
CHAPTER 4

Science sample tasks

Science questions in PISA aim at evaluating how well students apply scientific ways of thinking to situations they could encounter in their everyday lives. This allows PISA to include scientific knowledge relevant to the science curricula of participating countries without being constrained by the common denominator of national curricula. To capture this idea, PISA uses the concept of *scientific literacy*.

In 2000 and 2003, scientific literacy was defined as:

the capacity to use scientific knowledge, to identify questions and to draw evidence-based conclusions in order to understand and help make decisions about the natural world and the changes made to it through human activity.

To assess the students in science, three interconnected dimensions were distinguished: *scientific concepts*, *scientific processes* and *scientific situations*.

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Scientific concepts are drawn from physics, chemistry and biology. More specifically, PISA used themes such as “forces and movement” or “the earth and its place in the universe”. The selection of topics is based on their relevance to everyday situations, their enduring relevance as well as the possibility to combine the topic with scientific processes (so for example more than just recalling a name or a definition). The knowledge thus refers to the scientific concepts which students need to grasp.

Students and people in general need to use and apply their scientific knowledge and understanding via *scientific processes*. In PISA the focus lies on processes which citizens will need, such as: distinguishing between questions which science can and cannot answer, deciding when scientific evidence is and is not valid and weighing evidence for and against a particular course of action that affects life at the personal, social or global level. In PISA 2000, a distinction was made between the following five scientific processes:

1. Recognising scientifically investigable questions.
2. Identifying evidence needed in a scientific investigation.
3. Drawing or evaluating conclusions.
4. Communicating valid conclusions.
5. Demonstrating understanding of scientific concepts.

In PISA 2003, three processes were distinguished:

1. Describing, explaining and predicting scientific phenomena.
2. Understanding scientific investigation.
3. Interpreting scientific evidence and conclusions.

The third of the three interrelated dimensions are *scientific situations* (sometimes referred to as areas of applications or as contexts). The situation can be science in life and health, science in earth and the environment or science in technology.

In PISA 2006, science was assessed more comprehensively. As a result, some changes were made to the assessment. A major difference between the definition of scientific literacy used in PISA 2000 and 2003 and the PISA 2006 definition is the distinction between knowledge *of* science and knowledge *about* science in the 2006 assessment. The former means an understanding of scientific concepts and theories whereas

the latter refers to an understanding of the nature, power and limitations of science as a human activity. In addition, the 2006 definition draws attention to the relationship between science and technology. PISA 2006 defines scientific literacy in terms of an individual's:

- Scientific knowledge and use of that knowledge to identify questions, to acquire new knowledge, to explain phenomena, and to draw evidence-based conclusions about science-related issues.
- Understanding of the characteristic features of science as a form of human knowledge and enquiry.
- Awareness of how science and technology shape our material, intellectual and cultural environments.
- Willingness to engage with science-related issues, and with the ideas of science, as a reflective citizen.

Instead of the three interconnected dimensions which were distinguished in PISA 2000 and 2003 (concepts, processes and situations), PISA 2006 differentiates between four interrelated aspects: *knowledge*, *competencies*, *contexts* and *attitudes*. The first three bear some resemblance to the earlier dimensions, but have been altered in fundamental ways. The attitudinal aspect is new.

Knowledge is subdivided into knowledge *of* science and knowledge *about* science. Knowledge of science includes four sub-categories (physical systems; living systems; earth and space systems; technology systems) and knowledge about science encompasses two sub-categories (scientific enquiry and scientific explanations).

The three *competencies* which are assessed are:

1. Identifying scientific issues.
2. Explaining phenomena scientifically.
3. Using scientific evidence.

The *context* can be personal, social or global, as well as - in some cases - historical. Each question used in a PISA survey falls into one category of each of the three aspects. For example, Question 10.1 from the unit Acid Rain (used in the PISA 2006 survey) is classified into the competency explaining phenomena scientifically, into the knowledge of science sub-category living systems and into a global context. As the last two categorisations are generally fairly obvious, they will not be explicitly mentioned for the questions presented here.

The fourth dimension is student *attitudes*. These questions are different from the rest, because they have no right or wrong answer. They relate to the same scientific issue as the other questions in that unit, but they ask about students' attitudes towards that issue. The attitude dimension is divided into the following four sub-categories: a) interest in science, b) support for scientific enquiry, c) self-belief as science learners and d) responsibility towards resources and environments.

To report the results of PISA 2000 and PISA 2003, a single science scale was used. The average score on this scale is 500 with two-thirds of students scoring between 400 and 600. In 2006, when science was assessed more comprehensively, separate scales for each of the competencies and knowledge domains were created in addition to an overall science scale. Like the science scales in PISA 2000 and 2003, each of these scales has a mean score of 500 points with two-thirds of students scoring between 400 and 600. More information on PISA proficiency scales can be found in Annex A.

This chapter presents 40 units. The first 12 units were used in the PISA surveys. Units 13 to 40 were used in developing and testing out the surveys. While it was decided not to include these units in the PISA surveys, they are nevertheless illustrative of the kinds of questions asked in PISA. The questions presented in this chapter are all publicly released PISA science questions. Following the section with questions, answers for all questions are given. For units 1 to 12, a comment box includes score points, percentage of students who answered correctly across OECD countries and the question category. For country results, refer to Annex B. For units 13 to 40, a comment box lists the question category. Because these units were not used in the PISA surveys, the information regarding score points and percentage of students who answered correctly is not known or it not sufficiently reliable to be presented here.

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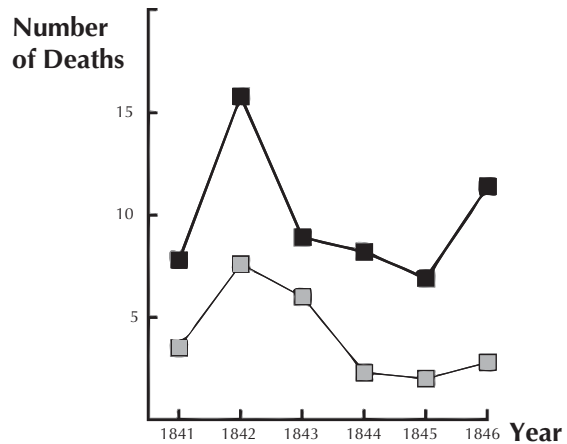
SCIENCE UNIT 1: SEMMELWEIS' DIARY

Semmelweis' Diary Text 1

'July 1846. Next week I will take up a position as "Herr Doktor" at the First Ward of the maternity clinic of the Vienna General Hospital. I was frightened when I heard about the percentage of patients who die in this clinic. This month not less than 36 of the 208 mothers died there, all from puerperal fever. Giving birth to a child is as dangerous as first-degree pneumonia.'

These lines from the diary of Ignaz Semmelweis (1818-1865) illustrate the devastating effects of puerperal fever, a contagious disease that killed many women after childbirth. Semmelweis collected data about the number of deaths from puerperal fever in both the First and the Second Wards (see diagram).

Number of Deaths per 100 deliveries from puerperal fever



Diagram

Physicians, among them Semmelweis, were completely in the dark about the cause of puerperal fever. Semmelweis' diary again:

'December 1846. Why do so many women die from this fever after giving birth without any problems? For centuries science has told us that it is an invisible epidemic that kills mothers. Causes may be changes in the air or some extraterrestrial influence or a movement of the earth itself, an earthquake.'

Nowadays not many people would consider extraterrestrial influence or an earthquake as possible causes of fever. We now know it has to do with hygienic conditions. But in the time Semmelweis lived, many people, even scientists, did! However, Semmelweis knew that it was unlikely that fever could be caused by extraterrestrial influence or an earthquake. He pointed at the data he collected (see diagram) and used this to try to persuade his colleagues.

QUESTION 1.1

Suppose you were Semmelweis. Give a reason (based on the data Semmelweis collected) why puerperal fever is unlikely to be caused by earthquakes.

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Semmelweis' Diary Text 2

Part of the research in the hospital was dissection. The body of a deceased person was cut open to find a cause of death. Semmelweis recorded that the students working on the First ward usually took part in dissections on women who died the previous day, before they examined women who had just given birth. They did not pay much attention to cleaning themselves after the dissections. Some were even proud of the fact that you could tell by their smell that they had been working in the mortuary, as this showed how industrious they were! One of Semmelweis' friends died after having cut himself during such a dissection. Dissection of his body showed he had the same symptoms as mothers who died from puerperal fever. This gave Semmelweis a new idea.

QUESTION 1.2

Semmelweis' new idea had to do with the high percentage of women dying in the maternity wards and the students' behaviour.

What was this idea?

- A. Having students clean themselves after dissections should lead to a decrease of puerperal fever.
- B. Students should not take part in dissections because they may cut themselves.
- C. Students smell because they do not clean themselves after a dissection.
- D. Students want to show that they are industrious, which makes them careless when they examine the women.

QUESTION 1.3

Semmelweis succeeded in his attempts to reduce the number of deaths due to puerperal fever. But puerperal fever even today remains a disease that is difficult to eliminate.

Fevers that are difficult to cure are still a problem in hospitals. Many routine measures serve to control this problem. Among those measures are washing sheets at high temperatures.

Explain why high temperature (while washing sheets) helps to reduce the risk that patients will contract a fever.

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QUESTION 1.4

Many diseases may be cured by using antibiotics. However, the success of some antibiotics against puerperal fever has diminished in recent years.

What is the reason for this?

- A. Once produced, antibiotics gradually lose their activity.
- B. Bacteria become resistant to antibiotics.
- C. These antibiotics only help against puerperal fever, but not against other diseases.
- D. The need for these antibiotics has been reduced because public health conditions have improved considerably in recent years.

SCIENCE UNIT 2: OZONE

Read the following section of an article about the ozone layer.

The atmosphere is an ocean of air and a precious natural resource for sustaining life on the Earth. Unfortunately, human activities based on national/personal interests are causing harm to this common resource, notably by depleting the fragile ozone layer, which acts as a protective shield for life on the Earth.

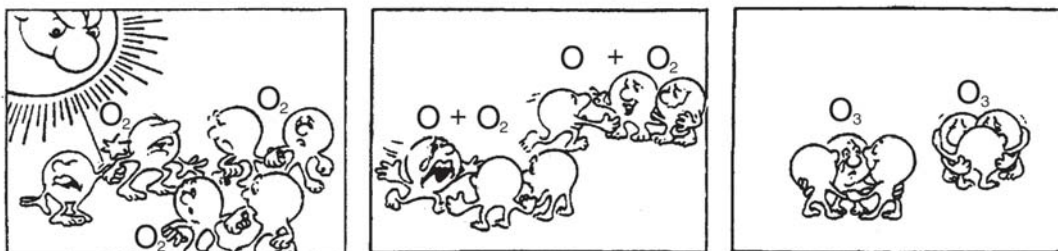
Ozone molecules consist of three oxygen atoms, as opposed to oxygen molecules which consist of two oxygen atoms. Ozone molecules are exceedingly rare: fewer than ten in every million molecules of air. However, for nearly a billion years, their presence in the atmosphere has played a vital role in safeguarding life on Earth. Depending on where it is located, ozone can either protect or harm life on Earth. The ozone in the troposphere (up to 10 kilometres above the Earth's surface) is "bad" ozone which can damage lung tissues and plants. But about 90 percent of ozone found in the stratosphere (between 10 and 40 kilometres above the Earth's surface) is "good" ozone which plays a beneficial role by absorbing dangerous ultraviolet (UV-B) radiation from the Sun.

Without this beneficial ozone layer, humans would be more susceptible to certain diseases due to the increased incidence of ultra-violet rays from the Sun. In the last decades the amount of ozone has decreased. In 1974 it was hypothesised that chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) could be a cause for this. Until 1987, scientific assessment of the cause-effect relationship was not convincing enough to implicate CFCs. However, in September 1987, diplomats from around the world met in Montreal (Canada) and agreed to set sharp limits to the use of CFCs.

Source: Connect, UNESCO International Science, Technology & Environmental Education Newsletter, Section from an article entitled 'The Chemistry of Atmospheric policy', Vol. XXII, No. 2, 1997 (spelling adapted)

QUESTION 2.1

In the text above nothing is mentioned about the way ozone is formed in the atmosphere. In fact each day some ozone is formed and some other ozone disappears. The way ozone is formed is illustrated in the following comic strip.



