# Mark scheme - Cloning and Biotechnology

Qu	iesti n	O Answer/Indicative content	Marks	Guidance
1		D	1	
		Total	1	
2		D	1	
		Total	1	
3		D	1	
		Total	1	
4		С	1	
		Total	1	
5		D	1	
		Total	1	
6		С	1	
		Total	1	
7		В	1	
		Total	1	
8		С	1	
		Total	1	
9		A✓	1 (AO1.1)	Examiner's Comments  Three quarters of candidates got this right.
		Total	1	
10		C√	1 (AO1.1)	Examiner's Comments  Around half of responses were correct. A common misconception was to think that there were no ethical issues associated with the production of mycoprotein.
		Total	1	
11		C ✓	1 (AO2.1)	
		Total	0	

12	а		suckers / stolons / tubers / rhizomes / bulbs √	1(AO1.1)	ALLOW other correct methods
	b		meristem(atic) √	1(AO1.1)	
			Total	2	
13			shoot √ explant √ sterilise √ callus √	4	ALLOW disinfect DO NOT ALLOW callose  Examiner's Comments  A straightforward question testing AO1, with many correct answers gaining full marks.  Most candidates managed root/shoot and sterilise. There was a division between more confident candidates who gained all 4 marks and those who seemed to be guessing the answers.  Common errors were giving 'cutting' for explant, confusion between callus (the correct response) and 'callose', and a wide range of answers for 'mass of cells,' such as embryo, blastocyst or zygote.
			Total	4	
14		ï	reduced / no, genetic variation  control (more) variables  increases validity	2 max	ALLOW genetically identical / same genetics ALLOW same / similar, alleles IGNORE same / similar, genes  ALLOW makes it valid  Examiner's Comments Most candidates were able to refer to clones being genetically identical. Many were able to communicate that this would remove a confounding variable but few candidates used the technical term:  'validity'. Some attempted to describe validity by using the term 'fair test' or even 'reliable'. Centres are again referred to the OCR Practical Skills Handbook for help with the correct use of such terms.

				IGNORE cuttings / vegetative propagation ALLOW clear description
		procedure tissue culture / micropropagation		ALLOW without asepsis microbes might grow ALLOW reduces competition for, space / nutrients / resources IGNORE infection / pathogens
	ii	asepsis important because reduces, microorganisms / contamination )	2	Examiner's Comments  Around half of candidates correctly referred to micropropagation or tissue culture. Cuttings and vegetative propagation were commonly seen un-creditworthy responses. Around half of candidates also correctly suggested that asepsis would reduce microbial contamination. Many were not awarded the second mark because they said simply that infection would be reduced without mentioning microorganisms.
				ALLOW 2 marks for any answer between 915 and 990  If answer is incorrect ALLOW 1 mark for 700 (area of triangle) and ALLOW 1 mark for 252 (area of rectangle)
	iii	clone C = 952 ± 2 ]]]	3	Examiner's Comments  Many candidates found the mathematical skills involved in calculating the area of a triangle and rectangle challenging and full marks were awarded for only about a quarter of answers.
				ALLOW 76(.2)% / 76/100 / 19/25 / 7.6 x 10 <sup>-1</sup> ALLOW ECF for answer to part (iii) ÷ 1250 ALLOW e.g. 0.564 / 56% (if answer to (iii) is 700)
	iv	0.76(16)	1	Examiner's Comments  A majority of candidates could divide their answer to part 1 by 1250 and were awarded this mark. However, it should be noted that the question asked for a proportion so answers presented as a ratio were not credited.

V	(shows) total / cumulative, infection over time (of study) idea that on different days the level of infection could be different any reference Fig.18 to support	2 max	ALLOW descriptive or numeric reference  Examiner's Comments  Just under half of candidates scored a mark here – usually for some description of one of the first two marking points. Very few candidates referred to Fig. within their answer, despite being told to do so, so it was rare to award both the available marks. A number of candidates misinterpreted the significance of the word 'visibly', suggesting that the area under the curve could measure invisible infection. Others referred to leaves being shed and gained no credit.
V	light intensity   light duration    soil (named) mineral (content)    soil, water / moisture (content)    soil type   soil pH   humidity   air pollution	2 max	Mark the first 2 answers with exception of ignored answers below.  IGNORE temperature / wind speed / rainfall  ALLOW day length IGNORE light exposure  IGNORE nutrients / ions / solutes / nitrogen  IGNORE water availability  IGNORE carbon dioxide  Examiner's Comments  Many candidates gained full marks here. Frequent responses that did not gain credit often lacked precision. Examples of this included: 'pH' rather than 'soil pH'; 'soil nutrients' rather than 'soil minerals' or 'amount of light' rather than 'light intensity'. Many candidates suggested atmospheric  CO2 concentration and were not credited as it is unrealistic to suppose that this factor would vary significantly between non-adjacent fields. A small minority of candidates suggested biotic factors.

			Total	12	
15			two from cutting needs less / micropropagation needs more, (expensive) equipment (1) cutting needs less / micropropagation needs more, (expensive) skills / staff / AW (1) cutting produces less / micropropagation produces more, clone offspring (1) AVP (1)	1	Answers must be <b>comparative</b> Look for two separate ideas IGNORE refs to time, one or other method may be quicker.  e.g. cutting needs less / micropropagation needs more aseptic discipline.
			Total	2	
16	а		some crop plants cannot reproduce, sexually / from seed ✓ young seedlings, less likely to survive / AW ✓ quicker than, growing from seed / sexual reproduction ✓ uniform / predictable, shape / size / quality / yield ✓ idea of easier to harvest ✓ (propagation) can be done, at any season / time of year ✓	3 max (AO 1.1)	Mark as prose 1 ALLOW seedless / hard to germinate, plants can be grown  4 ALLOW always get a good yield 4 IGNORE many copies  Examiner's Comments  Only a few candidates scored marks in this question. Most discussed improvement to crops, which can be achieved by selective breeding or genetic engineering. With the exception of marking point 2, all points on the mark scheme were seen regularly. Most attempts at describing uniformity either did not link it to a desirable quality or merely described increasing the numbers of plants with a given quality. Commonly seen statements such as 'quick', 'cheap' or 'large numbers can be produced' without further qualification were not credited.
	b	i	use a healthy shoot / cut shoot from healthy plant √ cut (stem) at a slant √ between nodes √ (dip in) rooting powder / plant hormone / auxin √ place in, soil / compost, and add water √	4 max (AO 1.2)	4 IGNORE add rooting hormone to, soil / agar 5 ALLOW place in moist soil

