



- Index
- Language ▼
- General ▼
- Business ▼
- Science ▼
- Mathematics And Applied Science
- Home Economics ▼
- Civil And Mechanical ▼

Biology Paper 3 (Practical), WASSCE (SC), 2023

- Subject Home
- 1
- 2
- . 4

Menu

LIST OF SPECIMENS

Group I

General Comments

Specimen A – Mature fresh eggs of catfish Specimen B – Fresh egg of domestic fowl

Weakness/Remedies

(raw, with shell intact)

Candidate's Strength

Specimen C – Picture/model/chart of uterus containing a foetus

Specimen D – Longitudinal section of ovary of Pride of Barbados flower

Specimen E – Leaf of Pride of Barbados

Specimen F – Panicum plant/Guinea grass (whole plant)

Specimen G – Cocoyam plant/Caladium plant (whole plant)

Specimen H – Corm of cocoyam

Specimen J – Dry humus in a beaker

Specimen K – Moist humus in a beaker

Specimen L – Ripe orange fruit (whole)

Specimen M – Longitudinal section of coconut fruit

Specimen N – Longitudinal section of fresh chilli pepper fruit

QUESTION 1

Study specimens A, B, C and D and answer questions 1(a) to 1(f).

- State three observable differences between specimens A and B. marks]
- In the table below, use a tick ($\sqrt{\ }$) to indicate the **appropriate** modes of reproduction c the organism that possesses **each** of specimens **A**, **B**, and **C**. [6 marks

Specimen	Type of fertilization		Reproductive Process	
	Internal	External	Oviparous	Viviparous
Α				
В				
С				

- (i) Name the Phylum/Division of the organisms that possess **each** of specimens **A** and **D**
- (ii) Name the Class of organisms that possess each of specimens A, B, C and D.
- State the biological function of specimen **B** to the organism that possesses it. [1 mark
- Crack open specimen **B** and carefully empty its content into a Petri dish. Complete the table below by naming **three** observable features of specimen **B** and state **on** function **each** of the features named.

Ľ

Three observable Features	One function

[6

marks]

State one habitat each of the organisms that possess specimens A, B, and D. [3 marks]

Many candidates could not answer question $\mathbf{1}(c)(i)$ and $\mathbf{1}(c)(ii)$ correctly but were able to state the types fertilization in specimens A, B and C. Many candidates were able to recognize the types of eggs but were unable to classify the organisms that possess them into their correct phylum and class.

Some candidates could not get complete marks due to poor spelling errors and they could not state observable features based on what they could see, but instead gave theoretical answers.

Many candidates were able to provide concise answers to question 1(e) by identifying them but could not give the functions of the parts of an egg. In question 1(f), the question on habitat was taken for granted as many candidates did not give specific answers as required.

The expected answers are as follows:

(a) Observable differences between specimens A and B

A/Egg of catfish	C/Egg of domestic fowl
More/numerous/many	one/not numerous/few;
Shell absent	shell present;
Relatively small	relatively large;
Green/yellow/orange	cream/white/peach/brown;
Clustered	single;
Round	oblong/oval;
Soft	hard.

(b) Table

	Type of fertilization		Reproductive process	
Specimen	Internal	External	Oviparous	Viviparous
Α		√	√	
В	√		√	
С	V			V

(c) (i) Phylum of specimens A and D

A: Chordata;

D:

Angiospermophyta/Angiospermatophyta/Magnoliophyta.

D:

(ii) Class of specimens A to D

A: Osteichthyes/Pisces;

B: Aves:

C: Mammalia;

Dicotyledoneae/ Dicotyledonae

/Magnoliopsida.

(d) <u>Biological function of specimen B</u> Reproduction/production offspring

of

(e) Table

Three observable features	One function
Shell	Protection; Prevents dehydration/desiccation/drying up; Medium for diffusion of gases/gaseous exchange.
Shell membrane/vitelline membrane	Protection; Prevents dehydration/desiccation/drying up; Medium for diffusion of gases/gaseous exchange/selectively permeable.
Albumen/Egg white	Source of food for embryo; Provides water for embryo.
Yolk	Source of nutrients/food;
Chalaza	Holds the embryo at the centre of the egg/in place.

(f) Habitat of specimens A, B and D

A: Pond/river/mud/estuarine/lake/any correctly named habitat;

B: House/garden/poultry/pen/farm/house;

D: Forest/garden/farmland/farm.

Next

Copyright © 2018. The West African Examinations Council. All rights reserved. Powered by Sidmach Technologies (Nigeria) Limited.