Suppose you have an uncle who tries to understand the meaning of this strip. However, he did not get any science education at school and he doesn't understand what the author of the strip is explaining. He knows that there are no little fellows in the atmosphere but he wonders what those little fellows in the strip stand for, what those strange notations O , O_2 and O_3 mean and which processes the strip represents. He asks you to explain the strip. Assume that your uncle knows:

that O is the symbol for oxygen;

what atoms and molecules are.

Write an explanation of the comic strip for your uncle.

In your explanation, use the words atoms and molecules in the way they are used in lines 5 and 6.

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QUESTION 2.2

Ozone is also formed during thunderstorms. It causes the typical smell after such a storm. In lines 9–13 the author of the text distinguishes between “bad ozone” and “good ozone”.

In terms of the article, is the ozone that is formed during thunderstorms “bad ozone” or “good ozone”? Choose the answer and the explanation that is supported by the text.

	Bad ozone or good ozone?	Explanation
A	Bad	It is formed during bad weather.
B	Bad	It is formed in the troposphere.
C	Good	It is formed in the stratosphere.
D	Good	It smells good.

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QUESTION 2.3

Lines 14 and 15 state: “Without this beneficial ozone layer, humans would be more susceptible to certain diseases due to the increased incidence of ultra-violet rays from the Sun.”

Name one of these specific diseases.

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SCIENCE UNIT 3: DAYLIGHT

Read the following information and answer the questions that follow.

Daylight on 22 June 2002

<p>Today, as the Northern Hemisphere celebrates its longest day, Australians will experience their shortest. In Melbourne*, Australia, the Sun will rise at 7:36 am and set at 5:08 pm, giving nine hours and 32 minutes of daylight.</p> <p>Compare today to the year's longest day in the Southern Hemisphere, expected on 22 December, when the Sun will</p>	<p>rise at 5:55 am and set at 8:42 pm, giving 14 hours and 47 minutes of daylight.</p> <p>The President of the Astronomical Society, Mr Perry Vlahos, said the existence of changing seasons in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres was linked to the Earth's 23-degree tilt.</p>
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*Melbourne is a city in Australia at a latitude of about 38 degrees South of the equator.

Source: The Age newspaper, Melbourne, Australia, 22nd June 1998 (adapted).

QUESTION 3.1

Which statement explains why daylight and darkness occur on Earth?

- A. The Earth rotates on its axis.
- B. The Sun rotates on its axis.
- C. The Earth's axis is tilted.
- D. The Earth revolves around the Sun.

QUESTION 3.2

In the Figure light rays from the Sun are shown shining on the Earth

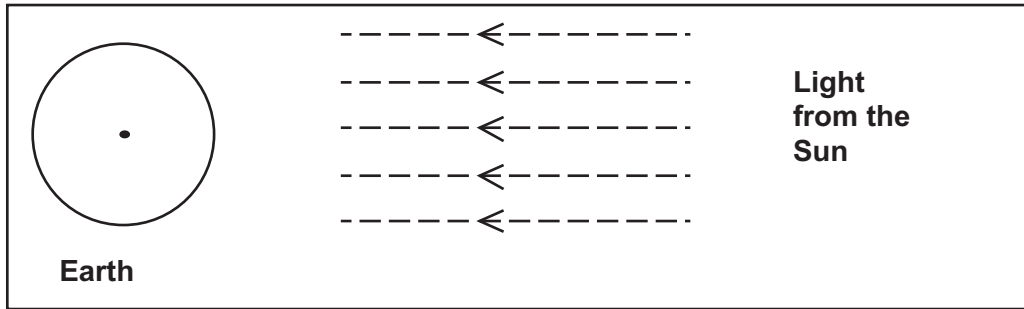


Figure: light rays from Sun

Suppose it is the shortest day in Melbourne.

Show the Earth's axis, the Northern Hemisphere, the Southern Hemisphere and the Equator on the Figure. Label all parts of your answer.

SCIENCE UNIT 4: CLONING

Read the newspaper article and answer the questions that follow.

A copying machine for living beings?

Without any doubt, if there had been elections for the animal of the year 1997, Dolly would have been the winner!

Dolly is a Scottish sheep that you see in the photo. But Dolly is not just a simple sheep. She is a clone of another sheep. A clone means: a copy. Cloning means copying 'from a single master copy'. Scientists succeeded in creating a sheep (Dolly) that is identical to a sheep that functioned as a 'master copy'.

It was the Scottish scientist Ian Wilmut who designed the 'copying machine' for sheep. He took a very small piece from the udder of an adult sheep (sheep 1). From that small piece he removed the

nucleus, then he transferred the nucleus into the egg-cell of another (female) sheep (sheep 2). But first he removed from that egg-cell all the material that would have determined sheep 2 characteristics in a lamb produced from that egg-cell. Ian Wilmut implanted the manipulated egg-cell of sheep 2 into yet another (female) sheep (sheep 3). Sheep 3 became pregnant and had a lamb: Dolly.

Some scientists think that within a few years it will be possible to clone people as well. But many governments have already decided to forbid cloning of people by law.



Source: Tijdschrift van de Eenhoorn Educatief (Brussels Onderwijs Punt): March 1997.

QUESTION 4.1

Which sheep is Dolly identical to?

- A. Sheep 1
- B. Sheep 2
- C. Sheep 3
- D. Dolly's father

QUESTION 4.2

In line 14 the part of the udder that was used is described as "a very small piece". From the article text you can work out what is meant by "a very small piece".

That "very small piece" is

- A. a cell.
- B. a gene.
- C. a cell nucleus.
- D. a chromosome.

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QUESTION 4.3

In the last sentence of the article it is stated that many governments have already decided to forbid cloning of people by law.

Two possible reasons for this decision are mentioned below.

Are these reasons scientific reasons?

Circle either "Yes" or "No" for each.

Reason:	Scientific?
Cloned people could be more sensitive to certain diseases than normal people.	Yes / No
People should not take over the role of a Creator.	Yes / No

SCIENCE UNIT 5: GREENHOUSE

Read the texts and answer the questions that follow.

The greenhouse effect: fact or fiction?

Living things need energy to survive. The energy that sustains life on the Earth comes from the Sun, which radiates energy into space because it is so hot. A tiny proportion of this energy reaches the Earth.

The Earth's atmosphere acts like a protective blanket over the surface of our planet, preventing the variations in temperature that would exist in an airless world.

Most of the radiated energy coming from the Sun passes through the Earth's atmosphere. The Earth absorbs some of this energy, and some is reflected back from the Earth's surface. Part of this reflected energy is absorbed by the atmosphere.

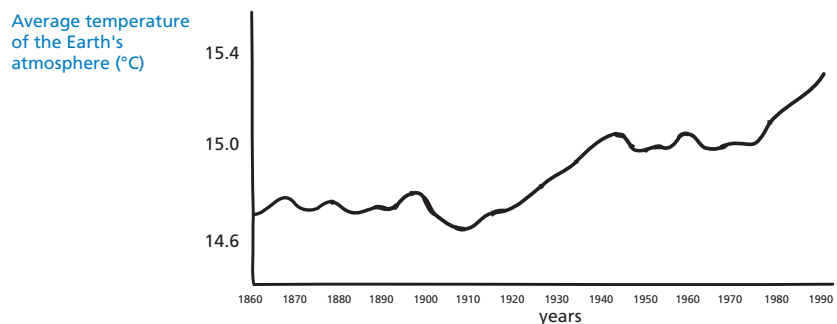
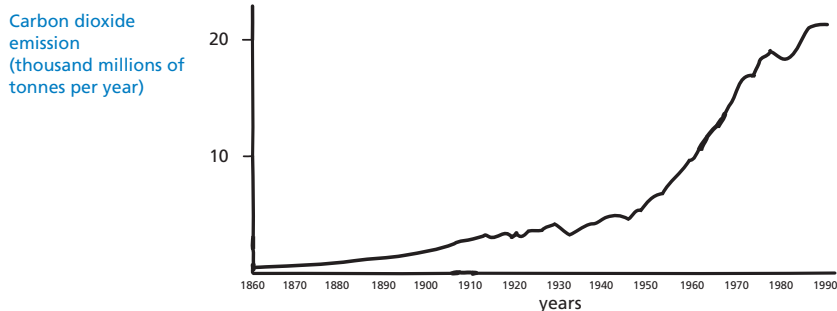
As a result of this the average temperature above the Earth's surface is higher than it would be if there were no atmosphere. The Earth's atmosphere has the same effect as a greenhouse, hence the term *greenhouse effect*.

The greenhouse effect is said to have become more pronounced during the twentieth century.

It is a fact that the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere has increased. In newspapers and periodicals the increased carbon dioxide emission is often stated as the main source of the temperature rise in the twentieth century.

A student named André becomes interested in the possible relationship between the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and the carbon dioxide emission on the Earth.

In a library he comes across the following two graphs.



Source: CSTI Environmental Information Paper 1, 1992.

André concludes from these two graphs that it is certain that the increase in the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere is due to the increase in the carbon dioxide emission.

QUESTION 5.1

What is it about the graphs that supports André's conclusion?

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QUESTION 5.2

Another student, Jeanne, disagrees with André's conclusion. She compares the two graphs and says that some parts of the graphs do not support his conclusion.

Give an example of a part of the graphs that does not support André's conclusion. Explain your answer.

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QUESTION 5.3

André persists in his conclusion that the average temperature rise of the Earth's atmosphere is caused by the increase in the carbon dioxide emission. But Jeanne thinks that his conclusion is premature. She says: "Before accepting this conclusion you must be sure that other factors that could influence the greenhouse effect are constant".

Name one of the factors that Jeanne means.

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SCIENCE UNIT 6: CLOTHES

Read the text and answer the questions that follow.

CLOTHES TEXT

A team of British scientists is developing "intelligent" clothes that will give disabled children the power of "speech". Children wearing waistcoats made of a unique electrotexile, linked to a speech synthesiser, will be able to make themselves understood simply by tapping on the touch-sensitive material.

The material is made up of normal cloth and an ingenious mesh of carbon-impregnated fibres that can conduct electricity. When pressure is applied to the fabric, the pattern of signals that passes through the conducting fibres is altered and a computer chip can work out where the cloth has been touched. It then can trigger whatever electronic device is attached to it, which could be no bigger than two boxes of matches.

"The smart bit is in how we weave the fabric and how we send signals through it – and we can weave it into existing fabric designs so you cannot see it's in there," says one of the scientists.

Without being damaged, the material can be washed, wrapped around objects or scrunched up. The scientist also claims it can be mass-produced cheaply.

Source: Steve Farrer, 'Interactive fabric promises a material gift of the garb', The Australian, 10 August 1998.

QUESTION 6.1

Can these claims made in the article be tested through scientific investigation in the laboratory?

Circle either "Yes" or "No" for each.

The material can be	Can the claim be tested through scientific investigation in the laboratory?
washed without being damaged.	Yes / No
wrapped around objects without being damaged.	Yes / No
scrunched up without being damaged.	Yes / No
mass-produced cheaply.	Yes / No

QUESTION 6.2

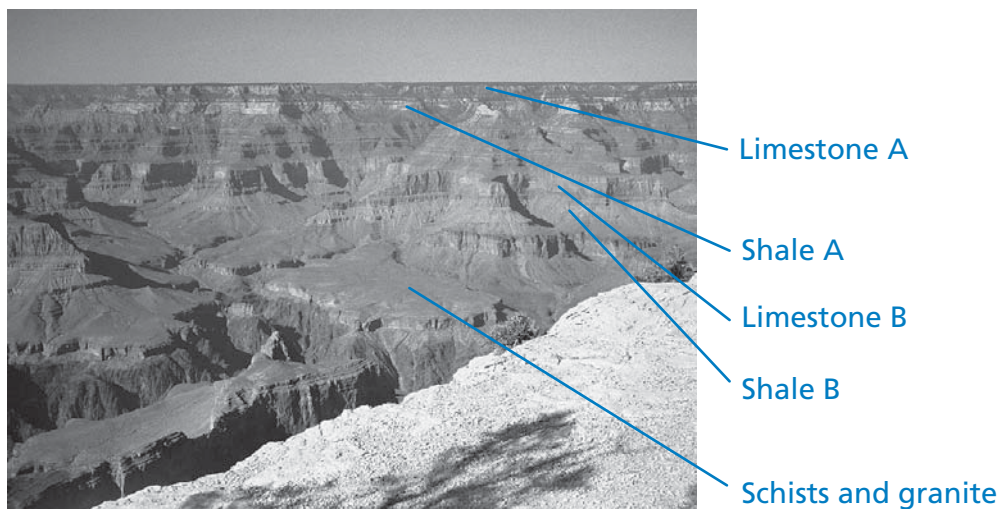
Which piece of laboratory equipment would be among the equipment you would need to check that the fabric is conducting electricity?

