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91603



916030



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
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## Level 3 Biology, 2015

### 91603 Demonstrate understanding of the responses of plants and animals to their external environment

2.00 p.m. Monday 23 November 2015  
Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of the responses of plants and animals to their external environment.	Demonstrate in-depth understanding of the responses of plants and animals to their external environment.	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of the responses of plants and animals to their external environment.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should attempt ALL the questions in this booklet.**

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet and clearly number the question.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

**Not Achieved**

**TOTAL**

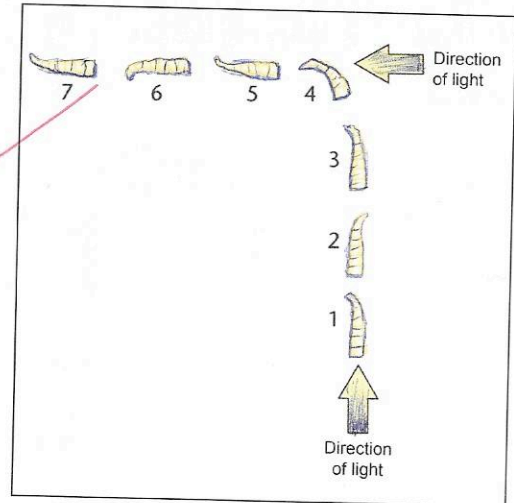
**4**

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## QUESTION ONE

Some animals display innate behaviours.

As green bottle fly maggots (*Phaenicia sericata*) crawl, they turn their heads, comparing the light intensity from each side. They always turn towards the darker side, taking them away from light.



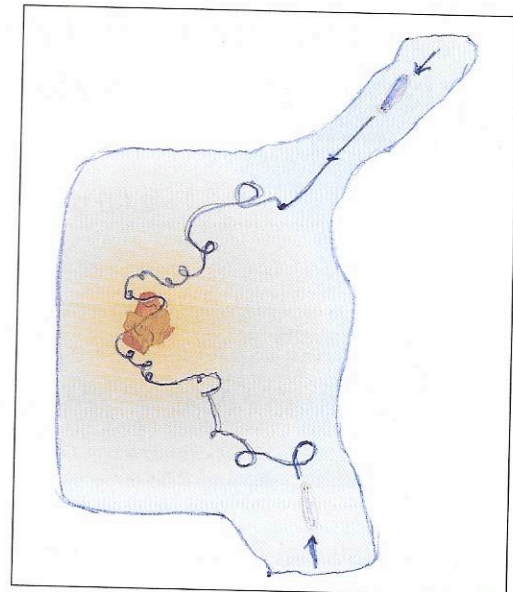
Maggot response to light stimulus.

A piece of meat in water causes a chemical gradient. Flatworms, such as *Planaria torva*, move along a straight path until they detect an increase in chemical concentration. The flatworms increase their rate of turning in the area until they touch the meat and start feeding.

Compare these responses, the adaptive advantages gained for the animals that display them, and how these animals come to have them.

In your answer:

- identify the full term given for both responses, and define these terms
- using the information above, justify the types of orientation you have described, and explain how they operate in both the maggots and the flatworm
- compare the adaptive advantages these animals gain by displaying these behaviours.



Flatworm response to chemical stimulus.

1) phototaxis is the way of light to which will help guide maggots. Both these responses help guide the worms and maggots. This is beneficial for the worm as it's being guided towards a food source. An adaptive advantage for the maggots is they will be harder to be seen by predators if they are in the dark.



Therefore ~~the~~ having a better survival rate. A advantage for the worms is they can easily find food source. This also lowers the rate in which he could be attacked by a predator since they are not roaming freely looking for food. They know where it is and what pathway to follow to reach this food.

Chemical orientation is what occurs with the worm. The worm is able to sense the chemicals and get drawn towards it.

There is more space for your answer to this question on the following page.

NII



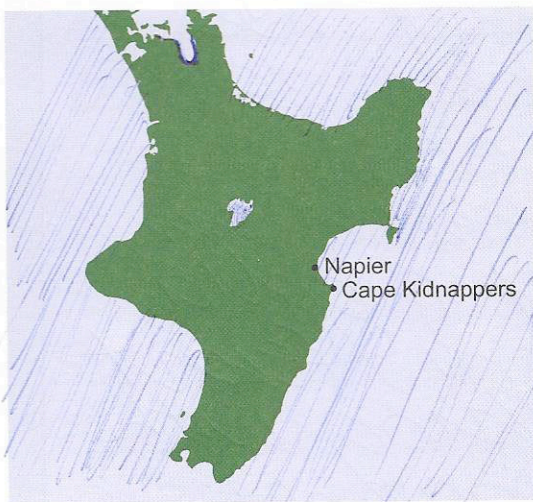
## QUESTION TWO

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Cape Kidnappers on the coast of Hawke's Bay is an exposed headland, which hosts the largest mainland gannet (*Morus serrator*) colony in New Zealand, with around 6500 breeding pairs arriving in early August each year. The birds remain until the young fledglings are mature enough to leave, and then return to Australia in March the following year.