	(to reduce transpiration) 6 cover with plastic bag / remove some leaves √		Examiner's Comments  This was anAO1 question about Learning Outcome 6.2.1(a)(ii). A lot of candidates wrote about micropropagation, which is Learning Outcome 6.2.1(b)(i). Those candidates didn't score any marks Others who attempted to describe taking a cutting, were able to gain a mark for dipping the cutting in rooting powder. Most other marking points were seen regularly but very few mentioned choosing a healthy shoot in the first place.
			OCR support  OCR 'Delivery Guide' on Cloning and
			biotechnology (6.2.1):  https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-biology-a-h020-h420-from-2015/delivery-guide/module-ba06-module-6-genetics-evolution-and-ecosystems/delivery-guide-badg023-cloning-and-biotechnology-621
ii	Please refer to the marking instructions on this mark scheme for guidance on how to mark this question. In summary: Read through the whole answer. (Be prepared to recognise and credit unexpected approaches where they show relevance.) Using a 'best-fit' approach based on the science content of the answer, first decide which of the level descriptors, Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3, best describes the overall quality of the answer. Then, award the higher or lower mark within the level, according to the Communication Statement (shown in italics):	6 (AO 3.3) (AO 3.4)	Indicative scientific points may include  D increase number of plants in each group E facilitates identification of anomalies E increases accuracy of the mean E allows assessment of repeatability / precision  D calculate mean E more representative of treatment  D calculate range / standard deviation E add bars to graph E measures variability of results E standard deviation less affected by anomalous results  D perform statistical test / (unpaired) Students t-test E assess significance of difference E because comparing 2 means

- award the higher mark where the Communication Statement has been met.
- award the lower mark where aspects of the Communication Statement have been missed.
- The science content determines the level.
- The Communication Statement determines the mark within a level.

## Level 3 (5-6 marks)

Describes in detail how the investigation could be improved **and** fully explains the advantage of these improvements.

There is a well-developed line of reasoning which is clear and logically structured. The information presented is relevant and substantiated

## Level 2 (3-4 marks)

Describes some improvements to the investigation **and** explains the advantage of at least one of these improvements.

There is a line of reasoning with some structure. The information presented is relevant and supported by some evidence.

#### Level 1 (1-2 marks)

Describes **or** explains an improvement. There is an attempt at a logical structure with a line of reasoning. The information is, in the most part, relevant.

## **Examiner's Comments**

This level of response question could be answered well using very few of the available answer lines. However, many candidates filled the answer lines with irrelevant material and there was no logical line of reasoning in their answer. Hence, they didn't achieve the communication mark within a given level, particularly at Levels 2 and 3.

Most candidates were aware of the importance of replicates but few appreciated that, with an investigation such as this, replication can be achieved by increasing the number of individuals in each group. Few responses communicated this idea clearly, most simply stated 'do it 3 times', which, in the context of an investigation such as this, is not really an appropriate answer. Having mentioned repeats, most candidates mentioned calculating a mean and some were able to say that this would increase the accuracy of the mean. Many responses mentioned identifying anomalies. However, those who stated that anomalies could merely be omitted from a mean without much consideration were not highly credited. Responses that mentioned standard deviation or the use of statistical tests often gained higher level marks.

The question stated, in bold, that the investigation had been valid. This was meant to indicate to candidates that discussing improvements to validity would not be credited in this question. However, most candidates either did not appreciate the significance of this statement in the question or did not understand what 'valid' meant. Most responses were filled with discussion of how variables could be controlled.



## Misconception

There was a lot of misunderstanding here when using the statistical tests. It is worth noting that using Student's t-test allows us to

#### 0 marks

No response or no response worthy of credit.

assess the significance of a *difference* between two means, not whether the *results* are significant or not. Also standard deviation cannot, on its own, tell us if a difference is significant.



#### **OCR** support

Centres can find additional help with maths skills in the OCR Maths Skills Handbook, as well as the Mathematical skills statistics booklet:

https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/294471-biology-mathematical-skills-handbook.pdf https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/338621-mathematical-skills-statistics-booklet.doc

Appendix 4 of the Practical Skills Handbook, provides information on terms used in measurement and conventions for recording and processing experimental measurements. This is in line with the 'The Language of measurement' booklet:

https:/www.ocr.org.uk/Images/294468-biology-practical-skills-handbook.pdf

# Exemplar 7

lepeat the same investigation and calab using tuttings from thouse different lavender plants and calculate the mean increase in height for fertilizer solutions A and B. ≥ Include a control - take a cutting of a lavender plant and place it in soil that hasn't been fertilised at ally this will show weather whether the fertilise solution actually does increase the height at the plants compared to no fertilizer solution at all. \* This increases the repeatability of the ea experiment which will increase the confidence in the conclusion. Draw a graph of increase in height [6] libro against fertiliser solution + add cangu burs. If range bos don't averlage then the farmer can be more confident in his conclusions. as there is a distinct difference between the Kielghis of plant fertilised by A and 8