- A. Voltmeter
- B. Light box
- C. Micrometer
- D. Sound meter

SCIENCE UNIT 7: THE GRAND CANYON

The Grand Canyon is located in a desert in the USA. It is a very large and deep canyon containing many layers of rock. Sometime in the past, movements in the Earth's crust lifted these layers up. The Grand Canyon is now 1.6 km deep in parts. The Colorado River runs through the bottom of the canyon.

See the picture below of the Grand Canyon taken from its south rim. Several different layers of rock can be seen in the walls of the canyon.



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QUESTION 7.1

The temperature in the Grand Canyon ranges from below 0 °C to over 40 °C. Although it is a desert area, cracks in the rocks sometimes contain water. How do these temperature changes and the water in rock cracks help to speed up the breakdown of rocks?

- A. Freezing water dissolves warm rocks.
- B. Water cements rocks together.
- C. Ice smooths the surface of rocks.
- D. Freezing water expands in the rock cracks.

QUESTION 7.2

There are many fossils of marine animals, such as clams, fish and corals, in the Limestone A layer of the Grand Canyon. What happened millions of years ago that explains why such fossils are found there?

- A In ancient times, people brought seafood to the area from the ocean.
- B Oceans were once much rougher and sea life washed inland on giant waves.
- C An ocean covered this area at that time and then receded later.
- D Some sea animals once lived on land before migrating to the sea.

QUESTION 7.3

About five million people visit the Grand Canyon national park every year. There is concern about the damage that is being caused to the park by so many visitors.

Can the following questions be answered by scientific investigation? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each question.

Can this question be answered by scientific investigation?	Yes or No?
How much erosion is caused by use of the walking tracks?	Yes / No
Is the park area as beautiful as it was 100 years ago?	Yes / No

QUESTION 7.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The systematic study of fossils is important.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Action to protect National Parks from damage should be based on scientific evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Scientific investigation of geological layers is important.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

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SCIENCE UNIT 8: SUNSCREENS

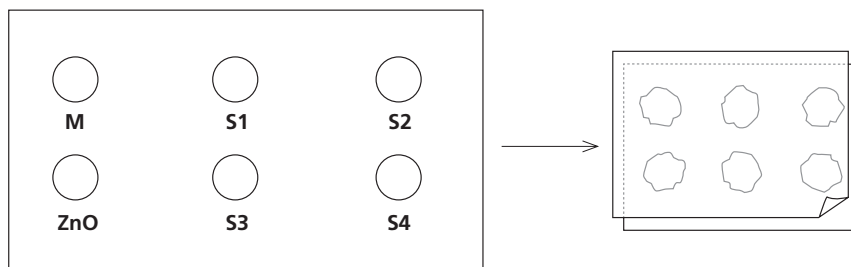
Mimi and Dean wondered which sunscreen product provides the best protection for their skin. Sunscreen products have a *Sun Protection Factor (SPF)* that shows how well each product absorbs the ultraviolet radiation component of sunlight. A high SPF sunscreen protects skin for longer than a low SPF sunscreen.

Mimi thought of a way to compare some different sunscreen products. She and Dean collected the following:

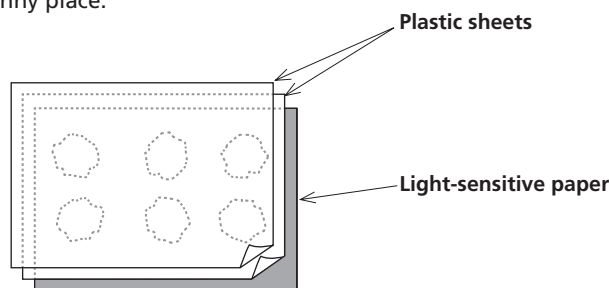
- two sheets of clear plastic that do not absorb sunlight;
- one sheet of light-sensitive paper;
- mineral oil (M) and a cream containing zinc oxide (ZnO); and
- four different sunscreens that they called S1, S2, S3, and S4.

Mimi and Dean included mineral oil because it lets most of the sunlight through, and zinc oxide because it almost completely blocks sunlight.

Dean placed a drop of each substance inside a circle marked on one sheet of plastic, then put the second plastic sheet over the top. He placed a large book on top of both sheets and pressed down.



Mimi then put the plastic sheets on top of the sheet of light-sensitive paper. Light-sensitive paper changes from dark grey to white (or very light grey), depending on how long it is exposed to sunlight. Finally, Dean placed the sheets in a sunny place.



QUESTION 8.1

Which one of these statements is a scientific description of the role of the mineral oil and the zinc oxide in comparing the effectiveness of the sunscreens?

- A. Mineral oil and zinc oxide are both factors being tested.
- B. Mineral oil is a factor being tested and zinc oxide is a reference substance.
- C. Mineral oil is a reference substance and zinc oxide is a factor being tested.
- D. Mineral oil and zinc oxide are both reference substances.

QUESTION 8.2

- Which one of these questions were Mimi and Dean trying to answer?
- A. How does the protection for each sunscreen compare with the others?
 - B. How do sunscreens protect your skin from ultraviolet radiation?
 - C. Is there any sunscreen that gives less protection than mineral oil?
 - D. Is there any sunscreen that gives more protection than zinc oxide?

QUESTION 8.3

- Why was the second sheet of plastic pressed down?
- A. To stop the drops from drying out.
 - B. To spread the drops out as far as possible.
 - C. To keep the drops inside the marked circles.
 - D. To make the drops the same thickness.

QUESTION 8.4

The light-sensitive paper is a dark grey and fades to a lighter grey when it is exposed to some sunlight, and to white when exposed to a lot of sunlight.

Which one of these diagrams shows a pattern that might occur? Explain why you chose it.









































































Answer:

Explanation:

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SCIENCE UNIT 9: MARY MONTAGU

Read the following newspaper article and answer the questions that follow.

The History of Vaccination

Mary Montagu was a beautiful woman. She survived an attack of smallpox in 1715 but she was left covered with scars. While living in Turkey in 1717, she observed a method called inoculation that was commonly used there. This treatment involved scratching a weak type of smallpox virus into the skin of healthy young people who then became sick, but in most cases only with a mild form of the disease.

Mary Montagu was so convinced of the safety of these inoculations that she allowed her son and daughter to be inoculated.

In 1796, Edward Jenner used inoculations of a related disease, cowpox, to produce antibodies against smallpox. Compared with the inoculation of smallpox, this treatment had less side effects and the treated person could not infect others. The treatment became known as vaccination.

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QUESTION 9.1

What kinds of diseases can people be vaccinated against?

- A. Inherited diseases like haemophilia.
- B. Diseases that are caused by viruses, like polio.
- C. Diseases from the malfunctioning of the body, like diabetes.
- D. Any sort of disease that has no cure.

QUESTION 9.2

If animals or humans become sick with an infectious bacterial disease and then recover, the type of bacteria that caused the disease does not usually make them sick again.

What is the reason for this?

- A. The body has killed all bacteria that may cause the same kind of disease.
- B. The body has made antibodies that kill this type of bacteria before they multiply.
- C. The red blood cells kill all bacteria that may cause the same kind of disease.
- D. The red blood cells capture and get rid of this type of bacteria from the body.

QUESTION 9.3

Give one reason why it is recommended that young children and old people, in particular, should be vaccinated against influenza (flu).

.....

.....

.....

QUESTION 9.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am in favour of research to develop vaccines for new strains of influenza.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
The cause of a disease can only be identified by scientific research.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
The effectiveness of unconventional treatments for diseases should be subject to scientific investigation.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

4

SCIENCE UNIT 10: ACID RAIN

Below is a photo of statues called Caryatids that were built on the Acropolis in Athens more than 2500 years ago. The statues are made of a type of rock called marble. Marble is composed of calcium carbonate.

In 1980, the original statues were transferred inside the museum of the Acropolis and were replaced by replicas. The original statues were being eaten away by acid rain.



4

QUESTION 10.1

Normal rain is slightly acidic because it has absorbed some carbon dioxide from the air. Acid rain is more acidic than normal rain because it has absorbed gases like sulfur oxides and nitrogen oxides as well.

Where do these sulfur oxides and nitrogen oxides in the air come from?

.....

.....

The effect of acid rain on marble can be modelled by placing chips of marble in vinegar overnight. Vinegar and acid rain have about the same acidity level. When a marble chip is placed in vinegar, bubbles of gas form. The mass of the dry marble chip can be found before and after the experiment.

QUESTION 10.2

A marble chip has a mass of 2.0 grams before being immersed in vinegar overnight. The chip is removed and dried the next day. What will the mass of the dried marble chip be?

- A. Less than 2.0 grams
- B. Exactly 2.0 grams
- C. Between 2.0 and 2.4 grams
- D. More than 2.4 grams

QUESTION 10.3

Students who did this experiment also placed marble chips in pure (distilled) water overnight.

Explain why the students included this step in their experiment.

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QUESTION 10.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Knowing which human activities contribute most to acid rain	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning about technologies that minimise the emission of gases that cause acid rain	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Understanding the methods used to repair buildings damaged by acid rain	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

4

QUESTION 10.5 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Preservation of ancient ruins should be based on scientific evidence concerning the causes of damage.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Statements about the causes of acid rain should be based on scientific research.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE UNIT 11 : PHYSICAL EXERCISE

Regular but moderate physical exercise is good for our health.



4

QUESTION 11.1

What are the advantages of regular physical exercise? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each statement.

Is this an advantage of regular physical exercise?	Yes or No?
Physical exercise helps prevent heart and circulation illnesses.	Yes / No
Physical exercise leads to a healthy diet.	Yes / No
Physical exercise helps to avoid becoming overweight.	Yes / No

QUESTION 11.2

What happens when muscles are exercised? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each statement.

Does this happen when muscles are exercised?	Yes or No?
Muscles get an increased flow of blood.	Yes / No
Fats are formed in the muscles.	Yes / No

QUESTION 11.3

Why do you have to breathe more heavily when you're doing physical exercise than when your body is resting?

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SCIENCE UNIT 12: GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS

GM Corn Should Be Banned

Wildlife conservation groups are demanding that a new genetically modified (GM) corn be banned.

This GM corn is designed to be unaffected by a powerful new herbicide that kills conventional corn plants. This new herbicide will kill most of the weeds that grow in cornfields.

The conservationists say that because these weeds are feed for small animals, especially insects, the use of the new herbicide with the GM corn will be bad for the environment. Supporters of the use of the GM corn say that a scientific study has shown that this will not happen.

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Here are details of the scientific study mentioned in the above article:

- Corn was planted in 200 fields across the country.
- Each field was divided into two. The genetically modified (GM) corn treated with the powerful new herbicide was grown in one half, and the conventional corn treated with a conventional herbicide was grown in the other half.
- The number of insects found in the GM corn, treated with the new herbicide, was about the same as the number of insects in the conventional corn, treated with the conventional herbicide.

QUESTION 12.1

What factors were deliberately varied in the scientific study mentioned in the article? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each of the following factors.

Was this factor deliberately varied in the study?	Yes or No?
The number of insects in the environment	Yes / No
The types of herbicide used	Yes / No

QUESTION 12.2

Corn was planted in 200 fields across the country. Why did the scientists use more than one site?

- A. So that many farmers could try the new GM corn.
- B. To see how much GM corn they could grow.
- C. To cover as much land as possible with the GM crop.
- D. To include various growth conditions for corn.

QUESTION 12.3 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Learning about the process by which plants are genetically modified	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning why some plants are not affected by herbicides	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Understanding better the difference between cross-breeding and genetic modification of plants	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE UNIT 13: BIODIVERSITY

Read the following newspaper article and answer the questions which follow.