Gannets usually have the same mate over many breeding seasons and re-establish their relationship at the beginning of each breeding season. During the breeding season, the area is densely occupied by the gannets which actively defend their nesting sites.

Females lay a single pale blue egg, the size of a large hen's egg, any time from mid-September till mid-December. It is laid in a nest prepared from dried seaweed, cemented with guano (bird droppings), and incubated by each parent in turn. After 43 days, a blind, naked chick hatches, and is fed and cared for by both parents.



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e9/Gannet\\_colony\\_cape\\_kidnappers.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e9/Gannet_colony_cape_kidnappers.jpg)

Evaluate the behaviours the gannet displays, using the given information above.

In your answer:

- identify and describe THREE behaviours displayed by the gannets
- explain the costs and benefits of the behaviours you have identified
- discuss how the combination of behaviours provides adaptive value to the gannets.

The gannets are territorial as they produce and live in the same territory area year after year. This benefits one, it's a familiar area for the gannets and they can all stick together which will eliminate the threat

There is more space for your answer to this question on the following page.



of predators. An advantage to  
 is that humans know that this  
 is the gannets' territories  
 so can put out sign and  
 warn public in response to  
 the gannets being there.  
 Another behaviour displayed  
 is the fact that they use  
 the same partner to  
 mate. This could cost as  
 there is not as much genetic  
 variation as they could  
 have if they used different  
 mates. The bad thing with  
 genetic similar gannets is  
 if a disease comes along  
 and their genetics couldn't  
 cope it would be wiped  
 out as they had similar  
 genetics. A cost of  
 having a territory is if  
 predators did come the  
 gannets would find it hard  
 to leave and go find  
 another territory to live  
 in.

Another behaviour is that  
 their area is full of



11 Gannets during breeding season this is beneficial as they can help collect food for the females as the females can stay behind and care for the offspring, also so they will have a bigger "army" to fight off predators as they need to protect their offspring. These behaviours give advantages to the species as it helps support and ensure the safety of offspring, therefore the population can grow and by having many gannets guarding the territory can help care for the territory and ensure no predator will try and take the territory away. 4

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### QUESTION THREE

Mutualistic relationships exist between New Zealand's native birds and trees, but introduced mammalian predators can affect this.

Maungatautari in the Waikato is a large area of forest where mammalian predators have been eradicated and a perimeter fence has been built to keep it predator free. The area has been used to study the effect of predator removal on the ability of birds to successfully pollinate species of native plants.