Although there is a small amount discussion about validity in the middle, the majority of the

					answer is correct and relevant and, for the most part, well-expressed so the response achieves Level 2 and the communication mark is awarded. Had the candidate also discussed standard deviation or carrying out a statistical test, it would certainly have achieved Level 3.
			Total	0	
17	а		many / AW, explants taken from , original / parent , plant ✓ calluses subdivided ✓ (meristems from) plantlets can be subdivided ✓	2 max(AO1.2)	All marks are for the idea of multiplication – key terms, such as explant are not essential
	b	<b>-</b> :	FIRST CHECK ON ANSWER LINE if answer is 48(%), award 2 marks.  16.1/33.8 √	2(AO2.7)	If answer incorrect  ALLOW max 1 mark for correct answer (47.633) to > 2 s.f.  Examiner's Comments  A little over half of candidates got both marks here. The question required the candidates to calculate a percentage change which is a fundamental skill in biology.  OCR support  OCR's AS and A Level Biology A Biology B (Advancing Biology) Maths skills handbook
		ii	Independent variable BAP concentration √  Dependent variable shoot length √  Controlled variables Any two from time light intensity lighting regime temperature (named) nutrient availability (in growth medium)	3(AO3.3)	IGNORE mean  Mark the first two answers only  ALLOW composition of , growth medium / agar  Examiner's Comments

			water availability concentration of other plant hormones pH (of growth medium) √		Most candidates could identify the independent and dependent variables, while others got these the wrong way round. Many also offered two correct control variables but several suggestions implied that the investigation might have been done using different plants, rather than clones or that the clones were cultured in soil.  Presenting results
			Total	7	
18	а	i	nucleus from , tadpole / donor cell , fuses with / enters / AW , (enucleated) egg √ using , needle / micropipette / electric pulse / electrofusion √	2 (AO 2.5)	ALLOW electric , current / shock IGNORE injection / electroporation / electricity (unqualified)  Examiner's Comments  Many candidates gave detailed answers that were specific to the process shown in the diagram, enabling them to gain full credit. The most common errors were failing to specify where the nucleus came from or not correctly identifying the practical procedure used. Electroporation was the most common incorrect response.
		ii	idea that embryo not implanted into surrogate mother √	1 (AO 2.5)	Must imply embryo  Examiner's Comments  Most candidates understood the process and realised that Dolly required a surrogate mother. However, many answers stated that the egg, zygote or nucleus would be implanted, rather than the embryo.
		iii	some genes present in mitochondria from egg cell √ random / spontaneous , mutations √	1 (AO 2.5)	ALLOW mitochondrial DNA  Examiner's Comments  Only a few candidates scored the mark in this question. Some candidates mentioned genetic information from the egg cell but did

				not specify that it would have come from the mitochondria. Some responses mentioned mutations, but usually failed to state that these were random or spontaneous.  Misconception  A common incorrect response was to cite environmental differences showing a misconception about these causing genetic differences in the clone rather than influencing phenotype.
b	ï	(mouse and <i>Xenopus</i> ) have, different / not comparable, lifespans √ (mouse and <i>Xenopus</i> ) develop / mature, at different rates √ frog , has tadpole stage / lays eggs √ <b>ora</b>	2 max (AO 2.8)	ALLOW stage of development at same age is different in each species ALLOW takes mouse longer to grow to an adult  Examiner's Comments  Many candidates gained at least one mark here but only few gained two. Many described the non-importance of the 'age of the donor nuclei', implying that it could not be accurately determined or that all nuclei were the same age.
	ii	<ul> <li>idea of any of the following</li> <li>(y-axis) does not show health of individual √ Dolly was a single individual so perhaps health problems unrelated to cloning √ only two species shown so</li> <li>trend might not apply to sheep √ only 3 points in, mouse /AW, study √ 1962 techniques might not be comparable to Dolly the sheep techniques (in 1996) √ correlation does not imply causation √</li> </ul>	3 max (AO 3.2)	1 IGNORE lifespan  3 ALLOW not done in sheep  5 ALLOW in context of data generated  Examiner's Comments  Many candidates achieved at least 1 mark.  Marking points 1 and 3 were most commonly awarded with some candidates correctly describing other marking points. Critical thinking about the link between evidence and conclusions is an important AO3 skill that will

				be tested in GCE science examinations.  Many answers quoted figures from the graph about the success of nuclear transfers in terms of live births which did not answer the question that was asked.
С	i	goats: 31 / 30.8 mice: 13 / 12.8 √√	2 (AO 2.7)	Both answers are required for 2 marks. ALLOW 1 mark if one answer is correct and one is incorrect ALLOW 1 mark if both answers are correctly calculated but one or both are not given to 2 or 3 s.f.  Examiner's Comments  Most candidates scored 2 marks in this question. The most common errors were incorrect rounding or giving answers with inappropriate numbers of significant figures.  OCR support  The 'Maths for Biology' website offers support on the correct use of significant figures:  https://www.ocr.org.uk/subjects/biology/mathsfor-biology/handling-data/
				Mark as prose
	ii	age / stage of development, of, surrogates / mothers ✓ (general) health of, surrogates / mothers ✓ conditions in which, surrogates / mothers, are kept ✓ age / AW, of (implanted) embryo ✓ age / AW, of nucleus donor ✓ age / AW, of, (enucleated) egg / egg donor ✓ number of eggs implanted in each surrogate ✓ idea of accounting for advances in technology (over time) available during procedure ✓	3 max (AO 3.1) (AO 3.3)	3 ALLOW e.g. diet / healthcare / space  4&5&6 ALLOW stage of development 5 ALLOW in context of donor animal or cell 5 ALLOW type of cell from which nucleus came  8 IGNORE method of nuclear transfer 8 IGNORE cloning procedure  Examiner's Comments  Many candidates were able to score at least 1 mark here by identifying one or more factors relating to the surrogate mothers. A

			significant number of answers made vague references to 'animals', without clearly stating which animals they were discussing, surrogate, nucleus donor, egg donor or clone, so they were not credited at this level. Other common errors included references to the number of animals, the breed/species of animal and the method of nuclear transfer. Many candidates appeared to be using the word 'species' to refer to an individual animal.  1 The age of the transfer cach which a tright lines. However, they have not stated precisely, or at all, which animals are being referred to.
	Total	0	
19	idea that it ensures the same responses to treatment √ idea that no genetic variation to affect the results √ idea that no genetic variation so acts as control variable √	1 max (AO2.3)	e.g. produces more valid results as no genetic variation' / 'reduces effect of genetic variation on results'  IGNORE 'no genetic variation' unqualified  IGNORE 'acts as a control variable' unqualified  Examiner's Comments  Many candidates scored well on question (b) by realising that the hole in the septum wall would allow deoxygenated and oxygenated blood being pumped to the cells. Fewer candidates mentioned that some oxygenated blood would be delivered to the lungs or that deoxygenated blood would pass into the left ventricle.  In question (c) very few candidates linked the information in the question stem with the idea that creatine kinase is an intracellular enzyme found in the blood due to damage to the heart muscle.