BIODIVERSITY IS THE KEY TO MANAGING ENVIRONMENT

An ecosystem that retains a high biodiversity (that is, a wide variety of living things) is much more likely to adapt to human-caused environment change than is one that has little.

Consider the two food webs shown in the diagram. The arrows point from the

organism that gets eaten to the one that eats it. These food webs are highly simplified compared with food webs in real ecosystems, but they still illustrate a key difference between more diverse and less diverse ecosystems.

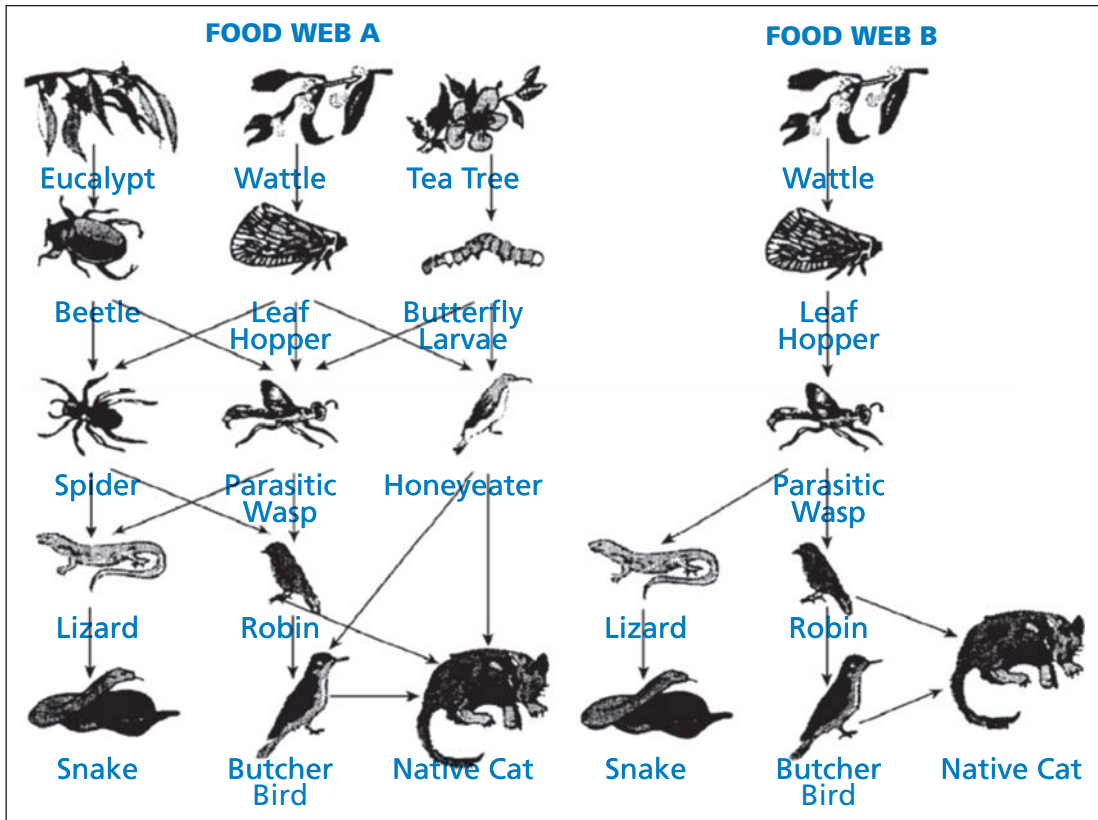
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Food web B represents a situation with very low biodiversity, where at some levels the food path involves only a single type of organism. Food web A represents a more diverse ecosystem with, as a result, many more alternative feeding pathways.

10

Generally, loss of biodiversity should be regarded seriously, not only because the organisms that have become extinct represent a big loss for both ethical and utilitarian (useful benefit) reasons, but also because the organisms that remain have become more vulnerable (exposed) to extinction in the future.

4



Source: Adapted from Steve Malcolm: 'Biodiversity is the key to managing environment', The Age, 16 August 1994.

QUESTION 13.1

In lines 9 and 10 it is stated that "Food web A represents a more diverse ecosystem with, as a result, many more alternative feeding pathways."

Look at FOOD WEB A. Only two animals in this food web have three direct (immediate) food sources. Which two animals are they?

- A. Native Cat and Parasitic Wasp
- B. Native Cat and Butcher Bird
- C. Parasitic Wasp and Leaf Hopper
- D. Parasitic Wasp and Spider
- E. Native Cat and Honeyeater

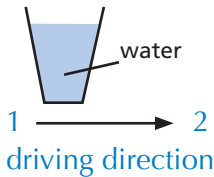
QUESTION 13.2

Food webs A and B are in different locations. Imagine if Leaf Hoppers died out in both locations. Which one of these is the best prediction and explanation for the effect this would have on the food webs?

- A. The effect would be greater in food web A because the Parasitic Wasp has only one food source in web A.
- B. The effect would be greater in food web A because the Parasitic Wasp has several food sources in web A.
- C. The effect would be greater in food web B because the Parasitic Wasp has only one food source in web B.
- D. The effect would be greater in food web B because the Parasitic Wasp has several food sources in web B.

SCIENCE UNIT 14: BUSES

QUESTION 14.1



A bus is driving along a straight stretch of road. The bus driver, named Ray, has a cup of water resting on the dashboard:

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Suddenly Ray has to slam on the brakes.

What is most likely to happen to the water in the cup?

- A. The water will stay horizontal.
- B. The water will spill over side 1.
- C. The water will spill over side 2.
- D. The water will spill but you cannot tell if it will spill at side 1 or side 2.

QUESTION 14.2

Ray's bus is, like most buses, powered by a petrol engine. These buses contribute to environmental pollution.

Some cities have trolley buses: they are powered by an electric engine. The voltage needed for such an electric engine is provided by overhead lines (like electric trains).

The electricity is supplied by a power station using fossil fuels. Supporters for the use of trolley buses in a city say that these buses don't contribute to environmental pollution.

Are these supporters right? Explain your answer

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SCIENCE UNIT 15: CLIMATE CHANGE

Read the following information and answer the questions which follow.

WHAT HUMAN ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE?

The burning of coal, oil and natural gas, as well as deforestation and various agricultural and industrial practices, are altering the composition of the atmosphere and contributing to climate change. These human activities have led to increased concentrations of particles and greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The relative importance of the main contributors to temperature change is shown in Figure 1.

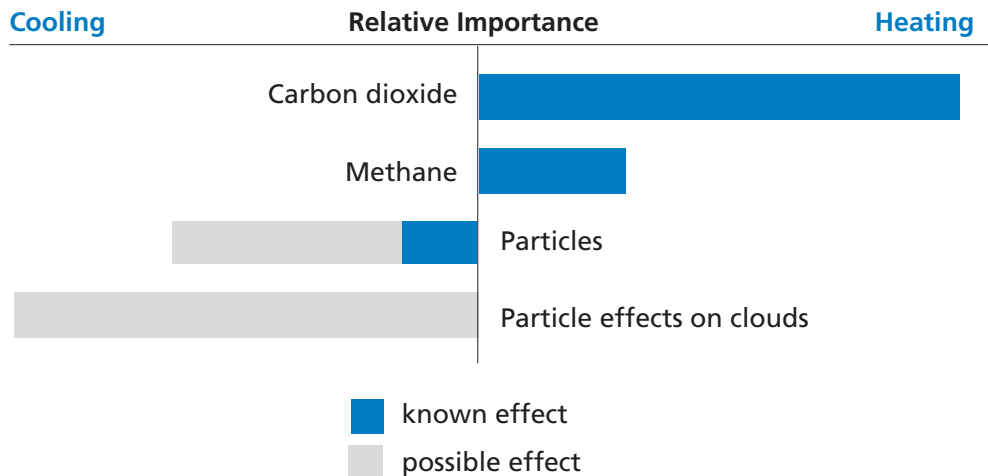


Figure 1: Relative importance of the main contributors to changes in the temperature of the atmosphere.

Figure 1 shows that increased concentrations of carbon dioxide and methane have a heating effect. Increased concentrations of particles have a cooling effect in two ways, labelled 'Particles' and 'Particle effects on clouds'.

Bars extending to the right of the centre line indicate a heating effect. Bars extending to the left of the centre line indicate a cooling effect. The relative effect of 'Particles' and 'Particle effects on clouds' are quite uncertain: in each case the possible effect is somewhere in the range shown by the light grey bar.

Source: US Global Change Research Information Office. Adapted from <http://www.gcric.org/ipcc/qa/04.html>

QUESTION 15.1

Use the information in Figure 1 to develop an argument in support of reducing the emission of carbon dioxide from the human activities mentioned.

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SCIENCE UNIT 16: FLIES

Read the following information and answer the questions which follow.

FLIES

A farmer was working with dairy cattle at an agricultural experiment station. The population of flies in the barn where the cattle lived was so large that the animals' health was affected. So the farmer sprayed the barn and the cattle with a solution of insecticide A. The insecticide killed nearly all the flies. Some time later, however, the number of flies was again large. The farmer again sprayed with the insecticide. The result was similar to that of the first spraying. Most, but not all, of the flies were killed. Again, within a short time the population of flies increased, and they were again sprayed with the insecticide. This sequence of events was repeated five times: then it became apparent that insecticide A was becoming less and less effective in killing the flies. The farmer noted that one large batch of the insecticide solution had been made and used in all the sprayings. Therefore he suggested the possibility that the insecticide solution decomposed with age.

Source: Teaching About Evolution and the Nature of Science, National Academy Press, Washington, DC, 1998, p. 75.

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QUESTION 16.1

The farmer's suggestion is that the insecticide decomposed with age. Briefly explain how this suggestion could be tested.

.....
.....
.....

QUESTION 16.2

The farmer's suggestion is that the insecticide decomposed with age. Give two alternative explanations as to why "insecticide A was becoming less and less effective ..."

Explanation 1:
.....
Explanation 2:.....
.....

SCIENCE UNIT 17: CALF CLONES

Read the following article about the birth of five calves.

In February 1993 a research team of the National Institute for Agricultural Research in Bresson-Villiers (France) succeeded in producing five clones of calves. The production of the clones (animals with the same genetic material, even though born to five different cows), was a complicated process.

First the researchers removed about thirty egg cells from a cow (let us say the cow's name was Blanche 1). The researchers removed the nucleus from each of the egg cells taken from Blanche 1.

Then the researchers took an embryo from another cow (let us say Blanche 2). This embryo contained about thirty cells.

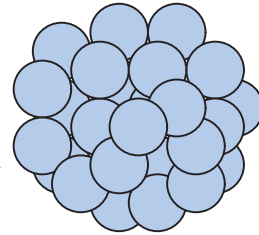
The researchers separated the ball of cells from Blanche 2 into individual cells.

Then they removed the nucleus from each of these individual cells. Each nucleus was injected separately into one of the thirty cells that came from Blanche 1 (cells from which the nuclei had been removed).

Finally the thirty injected egg cells were implanted into thirty surrogate cows. Nine months later, five of the surrogate cows each gave birth to a calf clone.

One of the researchers said that a large scale application of this cloning technique could be financially beneficial for cattle breeders.

Source: Corinne Bensimon, LIBÉRATION, March 1993



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QUESTION 17.1

The main idea tested in the French experiments on cows was confirmed by the results. Which main idea could have been tested in the French experiment?

.....

.....

QUESTION 17.2

Which of the following statements is/are true? Circle Yes or No for each.

Statement:	Yes/No
All five calves have the same type of genes.	Yes/No
All five calves have the same sex.	Yes/No
The hair of all five calves has the same colour.	Yes/No

SCIENCE UNIT 18: CORN

Consider the following newspaper report.

DUTCHMAN USES CORN AS FUEL

Auke Ferwerda's stove contains a few logs burning quietly with low flames. From a paper bag next to the stove he takes a handful of corn and puts it onto the flames. Immediately the fire flares up brightly. "Look here," Ferwerda says, "The window of the stove stays clean and transparent. Combustion is complete." Ferwerda talks about the fact that corn can be used as fuel as well as cattle food. As far as he is concerned, this is the future.

Ferwerda points out that corn, in the form of cattle food, is in fact a type of fuel too. Cows eat corn to get energy out of it. But, Ferwerda explains, the sale of corn for fuel instead of for cattle food might be much more profitable for farmers.