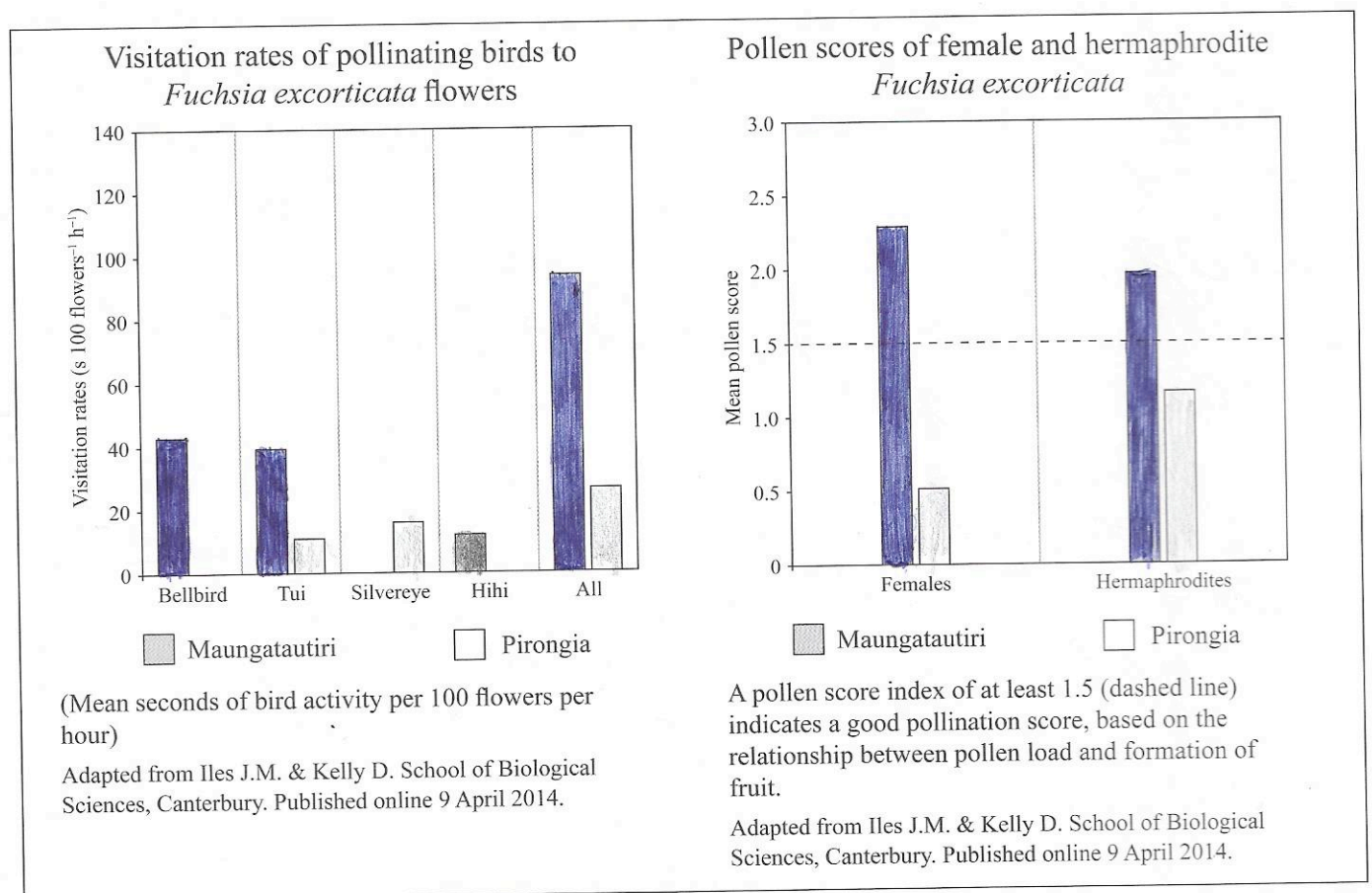
The New Zealand fuchsia, (kōtukutuku) – *Fuchsia excorticata*, was used as an indicator species, and comparisons were made with nearby Pirongia Forest Park, where mammalian predators are present.

*Fuchsia excorticata* trees have one of two flower types:

- female flowers which need pollination
- hermaphrodites (male and female) which can self-pollinate.

Successful pollination results in formation of fruit.

Some results from the study are summarised below.



Discuss the ecological relationships between the fuchsia trees, the bird species, and the presence or lack of mammals within the two forests, using the information given above to support your discussion.

In your answer:

- define the terms mutualism, predation, and interspecific competition
- explain the importance of pollination for both the fuchsia and the native birds
- use the data to compare, with reasons, the outcomes for *Fuchsia excorticata* and the key native bird species involved at the two sites.



|| mutualism is when both plants or organism benefits from one another. ~~for example~~

Predation is predator after one specific organism. Interspecific competition is competition within a species.

Native birds and flowers both benefit that how its mutualism. Native birds benefit from pollination ~~no~~ because they eat the flowers. The flowers benefit from the pollination as they can spread & produce more flowers. The cut comes out best for both to all birds with mutualism as the birds are beneficial to the flowers as they pollinate them.

There is more space for your answer to this question on the following page.







<b>Not Achieved exemplar for 91603 2015</b>		<b>Total score</b>	<b>04</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>	
1	N1	This response insufficient evidence towards Achievement. The candidate has shown some knowledge with a partial point in describing an adaptive advantage of the behaviours. No definitions given that are worthy of credit.	
2	N2	The candidate provides evidence for one point from Achievement in providing costs and benefits for two behaviours. Further evidence describing at least one behaviour in more detail would be needed for further credit towards achievement and the possibility of an A3.	
3	N1	A very limited answer with credit given for one definition only. A partial point for Achievement credit, in this case mutualism is just sufficient. The other definitions are incomplete or inaccurate. Significant improvement in definitions or a description of the differences between the forest would be needed to raise this answer to A3 or higher.	