				A number of candidates did not gain credit for (d) as they did not link clones being genetically identical to the idea that this means genetics has no effect on the results of the experiment and acts as a control variable  Misconception  A common misconception was that the enzyme had brought on the heart attack by causing the heart to produce large amounts of ATP for muscle contraction and overexert itself.
		Total	1	
20	i	bacteria gain , nutrient / mineral / food , from , it / detergent \( 1 \) structures / AW (in fig. 21.1) contain only C and H \( 2 \) bacteria need (named) elements other than C and H \( 4 \) example of other element linked to use in bacterium \( 5 \) absence of other elements is a limiting factor (for bacterial growth) \( 7 \)	3 max (AO3.2)	3 ALLOW e.g. bacteria need nitrogen  4 ALLOW e.g. N for amino acids, P for ATP, O for aerobic respiration Note: bacteria need nitrogen for proteins = 2 marks (mp 3 and 4)  ALLOW detergent facilitates uptake of hydrocarbons (across plasma membrane)  Examiner's Comments  This high demand, stretch and challenge, question tested AO3 and AO2 skills and most candidates found it very challenging. The question directed candidates to Fig 22 and reminded them about bacterial growth requirements. As the structures in Fig 22 contain only C and H, candidates might have figured out that other elements would be needed to facilitate bacterial growth. However, less than 20% of candidates gained any marks and less than 1% scored all 3. A range of reasonable, but non-creditworthy, answers were seen but many answers

				appeared to be attempting to support Student A's conclusion.
	ii	idea of data from investigation that controls surface area or elements available √  (information about) elements / AW , present in the detergent √	1 max (AO3.4)	ALLOW e.g. grow bacteria on small droplets with and without detergent  Examiner's Comments  Less than 1 in 50 candidates scored a mark on this challenging question. A high number of candidates missed it out.
		Total	4	
21		Short / AW √ pollutants / contaminants √  metabolites √	3 (AO1.1)	ALLOW pollution / contamination / waste / oil / solvents /pesticides / benzene / plastics / chemicals  IGNORE impurities / faeces / toxins / bacteria / pathogens
		Total	3	
22	i	Please refer to the marking instructions on of this mark scheme for guidance on how to mark this question.  In summary: Read through the whole answer. (Be prepared to recognise and credit unexpected approaches where they show relevance.) Using a 'best-fit' approach based on the science content of the answer, first decide which of the level descriptors, Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3, best describes the overall quality of the answer. Then, award the higher or lower mark within the level, according to the Communication Statement (shown in italics):  • award the higher mark where the	6 (AO1.1)	Indicative scientific points may include:  Advantage: low cost Explanation: many microorganisms require only low temperatures / few energy requirements / nutrients for growth are cheap (e.g. waste materials)  Advantage: large numbers can be produced quickly / high yield of product Explanation: short generation time / reproduce quickly  Advantage: better for the environment / less pollution Explanation: reduces use of land for food production / lower energy requirements  Advantage: can be produced in many locations Explanation: not affected by climate / easy to control conditions  Advantage: suitable food for vegans / more

Statement has been met

- award the lower mark where aspects of the Communication Statement have been missed.
- The science content determines the level.
- The communication statement determines the mark within a level.

## Level 3 (5-6 marks)

Describes and explains advantages, using examples.

There is a well-developed line of reasoning which is clear and logically structured. The information presented is relevant and substantiated

# Level 2 (3-4 marks)

Describes advantages, with some examples, but little explanation.

There is a line of reasoning with some structure. The information presented is relevant and supported by some evidence.

# Level 1 (1-2 marks)

Describes some advantages, but with little or no explanation and few or no relevant examples.

There is an attempt at a logical structure with a line of reasoning. The information is, in the most part, relevant.

### 0 marks

Explanation: low in cholesterol and high in protein or fibre / easy to genetically engineer to improve food quality

Examples (list not exhaustive)

- (Brewer's) yeast / for alcohol
- (Baker's) yeast / for bread
- Lactobacillus / for cheese / yoghurt
- Fusarium / for mycoproteins
- Pectinase / from A. niger / fungus / for fruit juice
- Aspergillus / yeast / for soya sauce
- fungal lactase / for lactose free milk

# Examiner's Comments

As with Q4(b), a good range of marks were seen for this level of response question. A fair proportion of candidates did not mention examples of foods or microorganisms used in food production; they were consequently restricted to Level 1. Quorn was by far the most commonly referenced example.

Candidates tended to describe and explain advantages quite confidently.



## AfL

Candidates should be aware of some common examples of microorganisms used in food production.



# **OCR** support

OCR delivery guide on 'Cloning and biotechnology':

https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-biology-a-h020-h420-from-2015/delivery-guide/module-ba06-module-6-genetics-evolution-and-ecosystems/delivery-guide-badg023-cloning-and-biotechnology-621

# Exemplar 3

	No response or no response worthy of credit.		MICHOUR INTERPOLATION OF WAY  QUENTE HELL PRODUCTION WAY  QUENTE HELL PRODUCTION WAY  QUENTE HELL PRODUCTION WAY  QUENTE HELL PRODUCTION WAY  QUENTE HOLL PRODUCTION IN VERY  QUENTE HOLL PRODUCTION IN QUENTE  IN HEMPERICANNEL TO OPEN MUM GROWN,  MICHEGO HOLL A LOW ENLIGH MUM  LICHNICITY, and RU GOUTH FRENCHMOLE,  LOUNT CITY, and RU GOUTH FRENCHMOLE,  LOUNT CITY, and RU GOUTH FRENCHMOLE,  LOUNT CITY, and RU GOUTH TO PRODUCT  QUENTUM GROWN HAVEOUR OLD  INTERPOLOTION TO PRODUCT  QUENTE HOLL CON UP TO JUPLY OF  COUNTY TO THE TIME HOLL OF MUMORY  AND ONLY TO QUENTE JUPLY OF  COUNTY TO THE TIME HOLL OF MUMORY  AND OF MUMICINE OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMICINE OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMORY  EXEMPLY THE HOLL OF MUMORY  AND OF MUMICINELY  EXEMPLY THE HOLL OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMORY  EXEMPLY THE HOLL OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMORY  EXEMPLY THE HOLL OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMORY  CALL MARKET OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMORY  EXEMPLY THE HOLL OF MUMORY  WOULD MUMORY  EXEMPLY THE HOLL OF MUMORY  MUMO
			Exemplar 4  Microganisms reproduce very quickly and produce loss of weful products quickly and produce very are edgy to maintain and don's require complicated (anditions. They can be grown in fermendation verset with specific conditions for temperature, pt , hutrents and strike air.  Microganisms whe year can be used to produce beer and bread. They respect another a produce beer and bread. They respect another to produce larbore here adains produce a larbor to produce larbore here adains produce the used to produce larbore here adains produce the used to produce the season of products for microganisms where the right consistency microganisms where years a large yield and ordain beneficial gents. Microgramisms are cheap to use and can be grown early.  Exemplar 4 has several advantages and explanations, and has listed several responses of microorganisms and foods produced by them. This allows this answer to access Level 3 - 6 marks
ii		3 (AO1.2)	

