Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname	Other names

Centre Number | Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9–1)

Tuesday 12 May 2026

Afternoon (Time: 1 hour 10 minutes)

Paper reference **1SC0/1BF**

Combined Science
PAPER1

Foundation Tier

You must have:
Ruler, calculator

Total Marks

I nstruc tions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided – *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- In the questions marked with an **asterisk** (*), marks will be awarded for your ability to structure your answer logically, showing how the points that you make are related or follow on from each other where appropriate.

Advice

- Read each question carefullybeforeyoustarttoanswerit.
- Try to answerevery question.
- Check your answers ifyouhavetimeattheend.

Turn over ▶

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Pearson

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions must be answered with a cross in a box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

1 (a) Stone tools found in layers of rock can show evidence for human evolution.

Figure 1 shows four locations where stone tools were found.

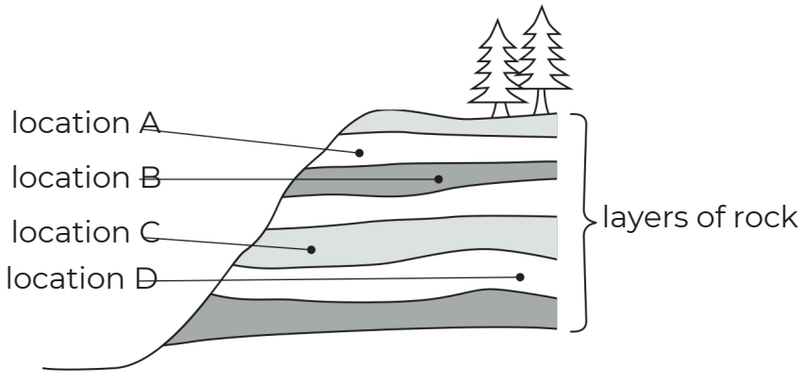


Figure 1

(i) Which location is most likely to contain the oldest tools?

(1)

☒ **A** location A

☒ **B** location B

☒ **C** location C

☒ **D** location D

(ii) Figure 2 shows two stone tools.



(Source: © Eduardo Estellez/Shutterstock)

tool X



(Source: © John Kepchar/Shutterstock)

Figure 2

State **one** feature of tool X that shows it is a more recent tool.

(1)

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(iii) Suggest **two** ways that our human ancestors used stone tools.

(2)

1 .....

.....

2 .....

.....

(b) Complete the sentences using words from the box.

(2)

Ardi	billion	Leakey
million	Lucy	thousand

Some fossilised bones of a human ancestor are estimated to be

4.4 ..... years old.

The fossil skeleton of a human ancestor was found in Kenya by a scientist called

..... .

(c) Humans domesticated animals such as cows, dogs and sheep.

State **one** reason for domesticating animals.

(1)

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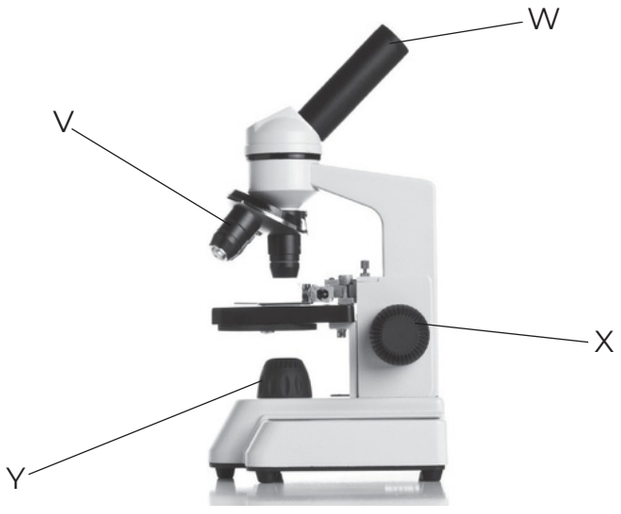
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(Total for Question 1 = 7 marks)

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2 Figure 3 shows a light microscope that can be used to study cells.



(Source: © Shawn Hempel/Shutterstock)

Figure 3

(a) (i) Which part of the microscope is the eyepiece lens?

(1)

☒ A part V

☒ B part

☒ W C

☒ part X D

part Y

(ii) Which part of the microscope is the focus control?

(1)

☒ A part V

☒ B part W

☒ **C** part X

☒ D part Y

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(b) Describe how to prepare a microscope slide of plant cells.