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Ferwerda has become convinced that, in the long run, corn will be widely used as fuel. He imagines what it will be like harvesting, storing, drying and packing the grains in bags for sale.

Ferwerda is currently investigating whether the whole corn plant could be used as fuel, but this research has not been completed yet.

What Ferwerda also needs to consider is the amount of attention being focused on carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide is regarded as the main cause of the increase of the Greenhouse effect. The increase of the Greenhouse effect is said to be the cause of the increasing average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere.

In Ferwerda's view, however, there is nothing wrong with carbon dioxide. On the contrary, he argues, plants absorb it and convert it into oxygen for human beings.

However, Ferwerda's plans may clash with those of the government, which is actually trying to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide. Ferwerda says, "There are many scientists who say that carbon dioxide is not the main cause of the Greenhouse effect."

QUESTION 18.1

Ferwerda compares corn used as fuel to corn used as food.

The first column of the table below contains a list of things that happen when corn burns.

Do these things also happen when corn works as a fuel in an animal body?

Circle Yes or No for each.

When corn burns:	Does this also happen when corn works as a fuel in an animal body?
Oxygen is consumed.	Yes / No
Carbon dioxide is produced.	Yes / No
Energy is produced.	Yes / No

QUESTION 18.2

In the article a conversion of carbon dioxide is described: "...plants absorb it and convert it into oxygen ...".

There are more substances involved in this conversion than carbon dioxide and oxygen only. The conversion can be represented in the following way:

carbon dioxide + water → oxygen +

Write in the box the name of the missing substance.

QUESTION 18.3

At the end of the article Ferwerda refers to scientists who say that carbon dioxide is not the main cause of the Greenhouse effect.

Karin finds the following table showing the relative Greenhouse effect caused by four gases:

Relative Greenhouse effect per molecule of gas			
Carbon dioxide	Methane	Nitrous oxide	Chlorofluorocarbons
1	30	160	17 000

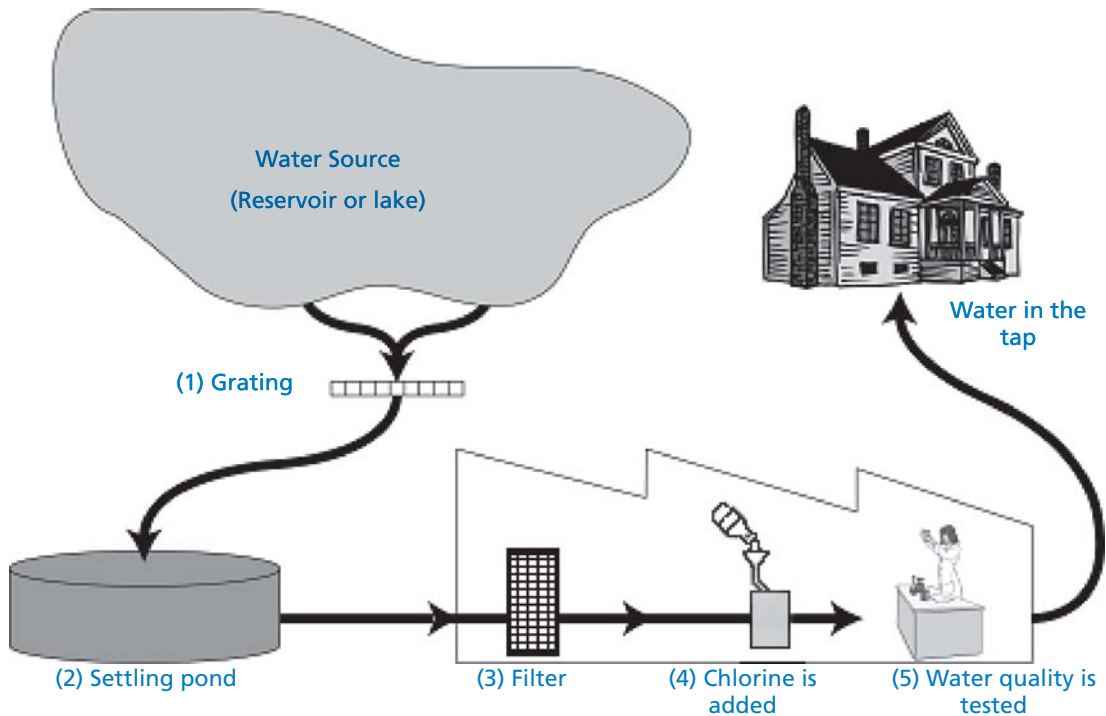
From this table Karin cannot conclude which gas is the main cause of the increase of the Greenhouse effect. The data in the table need to be combined with other data for Karin to conclude which gas is the main cause of the increase of the Greenhouse effect.

Which other data does Karin need to collect?

Data about the origin of the four gases.

- A. Data about the absorption of the four gases by plants.
- B. Data about the size of each of the four types of molecules.
- C. Data about the amounts of each of the four gases in the atmosphere.

SCIENCE UNIT 19: FIT FOR DRINKING



The figure above shows how water supplied to houses in cities is made fit for drinking.

QUESTION 19.1

It is important to have a source of good drinking water. Water found underground is referred to as *ground water*.

Give one reason why there is less bacteria and particle pollution in ground water than in water from surface sources such as lakes and rivers.

.....

QUESTION 19.2

The cleaning of water often happens in several steps, involving different techniques. The cleaning process shown in the figure involves four steps (numbered 1–4). In the second step, the water is collected in a settling pond.

In what way does this step make the water cleaner?

- A. The bacteria in the water die.
- B. Oxygen is added to the water.
- C. Gravel and sand sink to the bottom.
- D. Toxic substances are broken down.

QUESTION 19.3

In the fourth step of the cleaning process, chlorine is added to the water.
Why is chlorine added to the water?

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.....

QUESTION 19.4

Suppose that the scientists involved in the testing of water at the water plant discover that there are some dangerous bacteria in the water *after* the cleaning process is completed.
What should people at home do with this water before drinking it?

.....

.....

QUESTION 19.5

Can drinking polluted water cause the following health problems? Circle "Yes" or "No" in each case.

Can drinking polluted water cause this health problem?	Yes or No?
Diabetes	Yes / No
Diarrhoea	Yes / No
HIV / AIDS	Yes / No

QUESTION 19.6 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

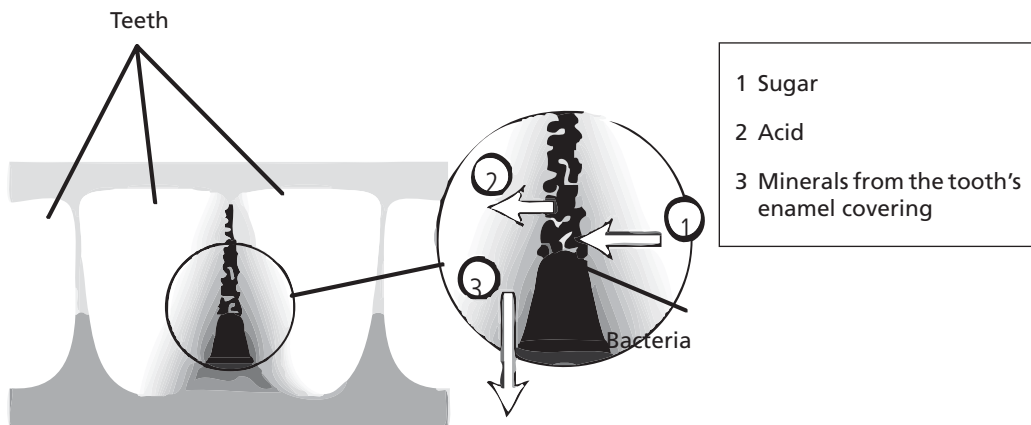
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Knowing how water is tested for bacterial contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning more about the chemical treatment of water supplies	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning which diseases are transmitted in drinking water	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE UNIT 20: TOOTH DECAY

Bacteria that live in our mouths cause dental caries (tooth decay). Caries have been a problem since the 1700s when sugar became available from the expanding sugar cane industry.

Today, we know a lot about caries. For example:

- Bacteria that cause caries feed on sugar.
- The sugar is transformed to acid.
- Acid damages the surface of teeth.
- **Brushing teeth helps to prevent caries.**



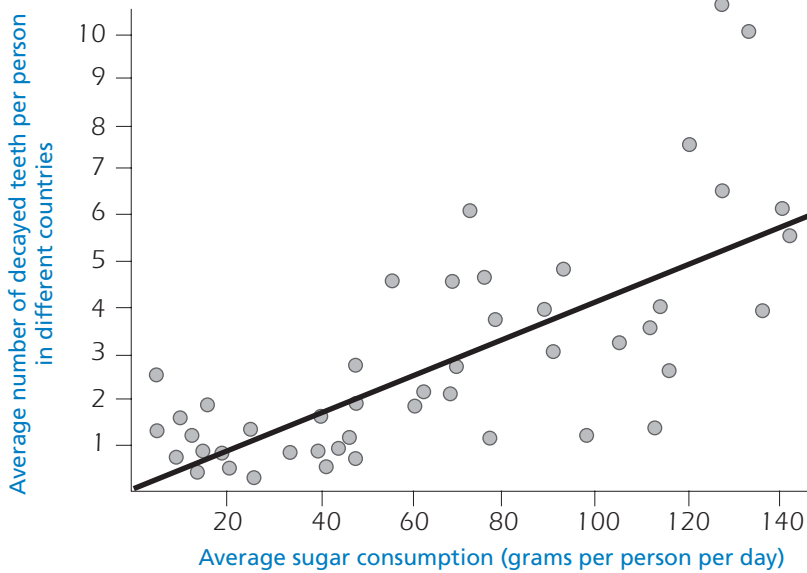
QUESTION 20.1

What is the role of bacteria in dental caries?

- E. Bacteria produce enamel.
- F. Bacteria produce sugar.
- G. Bacteria produce minerals.
- H. Bacteria produce acid.

QUESTION 20.2

The following graph shows the consumption of sugar and the amount of caries in different countries. Each country is represented by a dot in the graph.



Which one of the following statements is supported by the data given in the graph?

- A. In some countries, people brush their teeth more frequently than in other countries.
- B. The more sugar people eat, the more likely they are to get caries.
- C. In recent years, the rate of caries has increased in many countries.
- D. In recent years, the consumption of sugar has increased in many countries.

QUESTION 20.3

A country has a high number of decayed teeth per person.

Can the following questions about tooth decay in that country be answered by scientific experiments? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each question.

Can this question about tooth decay be answered by scientific experiments?	Yes or No?
What would be the effect on tooth decay of putting fluoride in the water supply?	Yes / No
How much should a visit to the dentist cost?	Yes / No

QUESTION 20.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Knowing what tooth decay bacteria look like under a microscope	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning about the development of a vaccine to prevent tooth decay	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Understanding how sugar-free foods can cause tooth decay	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

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SCIENCE UNIT 21 : HOT WORK

QUESTION 21.1

Peter is working on repairs to an old house. He has left a bottle of water, some metal nails, and a piece of timber inside the boot of his car. After the car has been out in the sun for three hours, the temperature inside the car reaches about 40 °C.

What happens to the objects in the car? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each statement.

Does this happen to the object(s)?	Yes or No?
They all have the same temperature.	Yes / No
After some time the water begins to boil.	Yes / No
After some time the metal nails begin to glow red.	Yes / No

QUESTION 21.2

For drinks during the day, Peter has a cup of hot coffee, at a temperature of about 90 °C, and a cup of cold mineral water, with a temperature of about 5 °C. The cups are of identical type and size and the volume of each drink is the same. Peter leaves the cups sitting in a room where the temperature is about 20 °C.

What are the temperatures of the coffee and the mineral water likely to be after 10 minutes?

- A. 70 °C and 10 °C
- B. 90 °C and 5 °C
- C. 70 °C and 25 °C
- D. 20 °C and 20 °C

QUESTION 21.3 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Understanding how the shape of the cup influences the rate at which coffee cools	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning about the different arrangements of atoms in wood, water and steel	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Knowing why different solids conduct heat at different rates	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE UNIT 22: MOUSEPOX

There are many types of pox viruses that cause pox diseases in animals. Each type of virus usually infects only one animal species. A magazine has reported that a scientist has used genetic engineering to modify the DNA of mousepox. The altered virus kills all the mice it infects.