			1		AU =
	Statement	Batch	Continuous		All 5 correct = $\sqrt{}$
	Waste is				4 correct = $\sqrt{\ }$
	removed				3 correct = √
	during the		_		
	fermentation				Examiner's Comments
	process				
					On the whole, this question was well
	A fixed				answered, with most candidates gaining 2 or 3 marks. The most common errors were for
	volume of				statements 3 and 4 in the table, with many
	nutrient	✓			candidates believing secondary metabolites
	medium is				are produced in continuous fermentation, and
	used				that growth rate is faster in batch
	Secondary				fermentation.
	metabolites				Torriotticiti.
	are more	<b>√</b>			
	likely to be				
	produced				
	produced				
	The growth				
	rate tends to		✓		
	be faster				
	Th				
	The culture				
	is grown for a fixed	<b>/</b>			
	period of	· ·			
	time				
	<b>///</b>				
	Total			9	
	Any four fron	n:			
	microorganis				
	quickly and o	-			
	protein per, h (1)	ioui / (	uay / WEEK		
	(1)				
	microorganis	ms ca	n be arown		
	on waste ma		-		
23	processes (1			4	
	`				ACCEPT reverse argument
	beef has five	times	the total fat		
	content of pro	otein p	roduced by		
	microorganis	ms OF	RA (1)		
					ACCEPT reverse argument
	beef has 20 t	times t	the		IGNORE 'more' or 'less'
	saturated fat				
	more likely to	contr	ibute to		
· <u></u>	 	· <u></u>			

		atherosclerosis / heart disease ORA (1)		ACCEPT reverse argument IGNORE 'more' or 'less'
		fungal protein has no cholesterol and is less likely to contribute to, atherosclerosis / heart disease (1)  people on a weight reduction diet prefer fungal protein as it has half the energy content of beef (1)		e.g. rearing beef takes up a lot more land
		AVP (1)  Total	4	
24		two from work in an inoculating cabinet / maintain minimum plate- opening time (1) flame inoculating loop / use sterile, pipette tip / implement of transfer (1) seal the plates for incubation (1)	2	IGNORE refs to safety – question is about sterile practice.  IGNORE autoclave, irradiation etc., as done before technician gets sample.
		Total	2	
25	а	flaming the tube causes air to expand and pushes bacteria away so less likely to settle into tube (1)  kills bacteria on neck of tube (1)  holding lid of petri dish over agar plate avoids infection / inoculation with bacteria in the air (1)	2	
25	a	flaming the tube causes air to expand and pushes bacteria away so less likely to settle into tube (1)  kills bacteria on neck of tube (1)  holding lid of petri dish over agar plate avoids infection / inoculation	_	ALLOW for serial dilution, choose the correct plate (highest number of colonies without colonies merging)

	ii	Species B [no mark]  produces more biomass (1)  continues to produce biomass at low glucose concentration (1)	2	
		Total	8	
26	i	1. (at start) respiration is <a href="mailto:anaerobic">anaerobic</a> / glucose converted into ethanol√  2. respiration, decreases rapidly / stops , once glucose used up √  3. ethanol used (as a carbon source) once glucose has been consumed √  4. aerobic respiration (of ethanol) √  5. (because) acetyl Co A used in Krebs cycle √  6. respiration stops when, ethanol / respiratory substrate, has been used up √	3 max	ACCEPT oxygen is needed for the metabolism of ethanol  Examiner's Comments This question proved to be a good discriminator. This was a difficult graph to interpret and some candidates were confused in their answers. There were numerous responses based entirely on recall of aerobic respiration followed by anaerobic respiration when yeast is used to produce ethanol. Candidates seemed quite happy to ignore or misrepresent the evidence of the graph to fit with their preconceptions. Good candidates just looked at the evidence and drew the correct if unfamiliar conclusion, which was that anaerobic respiration was followed by aerobic respiration.  Weaker candidates did not get to grips with the idea that glucose was used as a respiratory substrate at first, and then ethanol. Neither did they link that with the type of respiration. Weaker candidates often gave a detailed description of the graph, quoting data in great detail, but did not mention the type of respiration occurring rather taking the approach of manipulating data, which gained no credit.

				Mark first two suggestions given
				ACCEPT a description of an aseptic technique ACCEPT sterile techniques
				ACCEPT a specific example of a nutrient
		(use) aseptic techniques / avoid contamination √		ACCEPT optimum temperature / right temperature /a specific, appropriate temperature (15 – 35°C)  IGNORE keep temperature constant / low temperature/ monitor temperature / control temperature
	ii	provide (sources of) nutrients / respiratory substrates √ (incubate at) suitable temperature √	2 max	ACCEPT maintain optimum pH / right pH /a specific, appropriate pH (4–7) IGNORE keep pH constant / monitor pH / control pH
				ACCEPT mixing IGNORE ref to aeration / oxygen supply / sparging
		use (pH) buffer √		Examiner's Comments This was well answered on the whole, and many candidates scored two marks. The majority of candidates got two marks for mentioning the use of aseptic techniques and
		agitation / stirring / shaking √		mark point 3 or 4 for the use of optimum temperature or optimum pH. Some candidates stated control temperature and pH rather than the idea that these factors needed to be suitable for the yeast, and it was disappointing to see that some candidates suggested that the 'culture' should be sterilised, which gained no credit.
				One mark awarded for a correct calculation with the wrong number of significant figures or not in standard form (e.g. 375000, 375 x 10 <sup>3</sup> , 3.8 x10 <sup>5</sup> )
	iii	3.75 √ x 10 <sup>5</sup> √	2	Examiner's Comments  Many candidates had trouble with this calculation. It was clear which candidates had been taught how to calculate population numbers in relation to dilutions. However, a large proportion of the candidates then failed to give their answer in standard form or to