Use Figure 4 to help you.

(3)

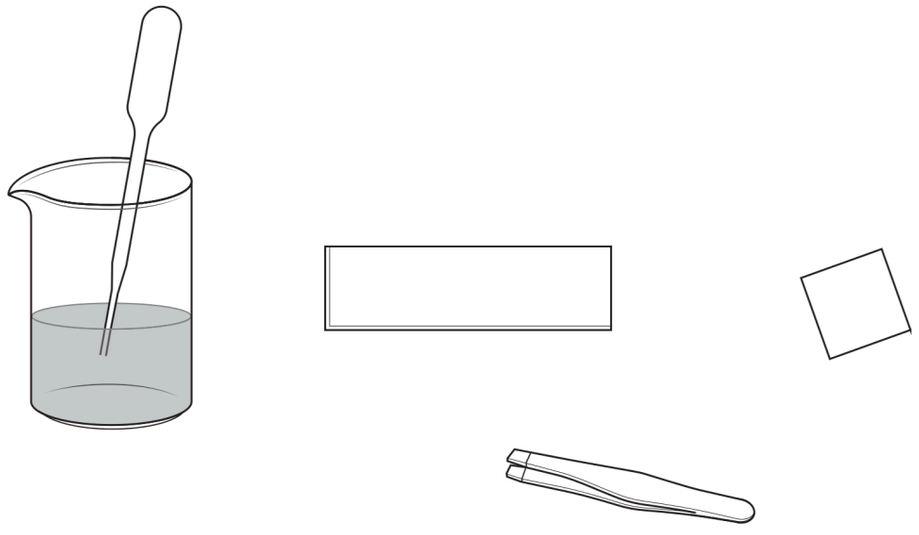


Figure 4

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(c) There are different types of microscopes.

Draw **one** straight line from each type of microscope to the advantage of using that microscope.

(2)

Type of microscope	**Advantage of using the microscope**
electron microscope	it is very large
	it can be used to look at living cells
	it produces a blurred image
light microscope	it is very expensive
	it has a higher resolution

(Total for Question 2 = 7 marks)

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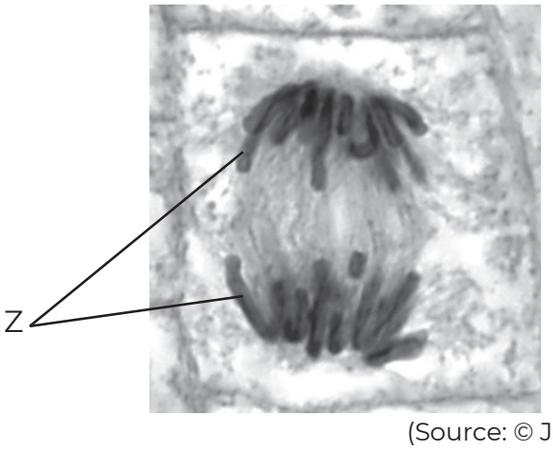
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3 (a) Figure 5 shows a stage of mitosis in a plant cell.



(Source: © Jose Luis Calvo/Shutterstock)

Figure 5

(i) Which stage of mitosis is shown in Figure 5?

(1)

- ☒ A interphase
- ☒ B metaphase
- ☒ **C** prophase
- ☒ D anaphase

(ii) Name the structures labelled Z in Figure 5.

(1)

.....

(iii) Describe what happens to the structures labelled Z in the telophase stage of mitosis.

(2)

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(iv) The cell in Figure 5 is from a root tip.

Explain why mitosis occurs in root tip cells.

(2)

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.....

.....

.....

(b) The mitotic index can be used when studying mitosis.

The mitotic index is calculated using:

$$\text{mitotic index} = \frac{\text{number of cells in mitosis}}{\text{total number of cells}}$$

(i) A scientist observed 50 cells and noted that 14 of these cells were in mitosis.

Calculate the mitotic index for these cells.

Give your answer to one decimal place.

(3)

mitotic index = ...

(ii) A high mitotic index can show that cell division is uncontrolled.

Give **one** outcome of uncontrolled cell division.

(1)

.....

.....

(Total for Question 3 = 10 marks)

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4 (a) Some tomato plants produce red tomatoes and some produce yellow tomatoes.

A gardener crossed tomato plants as shown in Figure 6.

