

## **2017 AP® BIOLOGY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

### **BIOLOGY**

#### **Section II**

#### **8 Questions**

**Total Time—90 minutes**

**Reading Period—10 minutes**

**Writing Period—80 minutes**

**Directions:** Questions 1 and 2 are long free-response questions that require about 22 minutes each to answer and are worth 10 points each. Questions 3–8 are short free-response questions that require about 6 minutes each to answer. Questions 3–5 are worth 4 points each and questions 6–8 are worth 3 points each.

Read each question carefully and completely. You are advised to spend the 10-minute reading period planning your answers. You may begin writing your responses before the reading period is over. Write your response in the space provided for each question. Only material written in the space provided will be scored. Answers must be written out in paragraph form. Outlines, bulleted lists, or diagrams alone are not acceptable.

**TABLE 1. EFFECT OF 0.1 mM CAFFEINE ON MEMORY IN BEES**

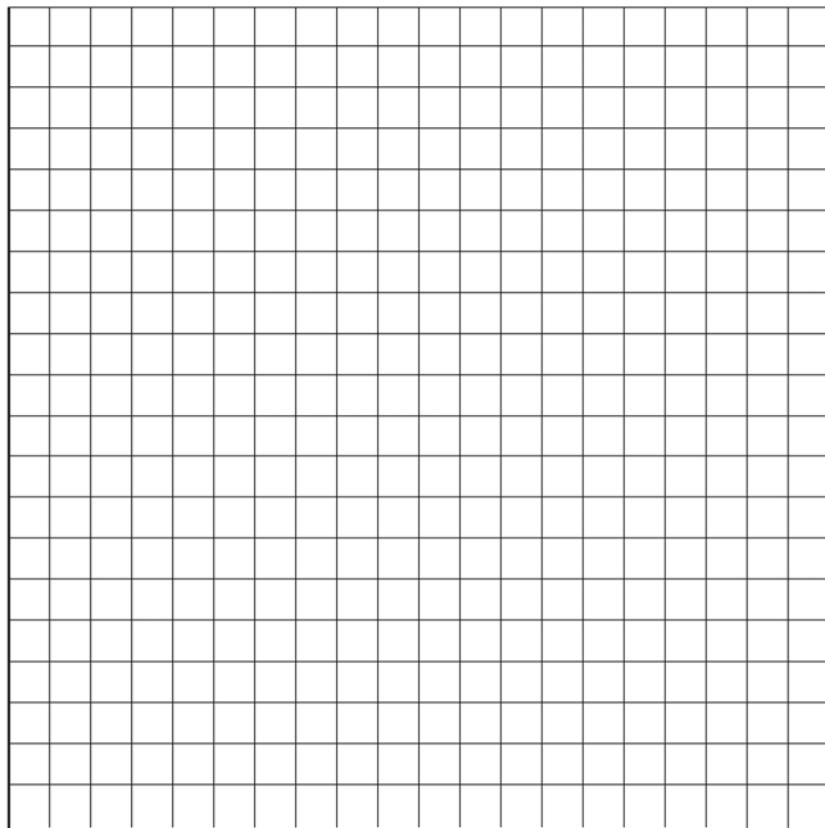
Treatment	Memory (average probability of revisiting a nectar source $\pm 2SE_{\bar{X}}$ )	
	10 Minutes	24 Hours
Control	0.72 $\pm$ 0.09	0.41 $\pm$ 0.07
Caffeine	0.83 $\pm$ 0.07	0.78 $\pm$ 0.08

1. In flowering plants, pollination is a process that leads to the fertilization of an egg and the production of seeds. Some flowers attract pollinators, such as bees, using visual and chemical cues. When a bee visits a flower, in addition to transferring pollen, the bee can take nectar from the flower and use it to make honey for the colony.

Nectar contains sugar, but certain plants also produce caffeine in the nectar. Caffeine is a bitter-tasting compound that can be toxic to insects at high concentrations. To investigate the role of caffeine in nectar, a group of researchers studied the effect of 0.1 mM caffeine on bee behavior. The results of an experiment to test the effect of caffeine on bees' memory of a nectar source are shown in Table 1.