The scientist says research on modifying viruses is necessary in order to control pests that damage human food. Critics of the research say viruses could escape from laboratories and infect other animals. They are also worried that a modified pox virus for one species could infect other species, especially humans.

Humans are infected with a pox virus called smallpox. Smallpox kills most people it infects. While it is thought that this disease has been eliminated from the general population, smallpox virus samples are kept in laboratories around the world.

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QUESTION 22.1

Critics have expressed concern that the mousepox virus could infect species other than mice. Which one of the following reasons is the *best* explanation for this concern?

- A. The genes of smallpox virus and the genes of modified mousepox virus are identical.
- B. A mutation in mousepox DNA might allow the virus to infect other animals.
- C. A mutation could make the mousepox DNA identical to smallpox DNA.
- D. The number of genes in mousepox virus is the same as in other pox viruses.

QUESTION 22.2

A person who criticised the research was worried that the modified mousepox virus might escape from a laboratory. This virus could cause the extinction of some species of mice.

Are the following outcomes likely if some species of mice become extinct? Circle "Yes" or "No" in each case.

Is this outcome likely if some species of mice become extinct?	Yes or No?
Some food chains could be affected.	Yes / No
Domestic cats could die for lack of food.	Yes / No
Plants whose seeds are eaten by mice could temporarily increase in number.	Yes / No

QUESTION 22.3

One company is trying to develop a virus that will make mice sterile (i.e., unable to have babies). Such a virus could help control the number of mice.

Suppose the company is successful. Should the following questions be answered by research before releasing the virus? Circle "Yes" or "No" in each case.

Should this question be answered before releasing the virus?	Yes or No?
What is the best method for spreading the virus?	Yes / No
How soon will mice develop immunity to the virus?	Yes / No
Will the virus affect other animal species?	Yes / No

QUESTION 22.4 (ATTITUDE)

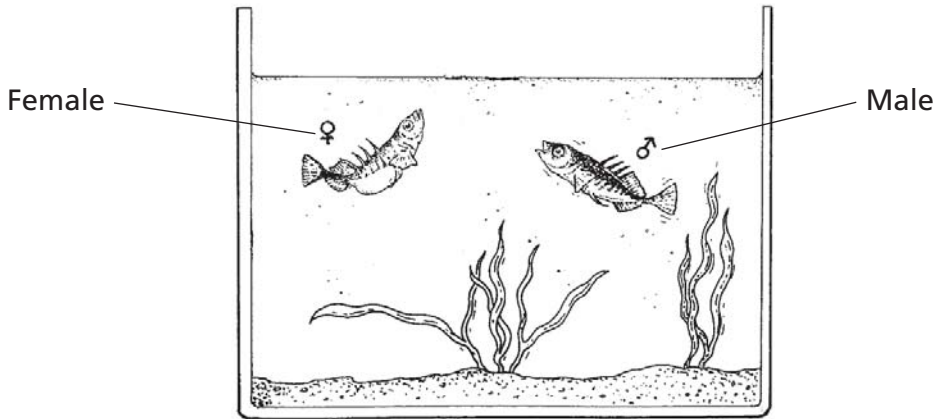
How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Learning about the structure of viruses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knowing how viruses mutate (change)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understanding better how the body defends itself against viruses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SCIENCE UNIT 23: STICKLEBACK BEHAVIOUR

The stickleback is a fish that is easy to keep in an aquarium.



During the breeding season the male stickleback's belly turns from silver-coloured to red.

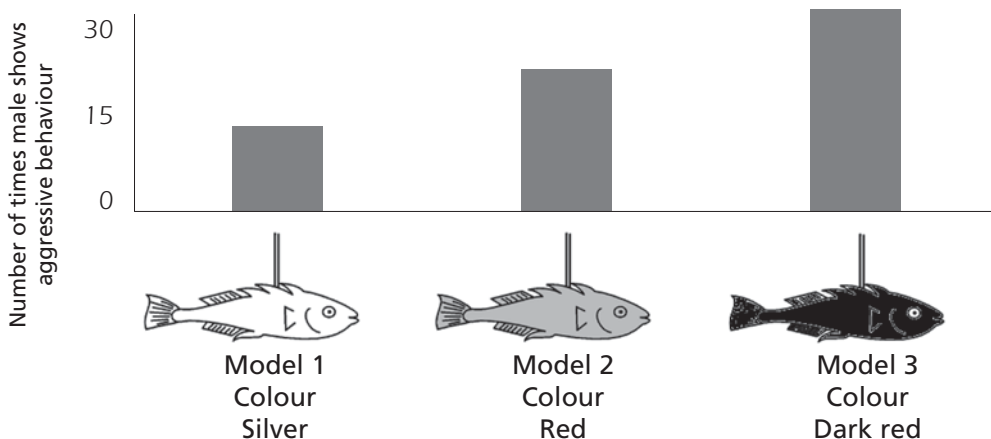
The male stickleback will attack any competing male that comes into his territory, and try to chase it away.

If a silver-coloured female approaches, he will try to guide her to his nest so she will lay her eggs there.

In an experiment a student wants to investigate what will make the male stickleback show aggressive behaviour.

A male stickleback is alone in the student's aquarium. The student has made three wax models attached to pieces of wire. He hangs them separately in the aquarium for the same amount of time. Then the student counts the number of times the male stickleback reacts aggressively by pushing against the wax figure.

The results of this experiment are shown below.



QUESTION 23.1

What is the question that this experiment is attempting to answer?

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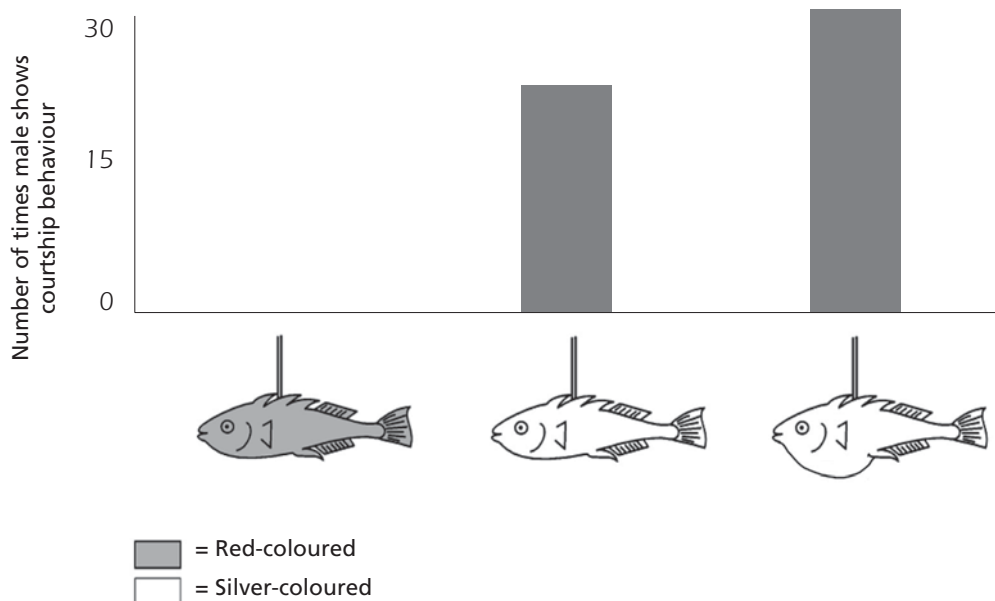
.....

QUESTION 23.2

During breeding time, if the male stickleback sees a female he will try to attract the female with courtship behaviour that looks like a little dance. In a second experiment, this courtship behaviour is investigated.

Again, three wax models on a piece of wire are used. One is red-coloured; two are silver-coloured with one having a flat belly and the other a round belly. The student counts the number of times (in a given amount of time) that the male stickleback reacts to each model by showing courtship behaviour.

The results of this experiment are shown below.



Three students each draw a conclusion based on the results of this second experiment.

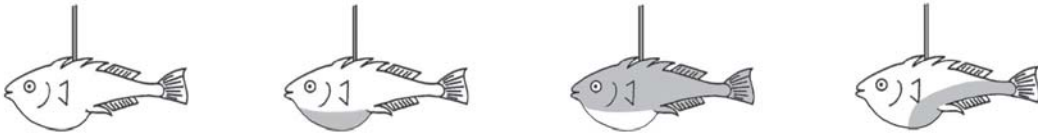
Are their conclusions correct according to the information given in the graph? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each conclusion.

Is this conclusion correct according to the information in the graph?	Yes or No?
The red colour causes courtship behaviour by the male stickleback.	Yes / No
A flat-bellied female stickleback causes most courtship behaviour from a stickleback male.	Yes / No
The male stickleback shows courtship behaviour more often to a round-bellied female than to a flat-bellied female.	Yes / No

QUESTION 23.3

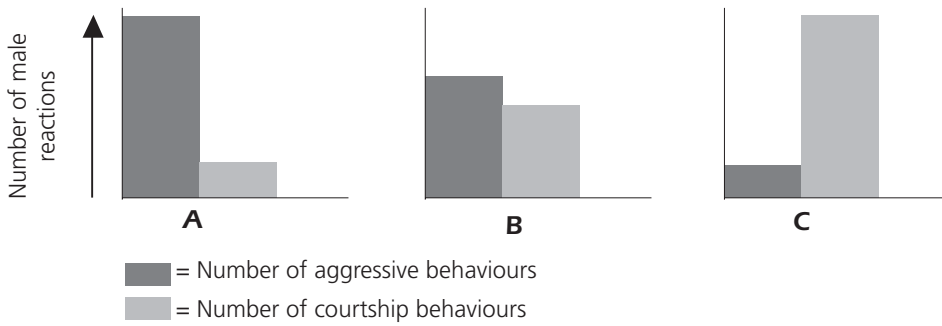
Experiments have shown that male sticklebacks react with aggressive behaviour to models with a red belly, and with courtship behaviour to models with a silver belly.

In a third experiment, the following four models were used in turn:



■ = Red-coloured
 □ = Silver-coloured

The three diagrams below show possible reactions of a male stickleback to each of the above models. Which one of these reactions would you predict for each of the four models?



Fill in either A, B or C as the result for each model.

	Reaction
Model 1	
Model 2	
Model 3	
Model 4	

SCIENCE UNIT 24: TOBACCO SMOKING

Tobacco is smoked in cigarettes, cigars and pipes. Research shows that tobacco-related diseases kill nearly 13 500 people worldwide every day. It is predicted that, by 2020, tobacco-related diseases will cause 12% of all deaths globally.

Tobacco smoke contains many harmful substances. The most damaging substances are tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide.

QUESTION 24.1

Tobacco smoke is inhaled into the lungs. Tar from the smoke is deposited in the lungs and this prevents the lungs from working properly.

Which one of the following is a function of the lungs?

- A. To pump oxygenated blood to all parts of your body
- B. To transfer some of the oxygen that you breathe to your blood
- C. To purify your blood by reducing the carbon dioxide content to zero
- D. To convert carbon dioxide molecules into oxygen molecules

QUESTION 24.2

Tobacco smoking increases the risk of getting lung cancer and some other diseases.

Is the risk of getting the following diseases increased by tobacco smoking? Circle "Yes" or "No" in each case.

Is the risk of contracting this disease increased by smoking?	Yes or No?
Bronchitis	Yes / No
HIV/AIDS	Yes / No
Chicken pox	Yes / No

QUESTION 24.3

Some people use nicotine patches to help them to give up smoking. The patches are put on skin and release nicotine into the blood. This helps to relieve cravings and withdrawal symptoms when people have stopped smoking.

To study the effectiveness of nicotine patches, a group of 100 smokers who want to give up smoking is chosen randomly. The group is to be studied for six months. The effectiveness of the nicotine patches is to be measured by finding out how many people in the group have not resumed smoking by the end of the study.

Which one of the following is the *best* experimental design?

- A. All the people in the group wear the patches.
- B. All wear patches except one person who tries to give up smoking without them.
- C. People choose whether or not they will use patches to help give up smoking.
- D. Half are randomly chosen to use patches and the other half do not use them.

QUESTION 24.4

Various methods are used to influence people to stop smoking.