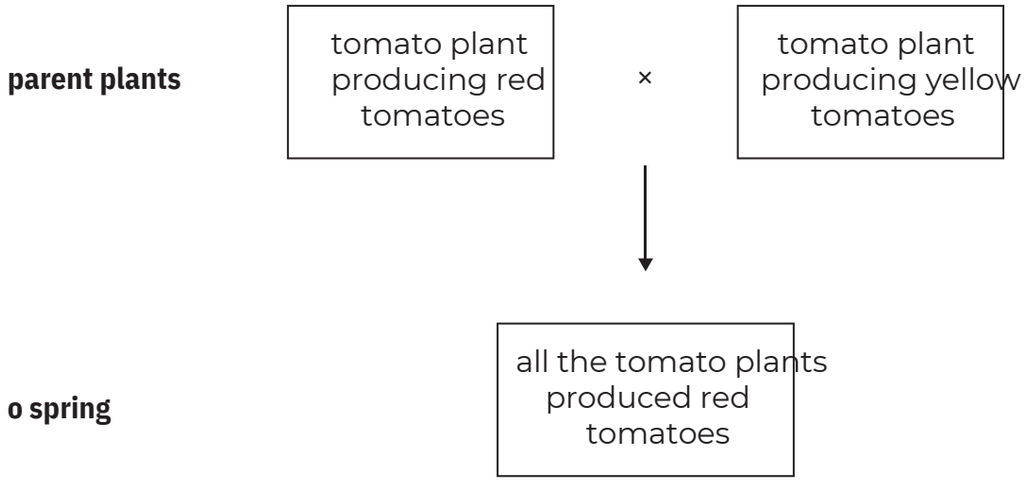


Figure 6

(i) Which conclusion can be made from this cross about the characteristic for red tomatoes?

(1)

☒ A this characteristic is environmental

☒ **B** this characteristic is recessive

☒ C this characteristic is dominant

☒ D this characteristic is a mutation

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(ii) A gardener crossed two tomato plants that produced red tomatoes.

Both of these tomato plants had the same genotype.

Complete the Punnett square to show the possible genotypes of the offspring.

Show the percentage of tomato plants that produce yellow tomatoes in your answer.

(3)

	plant producing red tomatoes: **R**	plant producing red tomatoes: **r**
plant producing red tomatoes		
plant producing red tomatoes		

percentage of tomato plants that produce yellow tomatoes = ... %

(iii) Which term describes the genotype Rr?

(1)

- ☒ **A** monohybrid
- ☒ **B** homozygous recessive
- ☒ **C** heterozygous
- ☒ **D** homozygous dominant

(b) Describe the meaning of the term **allele**.

(2)

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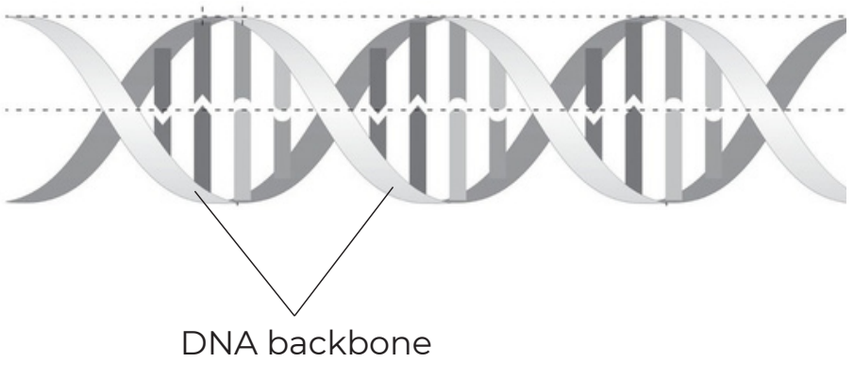
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(c) Figure 7 shows part of a DNA molecule.



(Source: © Dee-sign/Shutterstock)

Figure 7

(i) Describe the structure of a DNA molecule.

(4)

(ii) Give the term used to describe the entire DNA of an organism.

(1)

(Total for Question 4 = 12 marks)

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5 (a) Physical barriers and chemical defences in the human body protect us from infections by pathogens.

(i) Name **one** physical barrier.

(1)

.....

(ii) Name **one** chemical defence.

(1)

.....

(b) Different types of pathogen cause diseases.

Which disease is caused by a protist?

(1)

- ☒ **A** tuberculosis
- ☒ **B** malaria
- ☒ **C** cholera
- ☒ **D** AIDS

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(c) Measles infections are caused by a virus.