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- (a) On the axes provided, **construct** an appropriately labeled graph to illustrate the effect of caffeine on the probability of bees revisiting a nectar source (memory).
- (b) Based on the results, **describe** the effect of caffeine on each of the following:
- Short-term (10 minute) memory of a nectar source
  - Long-term (24 hour) memory of a nectar source
- (c) **Design an experiment** using artificial flowers to investigate potential negative effects of increasing caffeine concentrations in nectar on the number of floral visits by bees. **Identify** the null hypothesis, an appropriate control treatment, and the predicted results that could be used to reject the null hypothesis.
- (d) Researchers found that nectar with caffeine tends to have a lower sugar content than nectar without caffeine. Plants use less energy to produce the caffeine in nectar than they do to produce the sugar in nectar. **Propose ONE benefit** to plants that produce nectar with caffeine and a lower sugar content. **Propose ONE cost** to bees that visit the flowers of plants that produce nectar with caffeine and a lower sugar content.



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**Question 1**

TABLE 1. EFFECT OF 0.1 mM CAFFEINE ON MEMORY IN BEES

Treatment	Memory (average probability of revisiting a nectar source $\pm 2SE_{\bar{X}}$ )	
	10 Minutes	24 Hours
Control	0.72 $\pm$ 0.09	0.41 $\pm$ 0.07
Caffeine	0.83 $\pm$ 0.07	0.78 $\pm$ 0.08

In flowering plants pollination is a process that leads to the fertilization of an egg and the production of seeds. Some flowers attract pollinators, such as bees, using visual and chemical cues. When a bee visits a flower, in addition to transferring pollen, the bee can take nectar from the flower and use it to make honey for the colony.

Nectar contains sugar, but certain plants also produce caffeine in the nectar. Caffeine is a bitter-tasting compound that can be toxic to insects at high concentrations. To investigate the role of caffeine in nectar, a group of researchers studied the effect of 0.1 mM caffeine on bee behavior. The results of an experiment to test the effect of caffeine on bees' memory of a nectar source are shown in Table 1.

- (a) On the axes provided, **construct** an appropriately labeled graph to illustrate the effect of caffeine on the probability of bees revisiting a nectar source (memory). **(3 points)**

**Construct graph (3 points)**

- Correctly plotted means on a bar graph/modified bar graph
- Appropriate labels, units, and scaling
- Correctly plotted error bars

- (b) Based on the results, **describe** the effect of caffeine on each of the following: **(2 points)**

- Short-term (10 minute) memory of a nectar source
- Long-term (24 hour) memory of a nectar source

**Description (2 points)**

Short-term	Caffeine does not affect short-term memory/memory at 10 minutes.
Long-term	Caffeine improves/increases the long-term memory/memory at 24 hours.

- (c) **Design an experiment** using artificial flowers to investigate potential negative effects of increasing caffeine concentrations in nectar on the number of floral visits by bees. **Identify** the null hypothesis, an appropriate control treatment, and the predicted results that could be used to reject the null hypothesis. **(3 points)**

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**Question 1 (continued)**

**Identification (3 points; 1 point per row)**

Null hypothesis	Increasing caffeine concentration has no effect (on the number of floral visits by bees).
Control	(Nectar/flowers with) no caffeine
Predicted results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The number of floral visits by bees is different at increasing caffeine concentrations.</li><li>The number of floral visits by bees is different than the control.</li></ul>

- (d) Researchers found that nectar with caffeine tends to have a lower sugar content than nectar without caffeine. Plants use less energy to produce the caffeine in nectar than they do to produce the sugar in nectar. **Propose ONE benefit** to plants that produce nectar with caffeine and a lower sugar content. **Propose ONE cost** to bees that visit the flowers of plants that produce nectar with caffeine and a lower sugar content. **(2 points)**

**Proposed plant benefit (1 point)**

- More pollen is transferred/more visits by pollinators.
- Plants store energy/have more energy available for other uses.

**Proposed bee cost (1 point)**

- (Individual) bees visit more flowers.
- (Individual) bees use more energy.
- The colony/bees may produce less honey
- The colony/bees may produce lower quality honey/honey that provides less energy.