Are the following ways of dealing with the problem based on *technology*? Circle "Yes" or "No" in each case.

Is this method of reducing smoking based on technology?	Yes or No?
Increase the cost of cigarettes.	Yes / No
Produce nicotine patches to help make people give up cigarettes.	Yes / No
Ban smoking in public areas.	Yes / No

QUESTION 24.5 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Knowing how tar in tobacco reduces lung efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Understanding why nicotine is addictive	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning how the body recovers after stopping smoking	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

4

SCIENCE UNIT 25: STARLIGHT

Toshio likes to look at stars. However, he cannot observe stars very well at night because he lives in a large city.

Last year Toshio visited the countryside where he observed a large number of stars that he cannot see when he is in the city.



QUESTION 25.1

Why can many more stars be observed in the countryside than in large cities?

- A. The moon is brighter in cities and blocks out the light from many stars.
- B. There is more dust to reflect light in country air than in city air.
- C. The brightness of city lights makes many stars hard to see.
- D. The air is warmer in cities due to heat emitted by cars, machinery and houses.

QUESTION 25.2

Toshio uses a telescope with a large diameter lens in order to observe stars of low brightness.

Why does using a telescope with a large diameter lens make it possible to observe stars of low brightness?

- A. The larger the lens the more light is collected.
- B. The larger the lens the more it magnifies.
- C. Larger lenses allow more of the sky to be seen.
- D. Larger lenses can detect the dark colours in stars.

SCIENCE UNIT 26: ULTRASOUND

In many countries, images can be taken of a foetus (developing baby) by ultrasound imaging (echography). Ultrasounds are considered safe for both the mother and the foetus.



The doctor holds a probe and moves it across the mother's abdomen. Ultrasound waves are transmitted into the abdomen. Inside the abdomen they are reflected from the surface of the foetus. These reflected waves are picked up again by the probe and relayed to a machine that can produce an image.

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QUESTION 26.1

To form an image the ultrasound machine needs to calculate the *distance* between the foetus and the probe. The ultrasound waves move through the abdomen at a speed of 1540 m/s. What measurement must the machine make so that it can calculate the distance?

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QUESTION 26.2

An image of a foetus can also be obtained using X-rays. However, women are advised to avoid having X-rays of their abdomens during pregnancy.

Why should a woman avoid having her abdomen X-rayed during pregnancy *in particular*?

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QUESTION 26.3

Can ultrasound examinations of expectant mothers provide answers to the following questions? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each question.

Can an ultrasound examination answer this question?	Yes or No?
Is there more than one baby?	Yes / No
What colour are the baby's eyes?	Yes / No
Is the baby about the right size?	Yes / No

QUESTION 26.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Understanding how ultrasound can penetrate your body without harming it	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning more about the differences between X-rays and ultrasound	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Knowing about other medical uses of ultrasound	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

4

SCIENCE UNIT 27 : LIP GLOSS

The table below contains two different recipes for cosmetics you can make yourself.

The lipstick is harder than the lip gloss, which is soft and creamy.

<p>Lip gloss</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <p>5 g castor oil 0.2 g beeswax 0.2 g palm wax 1 teaspoon of colouring substance 1 drop of food flavouring</p> <p>Instructions:</p> <p>Heat the oil and the waxes in a container placed in hot water until you have an even mixture. Then add the colouring substance and the flavouring, and mix them in.</p>	<p>Lipstick</p> <p>Ingredients:</p> <p>5 g castor oil 1 g beeswax 1 g palm wax 1 teaspoon of colouring substance 1 drop of food flavouring</p> <p>Instructions:</p> <p>Heat the oil and the waxes in a container placed in hot water until you have an even mixture. Then add the colouring substance and the flavouring, and mix them in.</p>
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QUESTION 27.1

In making the lip gloss and lipstick, oil and waxes are mixed together. The colouring substance and flavouring are then added.

The lipstick made from this recipe is hard and not easy to use. How would you change the proportion of ingredients to make a softer lipstick?

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QUESTION 27.2

Oils and waxes are substances that will mix well together. Oils cannot be mixed with water, and waxes are not soluble in water.

Which one of the following is most likely to happen if a lot of water is splashed into the lipstick mixture while it is being heated?

- A. A creamier and softer mixture is produced.
- B. The mixture becomes firmer.
- C. The mixture is hardly changed at all.
- D. Fatty lumps of the mixture float on the water.

QUESTION 27.3

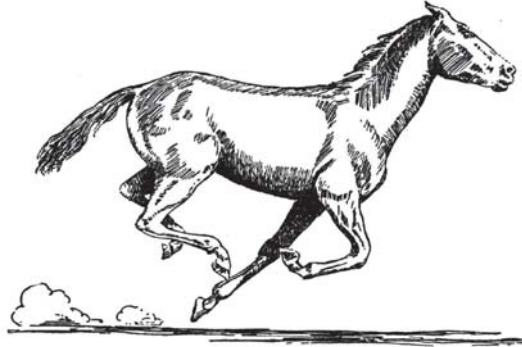
When substances called emulsifiers are added, they allow oils and waxes to mix well with water.

Why does soap and water remove lipstick?

- A. Water contains an emulsifier that allows the soap and lipstick to mix.
- B. The soap acts as an emulsifier and allows the water and lipstick to mix.
- C. Emulsifiers in the lipstick allow the soap and water to mix.
- D. The soap and lipstick combine to form an emulsifier that mixes with the water.




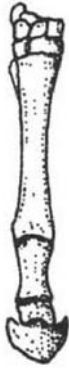
SCIENCE UNIT 28: EVOLUTION

Most horses today are streamlined and can run fast.



Scientists have found the fossil skeletons of animals that are similar to horses. They consider them to be the ancestors of the present-day horse. The scientists have also been able to determine the period during which the fossil species were living.

The table below provides information on three of these fossils and on the present-day horse.

ANIMAL NAME:	HYRACOTHERIUM	MESOHIPPUS	MERYCHIPPUS	EQUUS (present-day horse)
Period of existence:	55 to 50 million years ago	39 to 31 million years ago	19 to 11 million years ago	2 million years ago to the present day
Skeleton of the leg (same scale):				

QUESTION 28.1

What information *in the table* is strong evidence that present-day horses may have evolved over time from the other three animals?

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QUESTION 28.2

What further research can scientists undertake to find out how horses have evolved over time?

Circle "Yes" or "No" for each of these statements.

Would this research help find out how horses have evolved over time?	Yes or No?
Compare the number of horses living at different periods.	Yes / No
Search for skeletons belonging to ancestors of the horse that lived 50 to 40 million years ago.	Yes / No

QUESTION 28.3

Which one of the following statements best applies to the scientific theory of evolution?

- A. The theory cannot be believed because it is not possible to see species changing.
- B. The theory of evolution is possible for animals but cannot be applied to humans.
- C. Evolution is a scientific theory that is currently based on extensive evidence.
- D. Evolution is a theory that has been proven to be true by scientific experiments.

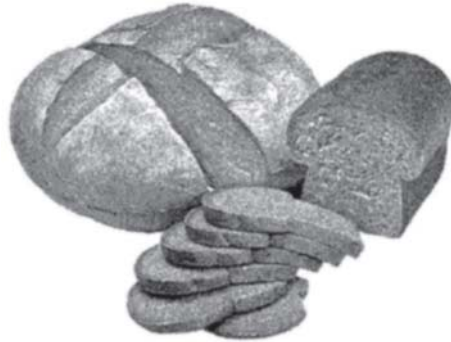
QUESTION 28.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much interest do you have in the following information?

Tick only one box in each row.

	High Interest	Medium Interest	Low Interest	No Interest
Knowing how fossils can be identified	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning more about the development of the theory of evolution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understanding better the evolution of the present-day horse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SCIENCE UNIT 29: BREAD DOUGH



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To make bread dough, a cook mixes flour, water, salt and yeast. After mixing, the dough is placed in a container for several hours to allow the process of fermentation to take place. During fermentation, a chemical change occurs in the dough: the yeast (a single-celled fungus) helps to transform the starch and sugars in the flour into carbon dioxide and alcohol.

QUESTION 29.1

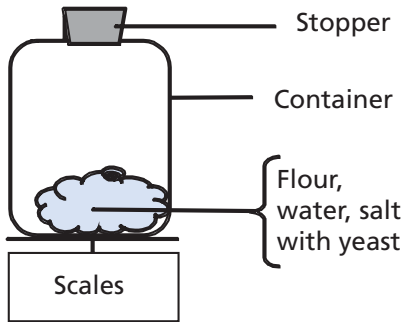
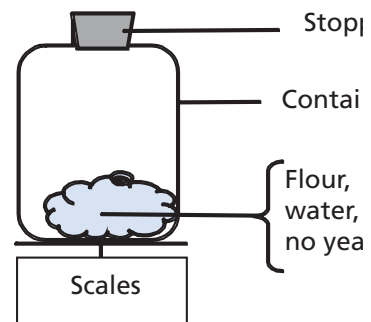
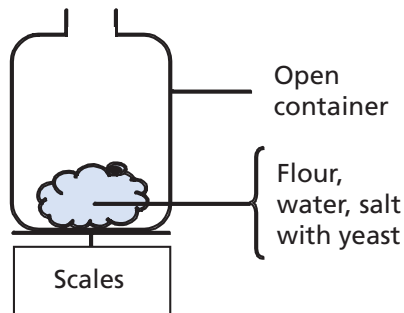
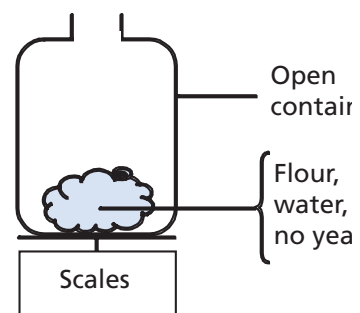
Fermentation causes the dough to rise. Why does the dough rise?

- A. The dough rises because alcohol is produced and turns into a gas.
- B. The dough rises because of single-celled fungi reproducing in it.
- C. The dough rises because a gas, carbon dioxide, is produced.
- D. The dough rises because fermentation turns water into a vapour.

QUESTION 29.2

A few hours after mixing the dough, the cook weighs the dough and observes that its weight has decreased.

The weight of the dough is the same at the start of each of the four experiments shown below. Which *two* experiments should the cook compare to test if the *yeast* is the cause of the loss of weight?

**Experiment 1****Experiment 2****Experiment 3****Experiment 4**

- A. The cook should compare experiments 1 and 2.
- B. The cook should compare experiments 1 and 3.
- C. The cook should compare experiments 2 and 4.
- D. The cook should compare experiments 3 and 4.

QUESTION 29.3

In the dough, yeast helps to transform starch and sugars in the flour. A chemical reaction occurs during which carbon dioxide and alcohol form.

Where do the *carbon atoms* that are present in carbon dioxide and alcohol come from? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each of the following possible explanations.

Is this a correct explanation of where the carbon atoms come from?	Yes or No?
Some carbon atoms come from the sugars.	Yes / No
Some carbon atoms are part of the salt molecules.	Yes / No
Some carbon atoms come from the water.	Yes / No

QUESTION 29.4

When the risen (leavened) dough is placed in the oven to bake, pockets of gas and vapours in the dough expand.

Why do the gas and vapours expand when heated?

- A. Their molecules get bigger.
- B. Their molecules move faster.
- C. Their molecules increase in number.
- D. Their molecules collide less frequently.

SCIENCE UNIT 30: TRANSIT OF VENUS

On 8 June 2004, the planet Venus could be seen passing in front of the Sun when viewed from many places on Earth. This is called a “transit” of Venus and happens when its orbit takes Venus between the Sun and Earth. The previous transit of Venus occurred in 1882 and another is predicted to occur in 2012.

Below is a picture of the transit of Venus in 2004. A telescope was pointed at the Sun and the image projected onto a white card.



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QUESTION 30.1

Why was the transit observed by projecting the image onto a white card, rather than by looking directly through the telescope?

- A. The Sun's light was too bright for Venus to show up.
- B. The Sun is big enough to see without magnification.
- C. Viewing the Sun through a telescope may damage your eyes.
- D. The image needed to be made smaller by projecting it onto a card.

QUESTION 30.2

When viewed from Earth, which one of the following planets can be seen in transit across the face of the Sun at certain times?