A student researched the number of cases of measles for different age groups in one year.

Figure 8 shows the data collected by this student.

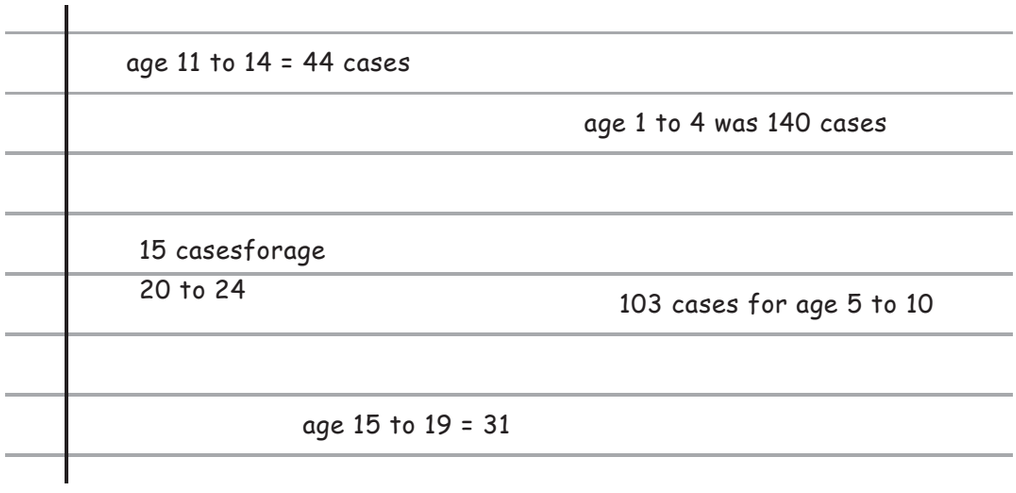


Figure 8

(i) Complete the table to show this data.

(2)

(ii) State the trend shown by the data.

(1)

.....

.....

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(d) (i) Describe how the immune system responds to an infection.

(3)

(ii) Some infections are spread by tiny droplets in the air.

Figure 9 shows some symptoms of an infection.

- high body temperature
- runny nose
- sneezing
- coughing

Figure 9

Explain **one** way of reducing the risk of spreading this infection.

(2)

(Total for Question 5 = 11 marks)

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6 (a) Which structure controls the movement of substances into and out of cells?

(1)

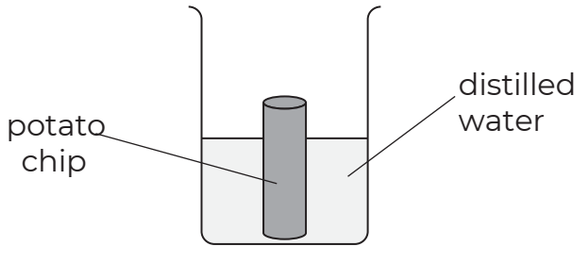
- ☒ A cell membrane
- ☒ B ribosome
- ☒ **C** nucleus
- ☒ D chloroplast

(b) A student measured the mass of a potato chip.

The potato chip was placed in a beaker of distilled water.

The mass of the potato chip was measured again after 60 minutes.

Figure 10 shows part of the method and the results.



Results
mass of potato chip at the start = 5.0 g
mass of potato chip after 60 minutes = 5.4 g

Figure 10

(i) Calculate the percentage change in mass of the potato chip.

(2)

Use the equation

$$\text{percentage change in mass} = \frac{\text{change in mass}}{\text{mass at start}} \times 100$$

percentage change in mass = ... %

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(ii) Explain the change in mass of this potato chip.

(3)

(iii) Give **one** way of improving the method shown in Figure 10.

(1)

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*(c) Figure 11 shows some information about a modern variety of carrot and a wild variety of carrot found growing in hedgerows.

feature of the carrot	modern variety of carrot	wild variety of carrot
photograph	 (Source: © Nattika/Shutterstock)	 (Source: © imageBROKER.com GmbH & Co. KG / Alamy Stock Photo)
root colour	orange	pale yellow
root shape	one large root	thin branched roots
taste	sweet	bitter

Figure 11

Wild carrots show variation in colour, root shape and taste.

Describe how the modern variety of carrots could have been produced from wild varieties of carrots.

(6)

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(Total for Question 6 = 13 marks)

TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS

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