



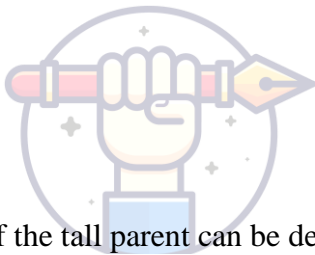
Chapter – 9

Heredity & Evolution

NCERT Back Exercises:

Ques 1: A Mendelian experiment consisted of breeding tall pea plants bearing violet flowers with short pea plants bearing white flowers. The progeny all bore violet flowers, but almost half of them were short. This suggests that the genetic make-up of the tall parent can be depicted as

- (i) TTWW
- (ii) TTww
- (iii) TtWW
- (iv) TtWw



Ans 1: (iii) The genetic make-up of the tall parent can be depicted as TtWW

TtWW might be the genetic makeup of the tall parent. Since half the progenies are short, this implies that the parent plant also will have a collection of short genes; all progenies bore violet flowers, which suggest that violet color is dominant over white.

Ques 2: An example of homologous organs is

- (i) Our arm and a dog's fore-leg.
- (ii) Our teeth and an elephant's tusks.
- (iii) Potato and runners of grass.
- (iv) All of the above.

Ans 2: (ii) An example of homologous organs is our teeth and an elephant's tusks.



Ques 3: In evolutionary terms, we have more in common with

- (i) A Chinese school-boy.
- (ii) A chimpanzee.
- (iii) A spider.
- (iv) A bacterium.

Ans 3: (i) In evolutionary terms, we have more in common with a Chinese school boy.

Ques 4: A study found that children with light-coloured eyes are likely to have parents with light- coloured eyes. On this basis, can we say anything about whether the light eye colour trait is dominant or recessive? Why or why not?

Ans 4: Let us assume that children with light-coloured eyes can either have LL or Ll or ll genotype. If the children have LL genotype, then their parents will also be of LL genotype.

LL × LL



LL

If the children with light-coloured eyes have ll genotype, then their parents will also have ll genotype.

ll × ll



ll

Therefore, it cannot be concluded whether light eye colour is dominant or recessive.



Ques 5: How are the areas of study–evolution and classification–interlinked?

Ans 5: Classification involves grouping of organism into a formal system based on similarities in internal and external structure or evolutionary history.

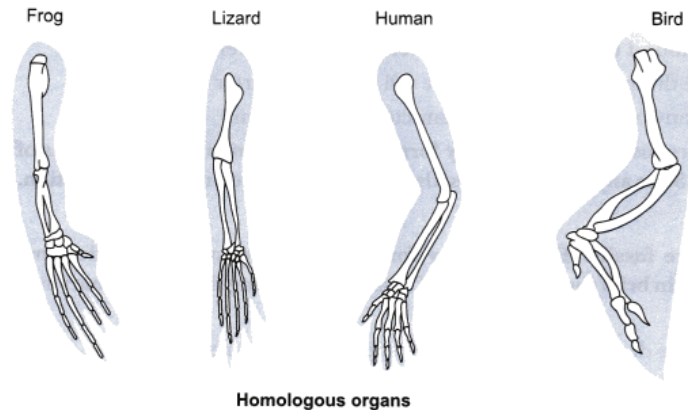
Two species are more closely related if they have more characteristics in common. And if two species are more closely related, then it means they have a more recent ancestor.

For example, in a family, a brother and sister are closely related and they have a recent common ancestor i.e., their parents. A brother and his cousin are also related but less than the sister and her brother. This is because the brother and his cousin have a common ancestor i.e., their grandparents in the second generation whereas the parents were from the first generation.

With subsequent generations, the variations make organisms more different than their ancestors. This discussion clearly proves that we classify organisms according to their resemblance which is similar to creating an evolutionary tree.

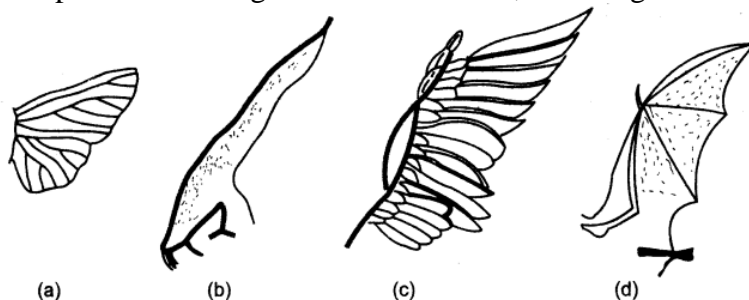
Ques 6: Explain the terms analogous and homologous organs with examples.