			three significant figures, and so only gained one mark. It is important that centres make sure that candidates know how to calculate serial dilutions and are able to put their answer into standard form and the correct number of significant figures.  Some candidates were able to work out that there were 150 bacteria in 1 ml of 10 <sup>-2</sup> dilution, but then got confused and were unable to convert this to 15000 in 1 ml of original culture and hence then calculate 15000 x 25 = 375000 (3.75 x 10 <sup>5</sup> ) in 25 cm³ of the original culture.
			Max 2 for statements supporting only one view
			IGNORE large / wide, range of temperatures
	Yes because a suitable, range / intervals, of temperatures have been chosen √ volume controlled √ temperature, controlled / maintained √ repeats, to identify anomalies / outliers √ same yeast suspension used √		IGNORE repeats exclude anomalies
i	No because availability of, oxygen/ nutrients / yeast concentration, not controlled ✓	3 max	ACCEPT 'better to collect (volume of) carbon dioxide produced' / 'It is better to use a respirometer' (implies pH change not accurate) 'because some CO <sub>2</sub> would diffuse into the air'
	pH is not be controlled at start of experiment √		Examiner's Comments
	idea of pH change would not be an accurate measure of respiration rate √		Many candidates scored well on this question and it was good to see how many realised that using a pH probe is not an accurate way to measure respiration rate. However, some candidates used very vague language, such as 'a range of temperatures' without qualification, and a sizeable proportion gave
	no time reference (to calculate rate) √		only 'yes, because' or 'no, because' answers, obviously not understanding the
	no control (sample) √		significance of term 'evaluate'. Candidates need to be taught that when asked to evaluate they need to put arguments for and against. Weaker candidates suggested that

					pH needed controlling which showed a lack of understanding of the question. A number also did not get mp 4 under the Yes section because they did not mention that by doing repeats one can help to identify the anomaly. Instead they went one step further and were mentioning removing the anomaly or discarding it in order to calculate the mean.
					ACCEPT null hypothesis / H <sub>o</sub> , can be accepted  DO NOT ACCEPT null hypothesis / H <sub>o</sub> can be rejected  ACCEPT the results are not significantly different (p = 0.05)
		v	difference (between the means), is not significant / can be explained by chance (at $p = 0.05$ ) $\checkmark$	1	Examiner's Comments  This was well answered, showing that many candidates seem to understand how to interpret statistical calculated values. It was clear that many candidates had been taught this basic statistical test and what it showed. However a significant number of students still gave confusing answers and failed to understand that if the <i>t</i> value is less than the critical value at p = 0.05, the null hypothesis should be accepted and there is no significant difference. They often confused results not being significantly different with the null hypothesis being rejected so they ended up getting no marks. Very weak candidates just stated that the results were not different. The words significant or different were missing from the responses.
			Total	11	
27	а		volume of broth (in flask) √ pH (of broth) √ oxygen (concentration in flask) √ number / concentration , of bacteria in , broth at beginning / AW √	1 max (AO3.4)	IGNORE 'amount' throughout  4 ALLOW batch of broth / starting population of bacteria 4 IGNORE volume / mass  Examiner's Comments  Most candidates were aware that conditions ought to be as similar as possible and around

		volume removed (from each flask) ✓ (standard) stirring / mixing , before withdrawal of samples ✓		half achieved a mark by stating one of marking points 2 to 5. As usual in these questions, the vague word 'amount' did not achieve any credit. Irrelevant responses such as 'size of flask' and 'light' were seen but received no credit. Some candidates described a control sample and gained no credit.
р	i	6.0 / 6 , × 10 <sup>7</sup> √√	2 (AO2.8)	Max 1 if answer not given as standard form ALLOW 1 mark for 6 × 10 <sup>6</sup> / 6 × 10 <sup>8</sup> Examiner's Comments  Less than 20% of responses achieved both marks. Candidates fell into one of two similarly-sized groups: those who clearly knew how to calculate number of bacteria and were either correct or out by a factor of 10 or 100, and those who did not know how to approach the calculation at all. Some candidates ignored the instruction to write the answer in standard form and so were limited to 1 mark.
	ii	should have used E \( \square \)  (has) most / more, (countable) colonies \( \square \)  idea that anomalies will have smaller effect \( \square \) more representative / larger, sample \( \square \)  (fewer serial dilutions) decreases chance of error \( \square \)  F (is appropriate) because, colonies / AW, are countable \( \square \)	3 max (AO3.1) (AO3.4)	1 Other points can be awarded in the context of plates other than E  2-5 ora for F  4 ALLOW estimate will be more accurate 4 IGNORE valid / reliable / repeatable  6 ALLOW bacteria as AW for colonies for this marking point only  Examiner's Comments  Most candidates gained at least 1 mark but it was rare for a response to achieve all 3.  Many candidates thought that F was the most appropriate and this limited their score to 1 mark. Candidates who discussed reasons why F might not have been the best tube often achieved a mark for discussing diluting error or marking point 3 in some form.

				reluctant to clearly state that E would have been the best tube to use. Marking point 2 was rarely credited because few candidates used the word 'colonies'. A significant minority of candidates seemed to think that E would be inappropriate because someone might make a mistake when counting; such responses were not credited. Candidates are advised that answers to practical questions that cite avoidable human error are not likely to attract marks.  Exemplar 7  It was the most approach to the chance of human error are not likely to attract marks.  This is an example of a response that suggests that human counting error is the main concern when selecting which tube to use and hence achieves no marks. Typically, this type of response often achieved marking point 6 but this one does not explicitly state that the colonies in tube F are countable, hence the omission mark, so no marks were credited.
С	i	Level 3 (5–6 marks)  Describes the main differences between the two temperatures using key terms and explains in detail the difference between temperatures.  There is a well-developed line of reasoning which is clear and logically structured and uses scientific terminology at an appropriate level. All the information presented is relevant.  Level 2 (3–4 marks)	6 (AO2.7) (AO2.8)	Indicative points may include  Comparison of curves  similar lag phase quicker overall at 30°C exponential phase rises faster at 30°C shorter duration of stationary phase at 30°C faster death phase at 30°C lower population at 30°C after 72h figures used to support
		Describes some differences between the two temperatures		Explanation for difference at higher temperature

with some use of key terms
and explains a difference
between temperatures.
There is a line of reasoning
presented with some structure
and use of appropriate
scientific language. The
information presented is mostly
relevant.

