



91159

Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 2 Biology 2023

91159 Demonstrate understanding of gene expression

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of gene expression.	Demonstrate in-depth understanding of gene expression.	Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of gene expression.

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.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–16 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in any cross-hatched area (Contraction of the cut off when the booklet is marked.

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

QUESTION ONE: MUTATIONS

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		GUA Val	GCA Ala	GAA Glu	GGA Gly	Α	
		GUG Val	GCG Ala	GAG Glu	GGG Gly	G	

Table 1. mRNA (codon): Amino Acid

Genetic disorders can be caused by point mutations. A point mutation to a gene at any point may disrupt protein folding and structure.

(a) The template DNA sequence for part of a normal gene and two different mutations is shown in Table 2 below. The affected bases are shown in red, bold and underlined.

Complete Table 2.

	10010 2				
	Normal gene sequence	Point mutation 1	Point mutation 2		
DNA template strand (middle section)	TAA TAG ATA CCA CAA	TAA TAG AT <mark>G</mark> CCA CAA	TAA TAG AT <mark>T</mark> CCA CAA		
mRNA strand					
Amino acid sequence					

Table 2

In your answer, include a discussion of:

- a mutation, including a description, and identify the type of point mutations shown in Table 2 on page 2
- how point mutation 1 will affect the amino acid sequence and final protein
- how point mutation 2 will affect the amino acid sequence and final protein
- how the degeneracy of the code and the mutations will affect the final functioning of the protein.

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your answer to this question
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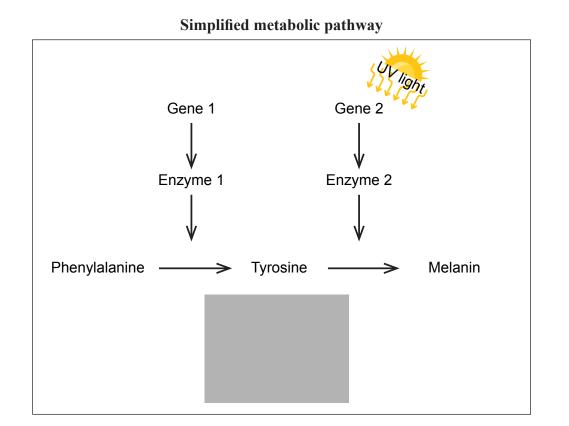
QUESTION TWO: GENOTYPE, ENVIRONMENT, AND MUTAGENS

A person's skin colour is a result of both genotype and the environment. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation or light can be a mutagen, and it can also be an environmental factor which is non-mutagenic. Low levels of UV light do not act as a mutagen but instead cause Gene 2, in the simplified metabolic pathway below, to produce more melanin in the skin and to express the full genetic potential of the person. This increased melanin protects the DNA in skin cells from the higher, mutagenic levels of UV light.

However, people with albinism produce very little or no melanin, regardless of how much UV light they are exposed to, and are at much greater risk of skin cancer. Cancer is caused by mutagens.



Watch strap tan line



Using the information given and the metabolic pathway above, discuss **how** and **why** UV light can affect **both** phenotype (melanin production) and genotype.

In your answer, include a discussion of:

- an environmental factor (non-mutagen) AND a mutagen, including descriptions of each
- how melanin is produced in the metabolic pathway AND how UV light affects genetic potential
- how melanin is not produced in people with albinism AND why these people are more likely to get skin cancer.

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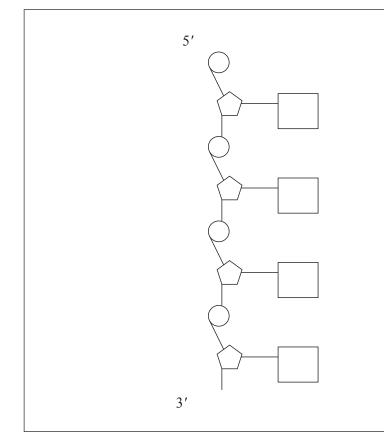
QUESTION THREE: PROTEIN SYNTHESIS

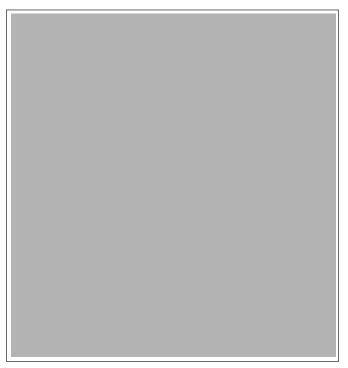
DNA is made up of phosphates, deoxyribose sugar, and nitrogenous bases.

(a) Complete the diagram of DNA in the box below.

In your answer:

- fill in the template strand containing bases thymine (T), adenine (A), guanine (G), and cytosine (C)
- draw the corresponding **anti-parallel** complementary strand
- draw and label the sugars
- draw and label the phosphates.





DNA base-pairing rule

(b) Name the TWO stages in protein synthesis and the order in which they occur.

(c) Discuss how the complementary base-pairing rule ensures accurate protein synthesis, referring to the figure above.

A detailed description of the steps in protein synthesis is **not** required.

In your answer, include a discussion of:

- how triplets, codons, and anticodons (including descriptions of each) are used to transfer the genetic code on DNA to the sequence of amino acids in the protein
- why accuracy of the two processes named in your answer to (b) above is so important for protein synthesis.

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	Acknowledgements Material from the following sources has been adapted for use in this assessment:		
Page 2 Table:	Allan R. & Greenwood T. (2002). Year 12 biology 2003: student resource and activity manual (10th ed. 2003). Biozone., p. 287.		
Page 6 Images:	https://jwu.pressbooks.pub/humanbiology/chapter/5-13-non-mendelian-inheritance/ https://health.howstuffworks.com/skin-care/problems/medical/albinism.htm		
Page 11 Image:	https://www.biologyonline.com/dictionary/base-pairing-rule		

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