- Index
- Language ▼
- General •
- Business *
- Science *
- Mathematics And Applied Science •
- Home Economics ▼
- Civil And Mechanical

Biology Paper 3 (Practical), WASSCE (SC), 2023

- Subject Home
- 1
- 2

Menu

General Comments

Weakness/Remedies

Candidate's Strength

QUESTION 2

Study specimens F, G, and H and answer questions 2(a) to 2(f)

Name the Class to which each of specimens F and G belong.

[2 marks] [2 marks]

• State **one** reason **each** for the answers in **2**(a).

Name the root system of each of specimens F and G.

[2 marks]

- (i) Detach **one** complete leaf from specimen **F** and make a drawing, 8 cm to 10 cm long of the leaf and label fully. [8 marks]
- (ii) State **one** function **each** of **three** of the labelled parts of the drawing in **2**(d)(i). [3 marks]
- State **three** ways by which specimen **F** is of economic importance.
- [4 marks]

[3 marks]

- (i) Describe **briefly four** observable features of specimen **H**.

(ii) State one biological significance of specimen H to the plant from which it was obtained. [1 marks]

Many candidates interpreted questions 2(a) to 2(d) wrongly by giving wrong responses. They could not give the correct class of specimens F and G. Many candidates also gave wrong diagrams which led to complete loss of marks. Although many candidates knew the type of root system as required in question 2 (c), many still lost vital marks to poor spellings.

Some candidates could not give the structure and function of the labelled parts of the detached leaf as required in question 2(d). However, poor technical details in the diagrams like wrong titles, incorrect magnification, rough diagrams and labeling led to loss of marks for some candidates.

Many candidates also could not correctly answer functions of labelled parts of specimen FIPanicum sp.

The expected answers include:

(a) Class of specimens F/Panicum sp./Guinea grass and G/Cocoyam/Caladium sp.

Monocotyledoneae/ Monocotyledonae /Liliopsida.

G. Monocotyledoneae/ Monocotyledonae

/Liliopsida.

(b) Reason for Class of specimens F and G

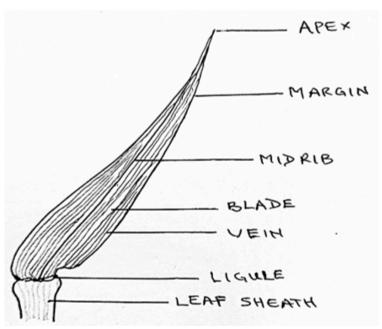
- Leaves have parallel venation;
- Leaf sheath present;
- Presence of fibrous root system;

- Narrow leaves/leaves with narrow lamina
- Circular node present.

G

- · Presence of fibrous root system/adventitious root;
- Circular node present.
 - (c) Root systems of specimens F and G
- **F**: Fibrous.
 - **G**: Adventitious/contractile/fibrous.

(d) (i) Drawing/Diagram of complete leaf of specimen F/Guinea grass/Panicum sp.



Title (TL) Drawing/Diagram of specimen F/Guinea grass/Panicum sp.

```
Quality (Q)
Clarity of lines (CL)
Size (SZ) (8 cm to 10 cm)
```

Neatness of labels (NL) All guidelines ruled -1/2 mark;

All labels horizontal -½ mark Magnification (MG) (×

1 10 /×0.1)-0.2

Details (D)

Parallel venation shown (PV) Leaf sheath shown (LS)

Labels (L)

ligule, leaf sheath, lamina/leaf blade, vein, apex, midrib

(ii) <u>Function of three labelled parts of leaf of specimen F/Guinea grass/Panicum sp.</u> **Lamina/leaf blade:** Photosynthesizes to make food for the plant/site for gaseous exchange.

Leaf sheath: Supports the lamina/attach the lamina to the stem.

Vein: Contains xylem which conducts water and mineral salts through the leaf/contains phloem to transport manufactured food out of the leaf/gives structural support to leaf/contains supporting tissues.

Leaf ligule: Allows movement of the lamina.

Apex: Allows water drop off the leaf/prevents water retention.

Midrib: Supports the blade.

- (e) Economic importance of specimen F/Guinea grass/Panicum sp.
- Used as feed/fodder for cattle;
- Used as fuel:
- For roofing houses/structures;
- For making basket;
- · Has medicinal purposes
- Used as rope;
- Used for mulching;
- For generating income.

(f) (i) Observable features of specimen H/corm of cocoyam

- (Vertical) swollen stem;
- Brown in colour:
- · Bears concentric rings of nodes;
- Bears tiny brown scale leaves at some points of the nodes;
- · Bears tiny axillary bud at some points of the nodes;
- · Bears tiny, broad terminal buds;
- Surrounded with relatively large-scale leaves;
- · Presence of long adventitious roots.
 - (ii) Biological significance of specimen H/corm of cocoyam to the plant from which

<u>it was</u>

obtained

Vegetative propagation/storage of food/for anchorage.