# Level 1 (1-2 marks)

Describes some differences between the two temperatures or explains a difference between temperatures. The information is communicated with only a little structure.

Communication is hampered by the inappropriate use of technical terms.

0 marks
No response or no response worthy of credit.

- molecules have more kinetic energy
- bacterial enzymes closer to optimum temperature
- faster enzyme activity
- more competition for nutrients earlier
- resources, e.g. carbon source, used up more rapidly
- mineral availability becomes limiting factor more quickly
- toxic metabolites produced more quickly

## **Examiner's Comments**

Some candidates achieved Level 3 for this question but Level 1 was the most commonly credited. In order to achieve Level 3 a response needed to make clear comparative statements about both curves and to explain the reasons for differences between the two temperatures using key A Level terminology.

Most candidates compared the curves but responses that were credited lower level marks often displayed a sequential, narrative style which could not really be considered a comparison. Equally, many candidates did not even attempt to *explain* differences as so were limited to Level 1.

Descriptions of phases provided an opportunity for candidates to display their ability to use technical terms but a sizeable minority of candidates did not take this opportunity, often referring to a 'growth in numbers', without reference to the term 'lag phase', for example. While some, usually Level 3 responses, did offer relevant explanations at an appropriate standard, many responses merely explained the phases of a bacterial growth curve, without reference to the data provided in the question. Some attempts at explanation did not raise the level of an answer because of basic errors when discussing enzymes.

Enzyme action is frequently assessed in biology examinations. With reference to

			common errors, candidates are reminded of the following: the term 'optimum temperature' applies to enzymes, not bacteria; it is reasonable to describe enzymes or molecules as having 'more kinetic energy' but not bacteria; and the death phase of a growth curve does not cause, nor is a result of, denaturation of bacterial enzymes.  Exemplar 8  Exemplar 8  The main differences between the two temperatures are described using key terms and there are multiple explanations for the differences between the temperatures. The
			response is coherent, relevant and uses A Level scientific terminology.  DO NOT CREDIT control , group / variable / condition  ALLOW shows growth due only to B. subtilis
ii	control ✓  idea of checking for contamination ✓	2 (AO3.3) (AO3.4)	ALLOW e.g. to ensure conditions were aseptic / if the flask had bacterial growth the results would be invalid  Examiner's Comments  Most could establish it was a control, although some confused this control with a control variable or control group. Many were able to link this to the idea of checking for unintended bacterial growth. The context should have clearly signalled the idea of contamination so, on this occasion, responses that gave generic answers about comparisons were not credited.
iii	idea that it could encourage the growth of human pathogens √	1 (AO3.3)	ALLOW harmful microbes could grow DO NOT CREDIT refs to denaturation IGNORE bacteria will grow rapidly which

				could be dangerous
				Examiner's Comments
				About a third of candidates achieved this mark. Incorrect responses often referred to enzymes denaturing (which is unlikely at 35°C) or rapid uncontrollable growth.
				IGNORE identify / ignore / exclude
				ALLOW reliability IGNORE valid / accurate
				ALLOW any named statistical test
				Examiner's Comments
	iv	reduce impact of , anomalous / AW , results \( \square \) measure / increase / show / ensure , repeatability \( \square \) allow , calculation of standard deviation / (named) statistical test \( \square \) (calculated) mean likely to be , more accurate / closer to true value (than individual value) \( \square \)	3 max (AO3.3)	Correct use of the term 'repeatable' and appropriate use of 'accurate' were able to gain credit as part of a correct explanation; in the context of this question, 'valid' was not relevant. Help with the correct use of the language of measurement is available in the OCR Practical Skills Handbook. Most responses achieved one mark, usually for reference to the idea of repeatability. All marking points were credited, but marking point 2 was by far the most frequently credited.  It is worth reminding centres that discarding results purely on the basis of their being different from the mean is a very questionable practice. Anomalous results should only be excluded if there is a clear explanation for why they occurred. If not, while they might trigger further replicates or affect the outcome of a statistical test, they ought to be included in any calculated means. Replicates will, however, minimise the impact of any outlying data on those means.
		Total	18	
28		Please refer to the marking instruction point 10 for guidance on how to mark this question. In summary: Read through the whole answer. (Be prepared to		

recognise and credit unexpected approaches where they show relevance.) Using a 'best-fit' approach based on the science content of the answer. first decide which of the level descriptors, Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3, best describes the overall quality of the answer. Then, award the higher or lower mark within the level, according to the Communication Statement

(shown in italics):

- award the higher mark where the Communication Statement has been met.
- award the lower mark where aspects of the Communication Statement have been missed.
- The science content determines the level.
- The Communication Statement determines the mark within a level.

## Level 3 (5-6 marks)

A good range of correct modifications are provided. Each modification is explained. Comments both on improvement to the investigation and on validity are included.

The explanations are clearly linked to the modifications with a well-reasoned explanation of how the modification will work.

Level 2 (3-4 marks)

## Indicative scientific points may include:

## **Modifications:**

- 1. Take samples more frequently than every four hours
- 2. Use a spreader to spread the bacteria on the agar
- 3. Label petri dish as soon as inoculated
- 4. Place petri dishes upside down
- Use a wider range of temperatures / use more intermediate temperatures

6

Some correct modifications are provided. Each modification is explained. Comments on improvement to the investigation and / or on validity are included.

