

THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education

231/2

— BIOLOGY —

Paper 2



(THEORY)

Apr. 2021 – 2 hours

881

Name Index Number

Candidate's Signature Date

Instructions to Candidates

- (a) Write your name and index number in the spaces provided above.
- (b) Sign and write the date of examination in the spaces provided above.
- (c) This paper consists of two sections; A and B.
- (d) Answer all the questions in section A in the spaces provided.
- (e) In section B answer question 6 (compulsory) and either question 7 or 8 in the spaces provided after question 8.
- (f) This paper consists of 12 printed pages.
- (g) Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.
- (h) Candidates should answer the questions in English.

For Examiner's Use Only

Section	Question	Maximum Score	Candidate's Score
A	1	8	
	2	8	
	3	8	
	4	8	
	5	8	
B	6	20	
		20	
Total Score		80	

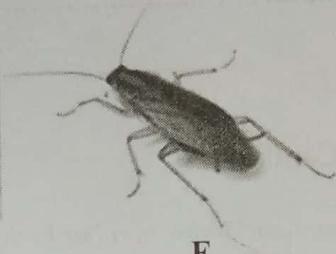
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SECTION A (40 marks)

Answer all questions in this section in the spaces provided.

1. Below are photographs **E** and **F**, of two organisms, taken from their natural habitats.

**E****F**

- (a) (i) State the **main** nitrogenous waste product of the organism in photograph **E**.
(1 mark)

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(ii) Give a reason for your answer in a(i) above.
(1 mark)

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- (b) State why the organism in photograph **E** is usually found on top of rock surfaces even during hot, sunny days.
(1 mark)
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- (c) (i) Which of the two organisms would have a higher biomass if both were left in their natural ecosystem. (1 mark)

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- (d) With reference to observable features, explain why the organism in photograph F is usually found in a wider range of habitats. (3 marks)

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2. The genetic make-up of a man was found to be XXY.

- (a) Name the syndrome the individual could be suffering from. (1 mark)

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- (b) Explain how the syndrome occurs. (4 marks)

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- (c) (i) State how the chemical, colchicine induces polyploidy in plants. (1 mark)

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- 881 (ii) State **one** advantage of polyploidy in wheat farming. (2 marks)

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3. In an experiment to investigate the effect of temperature on seed germination, soaked maize seeds were subjected to varying temperatures as tabulated below.

Temperature (°C)	0	6	12	17	28	33	41.5	51
Percentage germination (%)	0	0	2.5	5	13	44	26	3

- (a) Account for the percentage germination at:

- (i) 6 °C; (3 marks)

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- (ii) 33 °C. (3 marks)

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- (b) State **two** internal factors that affect seed germination. (2 marks)

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4. A student could clearly read a book placed 10 cm away but could not clearly identify a fellow student 12 m away.
- (a) Name the eye defect the student was suffering from. (1 mark)
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- (b) Explain why the student could **not** clearly identify his colleague yet could read the book. (3 marks)
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- (c) Using a diagram, illustrate how the defect can be corrected. (3 marks)
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- (d) Name the vitamin whose deficiency in the diet results in poor vision. (1 mark)
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5. The table below shows the volume of gases contained in 100 cm^3 of a blood sample tapped at two points in the mammalian circulatory system.

Gas	Blood entering lungs (cm^3)	Blood leaving lungs (cm^3)
Oxygen	8.65	20.25
Nitrogen	0.75	0.75
Carbon (IV) oxide	55.60	31.65

(a) Account for the difference in the gaseous composition of:

(2 marks)

(i) Blood entering the lungs;

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(ii) Blood leaving the lungs.

(2 marks)

(b) Name the blood vessel through which blood enters the lungs.

(1 mark)

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(c) Explain why most athletes prefer training from high altitude areas.

(3 marks)