Ans 6: Homologous organs are similar in origin (or are embryologically similar) but perform different functions. For example, the forelimbs of humans and the wings of birds look different externally but their skeletal structure is similar. It means that their origin is similar (as wings in birds are modifications of forearm) but functions are different - the wings help in flight whereas human forearm helps in various activities.





Analogous organs, on the other hand, have different origin but perform similar functions. For example, the wings of a bird and a bat are similar in function but this similarity does not mean that these animals are more closely related. If we carefully look at these structures, then we will find that the wings of a bat are just the folds of skin that are stretched between its fingers whereas the wings of birds are present all along the arm. Therefore, these organs are analogous organs.



Analogous organs (a) Wing of insect (b) Wing of *Pterodactyl* (c) Wing of bird (d) Wing of bat

Ques 7: Outline a project which aims to find the dominant coat colour in dogs.

Ans 7: Dogs have a variety of genes that govern coat colour. There are at least eleven identified gene series (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, M, P, S, T) that influence coat colour in dog.

A dog inherits one gene from each of its parents. The dominant gene gets expressed in the phenotype. For example, in the B series, a dog can be genetically black or brown. Let us assume that one parent is homozygous black (BB), while the other parent is homozygous brown (bb)

bb	BB		
		B	B
	b	Bb	Bb
	b	Bb	Bb

In this case, all the offsprings will be heterozygous (Bb).

Since black (B) is dominant, all the offsprings will be black. However, they will have both B and b alleles.

If such heterozygous pups are crossed, they will produce 25% homozygous black (BB), 50% heterozygous black (Bb), and 25% homozygous brown (bb) offsprings.



	B	b
B	BB	Bb
b	Bb	Bb

Ques 8: Explain the importance of fossils in deciding evolutionary relationships.

Ans 8: Fossil gives evidence about:

- (i) The organisms that lived way back like the fundamental quantity throughout that they lived, their structure etc.
- (ii) Biological process development of species i.e., line of their development
- (iii) Connecting links between 2 teams. As an example, feathers gift in some dinosaurs implies that birds are terribly closely associated with reptiles.
- (iv) That organisms evolved earlier and which later.
- (v) Development of complicated body styles from the straightforward body designs

Ques 9: What evidence do we have for the origin of life from inanimate matter?

Ans 9: The evidence of the origin of the inanimate matter in life was provided by Stanley L. Miller and Harold C. Urey's associate degree experiment conducted in 1953. They assembled an environment in experiment that contained molecules such as ammonia, alkane series and element sulfide over water, but no chemical element. It was just like the atmosphere on earth that thought it would exist. This was kept at a temperature slightly below 100°C and the mixture of gasses to simulate lightning was felt by sparks. At the end of the week, fifteenth of the alkane series carbon has been regenerated into easy carbon compounds as well as amino acids that form super molecule molecules and support basic life. It was inferred from this that life arose again on earth.



Ques 10: Explain how sexual reproduction gives rise to more viable variations than asexual reproduction. How does this affect the evolution of those organisms that reproduce sexually?

Ans 10: In sexual reproduction, two individuals having different variations combine their DNA to give rise to a new individual. Therefore, sexual reproduction allows more variations, whereas in asexual reproduction, chance variations can only occur when the copying of DNA is not accurate.

Additionally, asexual reproduction allows very less variations because if there are more variations, then the resultant DNA will not be able to survive inside the inherited cellular apparatus.

However, in sexual reproduction, more variations are allowed and the resultant DNA is also able to survive, thus making the variations viable.

Variation and Evolution: Variants help the species to survive in all the conditions. Environmental conditions such as heat, light, pests, and food availability can change suddenly at only one place. At that time, only those variants resistant to these conditions would be able to survive. This will slowly lead to the evolution of a better adapted species. Thus, variation helps in the evolution of sexually reproducing organisms.

Ques 11: How is the equal genetic contribution of male and female parents ensured in the progeny?

Ans 11: In human beings, every somatic cell of the body contains 23 pairs of chromosomes. Out of these 23 pairs, the first 22 pairs are known as autosomes and the remaining one pair is known as sex chromosomes represented as X and Y.

Females have two X chromosomes and males have one X and one Y chromosome. The gamete receives half of the chromosomes. Therefore, the male gametes have 22 autosomes and either X or Y chromosome.

The female gamete, on the other hand, has 22 autosomes and X chromosome.

During reproduction, the male and female gametes fuse and thus the progeny receives 22 autosomes and one X or Y chromosome from male parent and 22 autosomes and one X chromosome from the female parent.