The explanations are clearly linked to the improvements but it may not be clear how the modifications will work to improve the investigation or make the results more valid.

## Level 1 (1-2 marks)

Limited correct modifications are provided. There are no clear explanations of how the modifications will improve the investigation or validity of the results.

OR

Only one correct modification is described with a clear explanation of how it will improve the investigation or validity.

There is a logical structure to the answer. The explanation, though basic and not linked to the modification, is clear.

## 0 marks

No response or no response worthy of credit.

## **Explanations:**

- Bacteria can reproduce (very)
  quickly and a big change could
  occur in four hours so detail of
  growth may be missed
- Tilting / swirling the plate may not spread the bacteria evenly and this would make counting the colonies more difficult and cause the result to be invalid
- The dishes could easily be confused or mixed up so that the results are invalid
- Prevents the agar drying out which would reduce bacterial growth and make the results invalid
- 5. Provides more information about the effect of temperature

			,		
			Total	6	
29	9	i	'For' statement:  no lag phase (is shown) ✓ no (clear), stationary / death / decline, phase ✓  idea that decrease between day 3 and 4 is not typical of standard growth curve ✓	4 max (AO3.1)	ALLOW clear descriptions of stages of growth curve e.g 'there is no fall in number of cells at end of growth curve'

		'Against' statement:  idea that lag phase may be present but day 0 data are not shown √  exponential / log / rapid growth, phase present (between day 1 and 2) √		e.g. 'lag phase may occur between day 0 and day1' <b>ALLOW</b> 'growth rate increases (between days1-5) but then rate of growth slows down'
		idea that stationary / death / decline, phase may occur later  ✓  General point: idea that presence of limited nitrate is responsible for the (non-standard) growth curve ✓		e.g. 'reduction in nitrate could lead to fall in cell numbers between day 3 and 4' / 'as nitrate levels fall bacterial cell numbers are still increasing'
		FIRST CHECK ON ANSWER LINE If answer = 2.5 × 10 <sup>6</sup> award 3 marks		ALLOW any value between 10 <sup>4.5</sup> and 10 <sup>4.8</sup> i.e. 1.6 - 3.2 × 10 <sup>6</sup> award 3 marks ALLOW 31,622.7766 – 63,095.73445 ALLOW any correct rounded value
	i	iii $10^{4.7} = 50,118.72336 \checkmark$ $\times 50 (= 2,505,936.168) \checkmark$ $\text{standard form} = 2.5 \times 10^6 \checkmark$	3 (AO2.4)	This mark should be awarded to 'x50' seen anywhere in the working, regardless of the value being multiplied This mark should be awarded for correctly converting to standard form, regardless of the value being converted as ECF MAX 2 for correct answer not converted to standard form
		serial dilution √ idea of grow colonies (on agar plate) and count number of colonies √ idea of scale up / multiply up, count (to estimate population size) √	2 max (AO2.7)	ALLOW idea of flow cytometry / described
		Total	9	
30		two from (enzymes) re-used so less, money / cost (for new ones)	2	Mark the first answer on each prompt line. If the prompt numbers are ignored, mark the first two answers as prose. Answers must

			(1) downstream processing / purifying, <b>cost / expense</b> , reduced (1) (higher temperature allows) more <b>profit</b> from faster yield (1)		refer to reduced cost / losses / expense, or increased profit.  ALLOW ORA for any point if clearly stated IGNORE 'more economic' in general e.g. 'Continuous processing is more economic'. Look for the details listed.
			Total	2	
31	а		in, (named) matrix / gel ✓  adsorption / bonding to (named) carrier ✓  membrane separation ✓ cross-linking / covalent bonding ✓	1 max AO1.2	ALLOW entrapment / encapsulation / inclusion / microcapsulation  ALLOW carrier bound  ALLOW attached to partially permeable membrane
	b	i	FIRST CHECK ON ANSWER LINE If answer = 6.8 +/- 0.8 award 2 marks  7.5/1.1 = 6.8181· ✓ rounded to 2 s.f. = 6.8 ✓	2 AO2.4	ALLOW mp 2 for incorrect answer rounded to 2 s.f
		ii	smooth curve AND  goes through or near at least 7 points √	1 AO3.3	DO NOT CREDIT extrapolations
		iii	<ol> <li>no value between pH5.5 and pH6 measured √</li> <li>peak / optimum , could be anywhere between pH5.5 and pH6 √</li> <li>peak / optimum , for immobilised tannase could be anywhere between pH 5 and pH6.5 √</li> <li>no indication that the experiment has been repeated √</li> <li>AVP √</li> </ol>	3 max AO3.2	1 ALLOW without smaller intervals the student cannot be certain 1 ALLOW examples of untested pH values within this range 2 & 3 DO NOT CREDIT optimum is 5.75  5 ALLOW enzyme activity is not stated as a 'mean' 5 IGNORE not repeated  6 CREDIT pH scale is , non linear / logarithmic 6 CREDIT 10 a.u. is V <sub>max</sub> for this enzyme
		iv		2 max AO2.2	ALLOW ora for free tannase throughout  ALLOW does not denature

		Total		12	
	ii	high(er) , initial / set-up , costs   fewer exposed active sites   idea that immobilization  method might affect shape of  active site   idea of leakage   idea		1 max AO1.2	ALLOW immobilization process is expensive IGNORE more expensive to buy ALLOW active sites and substrates mix more slowly
С	i	<ul> <li>product not contamination with enzyme √</li> <li>extraction of , product enzyme , not needed</li> <li>recycling (of enzyme)</li> <li>idea that process carun over wider temporange √</li> <li>(bioreactors) can be continuously for long periods, so less emporange deaning needed √</li> </ul>	ct / d √ e) √ n be erature run	2 max AO1.2	2 ALLOW reduced downstream processing 3 ALLOW enzyme can be reused / less enzyme needed 4 ALLOW e.g. can be run at lower temperatures so less energy cost / can be run at higher temperatures so faster
		(immobilised enzymes a less easily denatured ✓ shape / tertiary structure supported / AW (by supmaterial) ✓ idea that part of enzyme fully exposed to pH (8) √	e, port		ALLOW bonds less easily disrupted