



QUESTION WORKBOOK

Variation: continuous, discontinuous, and where each comes from

Evolution and speciation · Unit B19

OCR A 4.2.2 · Edexcel A 3.14, 3.15, 8.19 · CAIE 17.1

5 questions · 14 marks

PRINT EDITION

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SECTION A · Short, 1 to 2 marks

A1 State what is meant by discontinuous variation, and give one named example of a human characteristic that shows it. [2]
VCD-Q4

A2 A student measures the shell height of 90 snails from one wood, and separately compares the shell height of two different snail species. Identify which set of data shows intraspecific variation and which shows interspecific variation, and justify each choice. [2]
VCD-Q5

SECTION B · Standard, 3 to 5 marks

B1 Compare continuous variation with discontinuous variation, referring to the genes involved, the effect of the environment and the graph used to display each. [4]
VCD-Q1

B2 A characteristic controlled by four genes, each with two alleles of equal and additive effect, gives nine phenotype classes. Explain why adding more such genes makes the variation appear continuous. [3]

VCD-Q2

B3 Cuttings taken from one hydrangea plant are grown in acid soil and in alkaline soil, and they produce flowers of different colours. Explain what this shows about variation. [3]

VCD-Q3

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