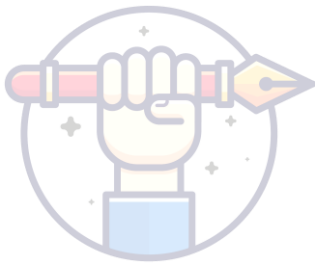
Ques 12: Only variations that confer an advantage to an individual organism will survive in a population. Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?

Ans 12: In species, variations that offer survival advantages are naturally selected. Individuals adjust to their environments with the help of these selected variations and consequently these variations are passed on to their progeny. Evolution of organisms occurs as a result of this natural selection.

However, there can be some other variations, which do not offer any survival advantage and arise only accidentally. Such variations in small populations can change the frequency of some genes even if they are not important for survival.

This accidental change in the frequency of genes in small populations is referred to as genetic drift.

Thus, genetic drift provides diversity (variations) without any survival advantage.





Chapter – 9

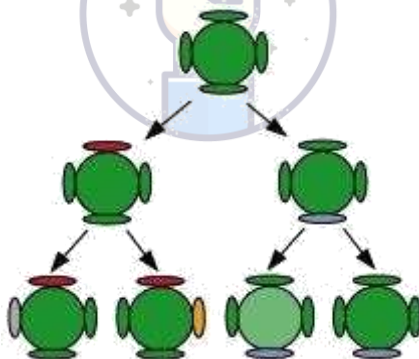
Heredity & Evolution

Intext Questions:

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Ques 1: If a trait A exists in 10% of a population of an asexually reproducing species and a trait B exists in 60% of the same population, which trait is likely to have arisen earlier?

Ans 1: In asexual reproduction, the reproducing cells produce a copy of their DNA through some chemical reactions. However, this copying of DNA is not accurate and therefore, the newly formed DNA has some variations.



It can be easily observed in the above figure that in asexual reproduction, very few variations are allowed. Therefore, if a trait is present in only 10% of the population, it is more likely that the trait has arisen recently. Hence, it can be concluded that trait B that exists in 60% of the same population has arisen earlier than trait A.



Ques 2: How does the creation of variations in a species promote survival?

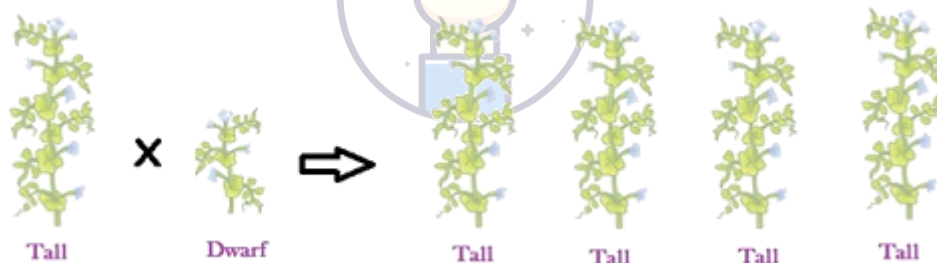
Ans 2: Sometimes for a species, the environmental conditions change so drastically that their survival becomes difficult. For example, if the temperature of water increases suddenly, most of the bacteria living in that water would die. Only few variants resistant to heat would be able to survive. If these variants were not there, then the entire species of bacteria would have been destroyed. Thus, these variants help in the survival of the species.

However, not all variations are useful. Therefore, these are not necessarily beneficial for the individual organisms.

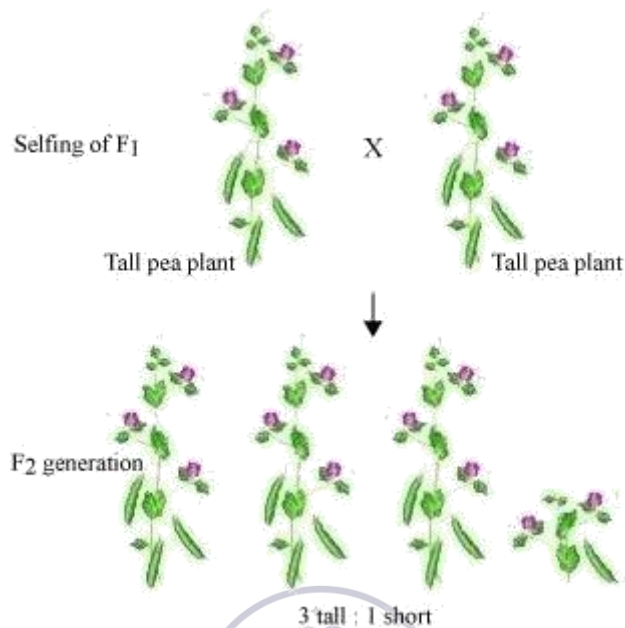
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Ques 1: How do Mendel's experiments show that traits may be dominant or recessive?