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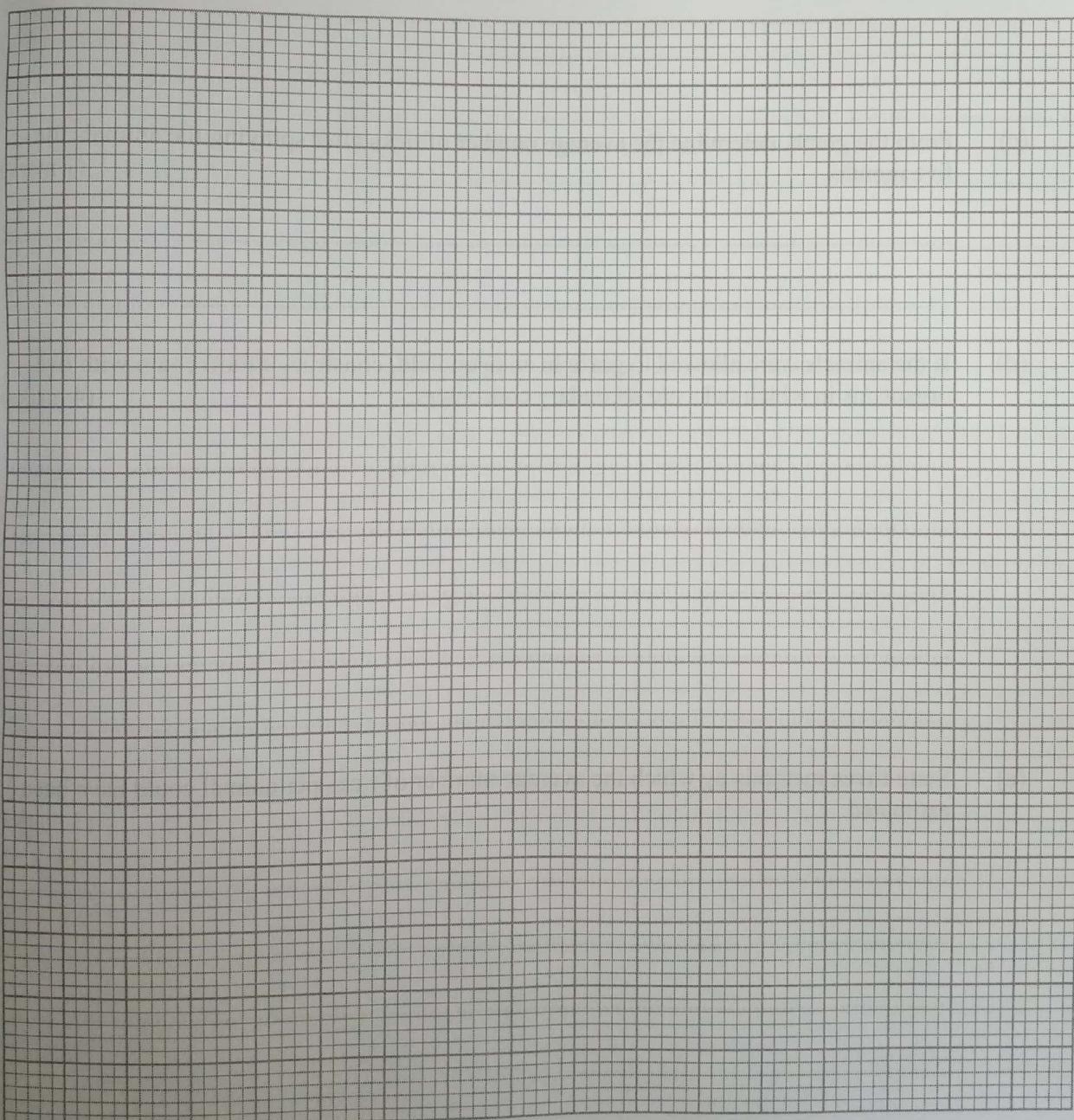
SECTION B (40 marks)

Answer question 6 (compulsory) and either question 7 or 8 in the spaces provided after question 8.

6. The data below shows the average number of ticks per animal in a certain farm before and after spraying the animals with a certain chemical. The spraying was done once every month. The data was tabulated as shown below.

Time (months)	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
Average number of ticks	200	90	40	20	16	25	45	90

- (a) Plot a graph of number of ticks against time. (6 marks)



- (b) Account for the shape of the graph between:
- (i) 0 and 8 months; (3 marks)

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- (ii) 10 and 14 months. (3 marks)

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- (c) From the graph, determine the average number of ticks after spraying the animals for five months. (1 mark)

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- (d) If the animals were allowed to graze in an open field, construct a food chain with five organisms in which ticks are secondary consumers. (4 marks)

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- (e) State **three** methods by which the average number of ticks per animal could have been estimated. (3 marks)

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7. (a) Explain the role of the liver in blood sugar regulation. (3 marks)
- (b) Describe how human blood is adapted to its function. (17 marks)
8. (a) Explain how the presence of chloroplasts in guard cells affect the opening of stomata. (5 marks)
- (b) Describe how various environmental factors affect the rate of photosynthesis. (15 marks)

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