

2. Elevated levels of CO₂ increase the rate of photosynthesis and growth in plants. Scientists studying the mechanisms involved in these increases examined a variety of species and found that when plants are exposed to elevated levels of CO₂, there is an increase in the number of chloroplasts per cell. To investigate whether the elevated levels of CO₂ have a similar effect on the number of mitochondria in plant cells, the scientists then selected six of these species to quantify the number of mitochondria per cell when the plants were exposed to both normal and elevated levels of CO₂ (Table 1).

TABLE 1. AVERAGE NUMBER OF MITOCHONDRIA IN PLANTS EXPOSED TO NORMAL AND ELEVATED LEVELS OF CO₂

Species	Mitochondria at Normal CO ₂ (per 100 μm ² of cell area) ±2SE _̄	Mitochondria at Elevated CO ₂ (per 100 μm ² of cell area) ±2SE _̄
1	1.0 ± 0.10	1.6 ± 0.10
2	0.4 ± 0.05	0.9 ± 0.08
3	0.5 ± 0.07	0.9 ± 0.10
4	0.3 ± 0.03	0.6 ± 0.06
5	0.7 ± 0.06	1.5 ± 0.22
6	1.3 ± 0.15	2.4 ± 0.22

- (a) **Describe** the role of the inner mitochondrial membrane in cellular respiration.
- (b) Using the template in the space provided for your response, **construct** an appropriately labeled graph that represents the data in Table 1. **Determine** which species show(s) a difference in the number of mitochondria between normal and elevated levels of CO₂.
- (c) Based on the data in Table 1, **describe** the relationship between the level of CO₂ and the average number of mitochondria per unit area of a cell.
- (d) The leaves of a particular plant species are typically green, but scientists notice a plant in which the leaves have white stripes. They determine that the stripes result from a mutation in mitochondrial DNA that interferes with the development of chloroplasts. The scientists crossed plants using pollen from the plant with white-striped leaves and ovules from a plant with green leaves. **Predict** the phenotype(s) of the leaves of offspring produced from this cross. Provide reasoning to **justify** your prediction. **Explain** why plants with the same genotype are able to differ in the structure and/or number of certain organelles in response to changes in atmospheric levels of CO₂.

Write your responses to this question only on the designated pages in the separate Free Response booklet.

Question 2: Interpreting and Evaluating Experimental Results with Graphing

9 points

Elevated levels of CO₂ increase the rate of photosynthesis and growth in plants. Scientists studying the mechanisms involved in these increases examined a variety of species and found that when plants are exposed to elevated levels of CO₂, there is an increase in the number of chloroplasts per cell. To investigate whether the elevated levels of CO₂ have a similar effect on the number of mitochondria in plant cells, the scientists then selected six of these species to quantify the number of mitochondria per cell when the plants were exposed to both normal and elevated levels of CO₂ (Table 1).

TABLE 1. AVERAGE NUMBER OF MITOCHONDRIA IN PLANTS EXPOSED TO NORMAL AND ELEVATED LEVELS OF CO₂

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- (a) **Describe** the role of the inner mitochondrial membrane in cellular respiration.

1 point

Accept one of the following:

- It provides the location for the components of the electron transport chain/ATP synthase/oxidative phosphorylation.
- It separates (reactions in) the intermembrane space from (reactions in) the matrix.
- It allows the establishment of a proton gradient.

- (d) The leaves of a particular plant species are typically green, but scientists notice a plant in which the leaves have white stripes. They determine that the stripes result from a mutation in mitochondrial DNA that interferes with the development of chloroplasts. The scientists crossed plants using pollen from the plant with white-striped leaves and ovules from a plant with green leaves. **Predict** the phenotype(s) of the leaves of offspring produced from this cross.

- The leaves will be (all) green/not have white stripes.

Provide reasoning to **justify** your prediction.

1 point

- (All offspring will have the same leaf phenotype as the ovule-producing plant because) mitochondria are maternally inherited/transferred by the ovule.

Explain why plants with the same genotype are able to differ in the structure and/or number of certain organelles in response to changes in atmospheric levels of CO₂.

1 point

- (Plants have different phenotypes because) changes in CO₂ levels/the environment affect the expression of certain genes.

Total for part (d) **3 points**

Total for question 2 **9 points**