AQA Biology GCSE Student Checklist

B13 Variation and evolution

Name Class

Date

Lesson	Aiming for 4		Aiming for 6		Aiming for 8	
B13.1 Variation	I can list some examples of human variation.		I can list some examples of variation in plants and categorise as being due to genetic, environmental causes or both.		I can explain why some traits are only due to genetic causes.	
	I can categorise some human traits as being due to genetic, environmental causes or both.		I can suggest reasons why identical twins will start to show variation as they get older.		I can explain why it is so hard to get valid results form identical-twin studies.	
	I can describe why identical twins share the same genes.		I can use data to explain why studying identical twins helps scientists investigate which traits have genetic causes.		I can discuss some of the issues scientists face when conducting twin studies.	
B13.2 Evolution by natural selection	I can state that a mutation is a change in the DNA code.		I can explain how a mutation may lead to a new phenotype.		I can explain why it is rare that a mutation leads to a new phenotype.	
	I can describe the theory of evolution by natural selection as a process by which living things have evolved from simple life forms.		I can describe the steps that take place during evolution by natural selection.		I can apply the theory of evolution by natural selection to suggest how a specific organism evolved.	
	I can state some useful adaptations.		I can analyse data from an activity modelling natural selection.		I can explain how a change in a model can make it useful for explaining something else.	
B13.3 Selective breeding	I can describe selective breeding as a process where humans choose which plants or animals to breed together.		I can explain the process of selective breeding.		I can compare and contrast natural and artificial selection.	
	I can give one examples where selective breeding has been used.		I can explain why humans have used selective breeding.		I can explain in detail how the variation of alleles in a population is reduced through selective breeding.	
	I can choose organisms to breed together to result in desired traits in the offspring.		I can explain what inbreeding is and why it is a problem in dog breeding.		I can explain in detail why the reduction of variation is a problem.	

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B13.4 Genetic engineering	I can describe GM organisms as containing a gene from another organism and order the stages of genetic engineering.	I can describe the steps used in genetic engineering to produce GM organisms.	I can explain the process of genetic engineering using technical vocabulary, e.g. plasmid, vector, restriction enzymes, marker genes, recombinant DNA.	
	I can give examples of GM organisms and describe why they are useful to humans.	I can analyse data to describe why growing GM crops maybe be beneficial to a farmer.	I can explain how genetic engineering could be used to cure people with inherited disorders and discuss the limitations.	
	I can give one concern people may have about growing GM crops.	I can outline the potential benefits and risks of genetic engineering.	I can evaluate the potential benefits and risks of genetic engineering.	
B13.5 Ethics of genetic technologies	I can describe why some people are against the cloning of animals.	I can describe economic and ethical concerns that people may have about cloning animals.	I can explain in detail the significance of events in the field of genetics.	

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Lesson	Aiming for 4		Aiming for 6		Aiming for 8	
B14.7 Making choices about genetic technologies	I can state one concern people may have about growing GM crops.		I can outline the potential benefits and risks of genetic engineering.		I can evaluate the potential benefits and risks of genetic engineering.	
	I can describe why some people are against the cloning of animals.		I can describe economic and ethical concerns that people may have about cloning animals.		I can explain in detail the significance of events in the field of genetics.	