Prev Next

Copyright © 2018. The West African Examinations Council. All rights reserved. Powered by Sidmach Technologies (Nigeria) Limited.





- Index
- Language ▼
- General ▼
- Business ▼
- Science ▼
- Mathematics And Applied Science
- Home Economics ▼
- Civil And Mechanical ▼

Biology Paper 3 (Practical), WASSCE (SC), 2023

- Subject Home
- 1
- 2
- 4

Menu

QUESTION 3

General Comments

Weakness/Remedies

Candidate's Strength

Study specimens L, M, and N and answer questions 3(a) to 3(f):

- Classify each of specimens L, M and N based on:
- type of fruit;
- life cycle. [6 marks]
- Make a longitudinal section of specimen L, and state four observable differences between specimens.
- L and M; [4 marks]
 L and N. [4 marks]
- State **three** observable similarities between specimens **L** and **N**. [3 marks]
- Make a drawing, 8 *cm* 10 *cm* long of specimen **N** and label fully. [10 marks]
- · Name the:
- mode of dispersal of specimen L;
- placentation of specimen L.
- State one economic importance of specimen N.

[1 mark] [1 mark]

[1 mark]

Many candidates gave good responses to this question. They were able to state the types of fruits in 3(a)(i) and the life cycle in 3a(ii) but did not write the differences between orange and chilli pepper correctly.

Many candidates did not give observable features as required. They gave varied theoretical responses such as colour instead of differences size, number of their seeds, placentation etc.

Some candidates were able to give the mode of dispersal of specimen L/orange fruit and one economic importance of Specimen N/chilli pepper.

Many candidates lost marks because their drawings lacked technical details like thin epicarp

shown with double lines (TE), elongated end with tapering apex (TA), use of wrong magnification and poor labelling.

The expected answers are as follows:

(a) (i) Type of fruit of Specimens L/orange fruit, M/coconut and N/chilli pepper

L: Berry/hesperidium;

M: Drupe;

N: Berry

(ii) Life cycle of specimens L, M and N

L: perennial;M: perennial;

N: biennial/perennial.

(b) Observable structural differences between

(i) specimens L and M

(i) <u>specimens L and ivi</u>	
L/orange fruit	M/coconut fruit
Succulent fleshy fibres	hard fibres;
More than one seed/many seeds	one seeded;
Soft/succulent	stony/hard endocarp;
Many chambers/locules	one chamber/locule;
Soft to touch	hard to touch;
Small	big;
Mesocarp /soft/leathery	mesocarp fibrous;
Axile placentation	basal placentation;
Glands present	glands absent.

(ii) specimens L and N

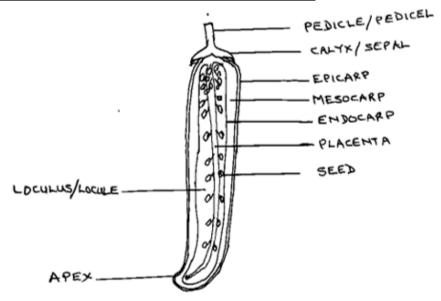
L/orange fruit	N/chilli pepper fruit
Succulent fleshy fibres	succulent fibres absent;
Bigger seeds	smaller seeds;
Less seeds	more seeds;
Spherical/round	elongated;
Axile placentation	free central placentation;
Scattered seeds	seeds clustered;
Juicy/juice present	not juicy/dry;
Glands present	glands absent;
Calyx absent	calyx present.

(c) Observable similarities between specimens L and N

Both possess

- seeds;
- two scars;
- pericarp/ (epicarp, mesocarp and endocarp);
- attractive colours;
- placenta.

(d) Drawing/Diagram of L.S of specimen N/chilli pepper



Title (TL) Drawing/Diagram of the longitudinal section of specimen N/chilli pepper

Quality (Q)

Clarity of lines (CL)

Size (SZ) (8 cm to 10 cm)

Neatness of labels (NL) All guidelines ruled;

All labels horizontal

Magnification (MG) (×

²/×0.5 to ×1)

Details (D)

Thin epicarp shown with double lines (TE)

At least two seeds shown (TS)

Elongated end with tapering apex (TA)

Labels (L)

Epicarp, pericarp, mesocarp, endocarp, seed(s), scar, placenta, loculus/locules, apex, calyx/sepal, pedicle/pedicel.

- (e) (i) Mode of dispersal of specimen L/Orange fruit Animal/Man.
 - (ii) Placentation of specimen L/Orange fruit

- (f) Economic importance of specimen N/chilli pepper
- Used for cooking/used as spice;
- Source of food;
- For medicinal purposes;
- Source of income.

Prev

Copyright © 2018. The West African Examinations Council. All rights reserved. Powered by Sidmach Technologies (Nigeria) Limited.