- A. Mercury
- B. Mars
- C. Jupiter
- D. Saturn

QUESTION 30.3

Several words have been underlined in the following statement.

Astronomers predict that, as seen from Neptune, there will be a transit of Saturn across the Sun's face later this century.

Which *three* of the underlined words would be most useful in an internet or library search to find out when this transit might occur?

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SCIENCE UNIT 31 : HEALTH RISK?

Imagine that you live near a large chemical factory that produces fertilisers for use in agriculture. In recent years there have been several cases of people in the area suffering from long-term breathing problems. Many local people believe that these symptoms are caused by the emission of toxic fumes from the nearby chemical fertiliser factory.

A public meeting was held to discuss the potential dangers of the chemical factory to the health of local residents. Scientists made the following statements at the meeting.

Statement by scientists working for the chemical company

"We have made a study of the toxicity of soil in the local area. We have found no evidence of toxic chemicals in the samples we have taken."

Statement by scientists working for concerned citizens in the local community

"We have looked at the number of cases of long-term breathing problems in the local area and compared this with the number of cases in an area far away from the chemical factory. There are more incidents in the area close to the chemical factory."

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QUESTION 31.1

The owner of the chemical factory used the statement of the scientists working for the company to argue that "the emission fumes from the factory are not a health risk to local residents".

Give one reason, other than the statement by scientists working for the concerned citizens, for *doubting* that the statement by scientists working for the company supports the owner's argument.

.....

.....

QUESTION 31.2

The scientists working for the concerned citizens compared the number of people with long-term breathing problems close to the chemical factory with those in an area far away from the factory.

Describe one possible difference in the two areas that would make you think that the comparison was not a valid one.

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QUESTION 31.3 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

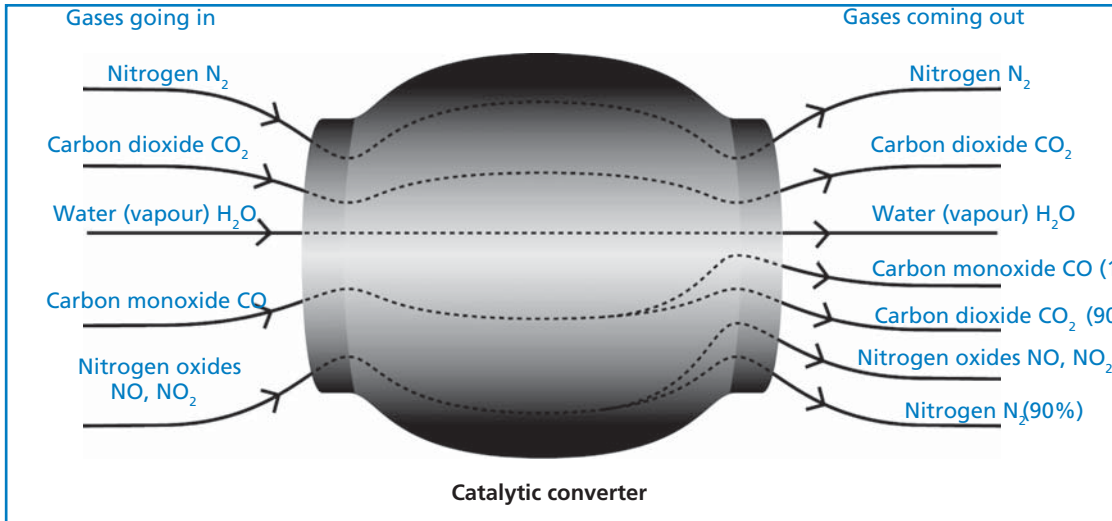
Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Knowing more about the chemical composition of agricultural fertilisers	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Understanding what happens to toxic fumes emitted into the atmosphere	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning about respiratory diseases that can be caused by chemical emissions	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE UNIT 32: CATALYTIC CONVERTER

Most modern cars are fitted with a catalytic converter that makes the exhaust fumes of the car less harmful to people and to the environment.

About 90% of harmful gases are converted into less harmful ones. Here are some of the gases that go into the converter and how they come out of it.



QUESTION 32.1

Use the information in the diagram above to give *an example* of how the catalytic converter makes exhaust fumes less harmful.

.....

.....

QUESTION 32.2

Changes take place to gases inside the catalytic converter. Explain what is happening in terms of *atoms* AND *molecules*.

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QUESTION 32.3

Examine the gases emitted by the catalytic converter. What is one problem that engineers and scientists working on the catalytic converter should try to solve to produce less harmful exhaust fumes?

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QUESTION 32.4 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Knowing how car fuels differ in the amounts of toxic fumes they produce	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Understanding more about what happens inside a catalytic converter	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Learning about vehicles that do not emit toxic exhaust fumes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

SCIENCE UNIT 33: MAJOR SURGERY

Major surgery, performed in specially equipped operating theatres, is necessary to treat many diseases.



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QUESTION 33.1

While undergoing major surgery, patients are anaesthetised so they don't feel any pain. The anaesthetic is often administered as a gas through a face mask that covers the nose and mouth.

Are the following human systems involved in the action of anaesthetic gases? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each system.

Is this system involved in the action of anaesthetic gases?	Yes or No?
Digestive system	Yes / No
Nervous system	Yes / No
Respiratory system	Yes / No

QUESTION 33.2

Explain why surgical instruments used in operating theatres are sterilised.

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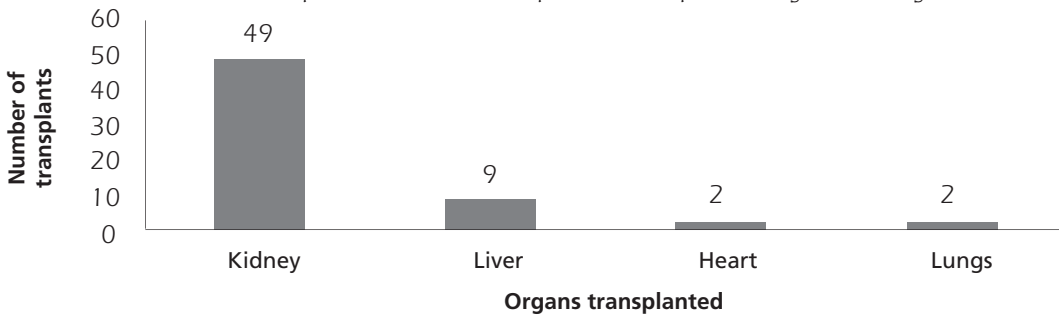
QUESTION 33.3

Patients may be unable to eat and drink after surgery and so they are put on a drip (infusion) that contains water, sugars and mineral salts. Sometimes antibiotics and tranquillisers are also added to the drip. Why are the sugars that are added to the drip important for the post-operative patient?

- A. To avoid dehydration
- B. To control post-operative pain
- C. To cure post-operative infections
- D. To provide necessary nutrition

QUESTION 33.4

Organ transplants involve major surgery and are becoming more and more common. In the graph below, the numbers of transplants carried out in a particular hospital during 2003 are given.



Can the following conclusions be drawn *from the graph above*? Circle "Yes" or "No" for each conclusion.

Can this conclusion be drawn from the graph?	Yes or No?
If the lungs are transplanted, the heart must be transplanted too.	Yes / No
Kidneys are the most important organs in the human body.	Yes / No
Most of the patients that have a transplant have suffered from a kidney disease.	Yes / No

QUESTION 33.5 (ATTITUDE)

How much do you agree with the following statements?

Tick only one box in each row.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Learning how surgical instruments are sterilised	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knowing about the different types of anaesthetics that are used	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Understanding how a patient's level of consciousness is monitored during surgery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SCIENCE UNIT 34: WIND FARMS

Many people believe that wind should replace oil and coal as a source of energy for producing electricity. The structures in the picture are windmills with blades that are rotated by the wind. These rotations cause electricity to be produced by generators that are turned by the windmills.

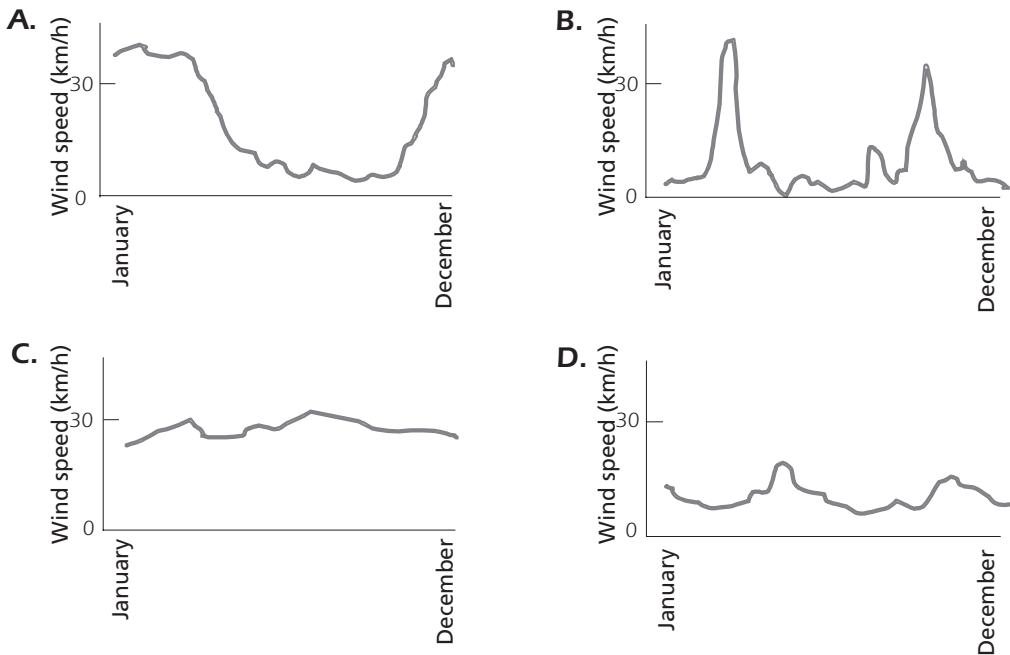


A wind farm

4

QUESTION 34.1

The graphs below show the average wind speeds in four different places throughout a year. Which one of the graphs indicates the most appropriate place to establish a wind farm for generating electricity?



QUESTION 34.2

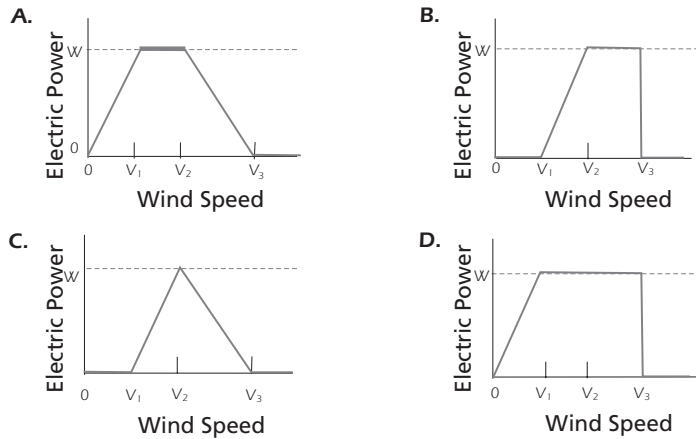
The stronger the wind, the faster the windmill blades rotate and the greater the electric power output. However, there is not a direct relationship between wind speed and electric power in a real setting. Below are four working conditions of electricity generation in a real wind farm.

The windmill blades start rotating when the wind speed reaches V_1 .

The electric power output reaches a maximum (W) when the wind speed is V_2 .

For safety reasons, the blades are prevented from rotating faster than they do when the wind speed is V_2 . The blades stop rotating when the wind speed reaches V_3 .

Which one of the following graphs best represents the relationship between wind speed and electric power output under these working conditions?



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QUESTION 34.3

The higher the altitude the more slowly windmills rotate at the same wind speed.

Which one of the following is the best reason why the blades of windmills rotate more slowly in higher places at the same wind speed?

- A. The air is less dense as altitude increases.
- B. The temperature is lower as altitude increases.
- C. Gravity becomes less as altitude increases.
- D. It rains more often as altitude increases.

QUESTION 34.4

Describe one specific advantage, and one specific disadvantage, of using wind to generate electricity compared with using fossil fuels like coal and oil.

An advantage

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A disadvantage.....

.....