the case

of sex-linked diseases, help to determine the probabilities of inheritance.

- Infant screening for metabolic factors may detect genetic diseases such as Phenylketonuria (PKU), which can be treated and in this case, cured, if detected early.

TT 7 – GENE POOLS

Section 1: Multiple Choice (30 marks)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. a |
| 2. b | 7. a |
| 3. b | 8. d |
| 4. a | 9. c |
| 5. d | 10. d |

Section 2: Short Answer (50 marks)

- (i) pedigree
- (ii) evolution
- (iii) population
- (iv) genotype
- (v) independent assortment
- (vi) migration
- (vii) natural selection
- (viii) crossing over
- (ix) mutation
- (x) genetic biodiversity
- (xi) adaptation
- (xii) speciation

[12]

2.

- (a) True
- (b) False
- (c) False
- (d) True
- (e) True
- (f) False
- (g) True
- (h) True
- (i) True

3.

- (a) Gene frequency refers to the percentage of members of a population with a particular allele. [2]
- (b) Isolation reduces gene frequencies in populations. [1] Gene flow increases gene frequencies. [1]
- (c) Isolation is caused by parts of a population being cut off from other parts of the population so gene flow is reduced. [1] Barriers to gene flow may be geographical (increase in sea level, mountain ranges) or cultural. [1]

Gene flow refers to the movement of genes from one population to another as a result of interbreeding between members of the two different populations. [1] This introduces new variations into the population, altering

the frequency of genes. [1]

4.

- (a) The Founder effect refers to the situation in which a sample of a population moves into or migrates into a new area. The resulting population reflects the sample of genes from the original 'founding' population. [1] E.g. the Dunkers in America, or Pitcairn Islanders who are the descendants of sailors from the ship, HMS Bounty and a group of Tahitian people. [1]
- (b) The Founder effect reduces the variety of genes in gene pools as the population is established by a sample of individuals from the original population and they only carry a sample of the genes from the original population. [1]
- (c) The bottleneck effect occurs when a disaster happens and the original population is just reduced to a few survivors. [1] The range and the frequency of alleles will change. [1]
- (d) If a volcano erupts on a small island and most of the population die as a result, or invasion and genocide by an invading force. [1]

5.

- (a) These people may be isolated geographically and tend to interbreed with each other due to cultural and religious beliefs. [2]
- (b) By a blood test. [1]
- (c) Gene therapy in which the defective gene is replaced by a normal working one. [2]
6. Immigration refers to the movement of individuals into an area [1] while emigration refers to individuals leaving an area. [1]

7.

- (a) Tay-Sachs is due to a mutation that affects a metabolic pathway. It could be an example of founder effect because it occurs in the Ashkenazim at much higher frequency [1] than in the rest of the population (1 in 3600 compared to 1 in 40 000 births). Presumably, the mutation occurred in some Ashkenazim people [1] and because of their intermarriage, stayed within their people [1] even if they migrated around the world.
- (b) Natural selection favours those individuals best suited to the environment at the time. [1] Sufferers of Tay-Sachs would die before reproductive age so would not pass on the gene [1] so one would expect the incidence to decrease over time, [1] particularly if heterozygotes within the community knew the risks, had genetic testing and made the decision not to have children.
- (c) If Tay-Sachs confers a survival advantage for tuberculosis, it is an advantage for heterozygotes to carry the gene. [1] If they survive better in TB prone areas, they can then pass the gene onto their offspring. [1]

Section 3: Extended Answer (20 marks)

(a)

- Natural populations tend to produce lots of offspring.
- Variation occurs between members of a population.
- All members of a population compete for food, shelter, mates, etc.
- Some organisms within the population are better suited to the environment than others.
- This is due to the variations which make them more suited to the environment
- The more suitable organisms survive and reproduce and pass their favourable features onto their offspring.
- The organisms with unsuitable or unfavourable features die out.
- Organisms with suitable or favourable features gradually increase in number in the population.
- This is 'survival of the fittest' (to the environment).

[2 marks per point = 16]

(b)

- Over time the most favourable features become more common in the population.
- The genes responsible for the favourable features increase in frequency.
- Variation in the population decreases.
- In other words, natural selection reduces gene frequency in a population. [4]

TF 8A – BIOTECHNOLOGY

Section 1: Multiple Choice (30 marks)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. c |
| 2. a | 7. b |
| 3. d | 8. a |
| 4. a | 9. d |
| 5. b | 10. d |

Section 2: Short Answer (50 marks)

1.

- (a) Biotechnology is the use of micro-organisms and their biological processes for human benefit. More recently it involves the manipulation of micro-organisms to fulfil a human demand or need. [2]
- (b) It is used in brewing (wine and beer) and baking, making yoghurt and cheese as well as the manufacture of hormones such as insulin and Factor VIII used in blood clotting. [any 2 = 1]

2.

- (i) Polymerase chain reaction (PCR).
- (ii) Electrophoresis.
- (iii) DNA profiling.
- (iv) Plasmid.
- (v) Clone.