Ans 1: Mendel selected true breeding tall (TT) and dwarf (tt) pea plants. Then, he crossed these two plants. The seeds formed after fertilization were grown and these plants that were formed represent the first filial or F₁ generation. All the F₁ plants obtained were tall.



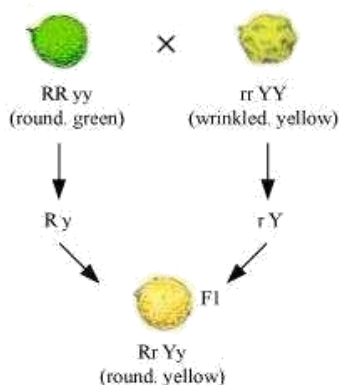
Then, Mendel self-pollinated the F₁ plants and observed that all plants obtained in the F₂ generation were not tall. Instead, one-fourth of the F₂ plants were short.



From this experiment, Mendel concluded that the F_1 tall plants were not true breeding. They were carrying traits of both short height and tall height. They appeared tall only because the tall trait is dominant over the dwarf trait.

Ques 2: How do Mendel's experiments show that traits are inherited independently?

Ans 2: Mendel crossed pea plants having round green seeds ($RRyy$) with pea plants having wrinkled yellow seeds ($rrYY$).

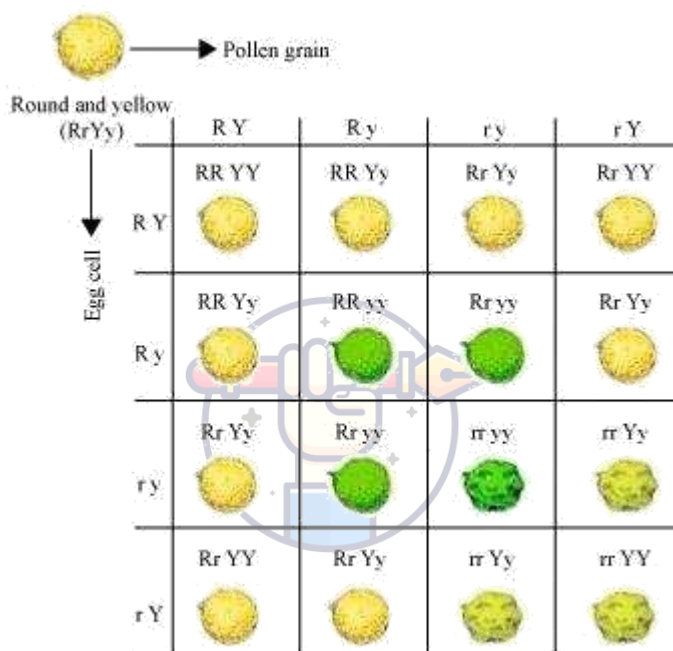




Since the F_1 plants are formed after crossing pea plants having green round seeds and pea plants having yellow wrinkled seeds, F_1 generation will have both these characters in them. However, as we know that yellow seed colour and round seeds are dominant characters, therefore, the F_1 plants will have yellow round seeds.

Then this F_1 progeny was self-pollinated and the F_2 progeny was found to have yellow round seeds, green round seeds, yellow wrinkled seeds, and green wrinkled seeds in the ratio of 9:3:3:1.

In the above cross, more than two factors are involved, and these are independently inherited.



Ques 3: A man with blood group A marries a woman with blood group O and their daughter has blood group O. Is this information enough to tell you which of the traits – blood group A or O – is dominant? Why or why not?

Ans 3: No. This information is not sufficient to determine which of the traits – blood group A or O – is dominant. This is because we do not know about the blood group of all the progeny. Blood group A can be genotypically AA or AO. Hence, the information is incomplete to draw any such conclusion.



Ques 4: How is the sex of the child determined in human beings?

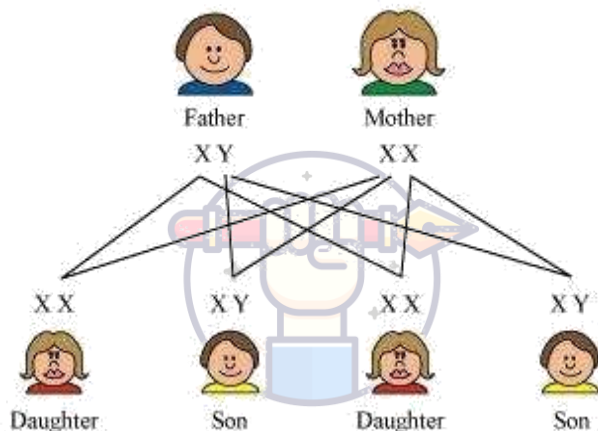
Ans 4: In human beings, the females have two X chromosomes and the males have one X and one Y chromosome. Therefore, the females are XX and the males are XY.

The gametes, as we know, receive half of the chromosomes. The male gametes have 22 autosomes and either X or Y sex chromosome.

Type of male gametes: 22+X OR 22+ Y.

However, since the females have XX sex chromosomes, their gametes can only have X sex chromosome.

Type of female gamete: 22+X



Thus, the mother provides only X chromosomes. The sex of the baby is determined by the type of male gamete (X or Y) that fuses with the X chromosome of the female.



Ques 1: What are the different ways in which individuals with a particular trait may increase in a population?

Ans 1: Individuals with a particular trait may increase in a population as a result of the following:

- (i) Natural selection: When that trait offers some survival advantage.
- (ii) Genetic drift: When some genes governing that trait become common in a population.
- (iii) When that trait gets acquired during the individual's lifetime.

Ques 2: Why are traits acquired during the life-time of an individual not inherited?

Ans 2: This happens because an acquired trait involves change in non-reproductive tissues (somatic cells) which cannot be passed on to germ cells or the progeny. Therefore, these traits cannot be inherited.

Ques 3: Why are the small numbers of surviving tigers a cause of worry from the point of view of genetics?

Ans 3: Small numbers of tigers means that fewer variations in terms of genes are available. This means that when these tigers reproduce, there are less chances of producing progeny with some useful variations. Hence, it is a cause of worry from the point of view of genetics.



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Ques 1: What factors could lead to the rise of a new species?

Ans 1: Natural selection, genetic drift and acquisition of traits during the life time of an individual can give rise to new species.

Ques 2: Will geographical isolation be a major factor in the speciation of a self-pollinating plant species? Why or why not?

Ans 2: Geographical isolation can prevent the transfer of pollens among different plants. However, since the plants are self-pollinating, which means that the pollens are transferred from the anther of one flower to the stigma of the same flower or of another flower of the same plant, geographical isolation cannot prevent speciation in this case.

Ques 3: Will geographical isolation be a major factor in the speciation of an organism that reproduces asexually? Why or why not?

Ans 3: Geographical isolation prevents gene flow between populations of a species whereas asexual reproduction generally involves only one individual. In an asexually reproducing organism, variations can occur only when the copying of DNA is not accurate. Therefore, geographical isolation cannot prevent the formation of new species in an asexually reproducing organism.

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Ques 1: Give an example of characteristics being used to determine how close two species are in evolutionary terms.

Ans 1: The presence of feathers in dinosaurs and birds indicates that they are evolutionarily related. Dinosaurs had feathers not for flying but instead these feathers provided insulation to these warm-blooded animals. However, the feathers in birds are used for flight. This proves that reptiles and birds are closely related and that the evolution of wings started in reptiles.



Ques 2: Can the wing of a butterfly and the wing of a bat be considered homologous organs? Why or why not?

Ans 2: Homologous organs perform completely different functions and have different look however share common basic structural structure. The origin wings of a butterfly are composed of polysaccharide membrane, whereas wings of a bat are composed of bony skeleton. Hence, these aren't homologous organs rather analogous organs.

Ques 3: What are fossils? What do they tell us about the process of evolution?

Ans 3: Fossils are called the preserved remains of animals or plants or other organisms from the distant past. These fossils tell us about a lot of extinct animals and also give insights into how evolution might have occurred. Fossils can be used to build an organism's evolutionary history. The pattern of fossil distribution gives us an idea of the time in history when various species were formed or become extinct. Fossil also helps trace some animal's evolutionary history.

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Ques 1: Why are human beings who look so different from each other in terms of size, color and looks said to belong to the same species?

Ans 1: While human beings vary widely in size, color and appearance, their genetic makeup is similar. The variations in size, color and appearance are the result of these characteristics different levels of expression. However, human beings have the same organization at the genetic level. Therefore they all belong to the same species.

Ques 2: In evolutionary terms, can we say which among bacteria, spiders, fish and chimpanzees have a 'better' body design? Why or why not?

Ans 2: No, we can't say there's a better body design as these organisms evolved to survive in the environment according to their needs. If a chimpanzee has strong limbs capable of multiple actions, the bacteria can survive in extreme conditions where it is impossible for other organisms. Therefore there is no better design of the body.