Reproduction and inheritance

Pearson Edexcel · International GCSE · Biology · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
pollination /ˌpɒlɪˈneɪʃn/	Bees help **pollination** by carrying pollen.
fertilisation /ˌfɜːtɪlaɪˈzeɪʃn/	**Fertilisation** happens when a sperm joins an egg.
pollen tube /ˈpɒlən tjuːb/	A **pollen tube** grows down to the ovule.
FSH /ˌef es ˈeɪtʃ/	**FSH** helps a follicle develop in the ovary.
progesterone /prəʊˈdʒestərəʊn/	**Progesterone** keeps the uterus lining thick.
testosterone /teˈstɒstərəʊn/	**Testosterone** causes a boy's voice to deepen.
genome /ˈdʒiːnəʊm/	The human **genome** is all of our DNA. DNA
allele /əˈliːl/	The gene for eye colour has a brown **allele** and a blue allele.
dominant /ˈdɒmɪnənt/	The brown-eye allele is **dominant**.
recessive /rɪˈsesɪv/	The blue-eye allele is **recessive**.
homozygous /ˌhɒməˈzɪgəs/	A **homozygous** plant has two identical alleles, such as TT. TT
heterozygous /ˌhetrəˈzɪgəs/	A **heterozygous** plant has two different alleles, such as Tt. Tt
genotype /ˈdʒenətaɪp/	Bb is a **genotype**. Bb

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phenotype /ˈfenətaɪp/	Eye colour is a **phenotype**.
codominance /ˈkəʊdəmɪnəns/	In **codominance**, both alleles show, as in red and white spots.
double helix /ˈdʌbl ˈhiːlɪks/	DNA is shaped like a **double helix**: a twisted ladder. DNA
transcription /trænˈskrɪpʃn/	In **transcription**, the DNA code is copied into RNA. DNA RNA
translation /trænˈsleɪʃn/	In **translation**, the ribosome reads the RNA and builds a protein. RNA
codon /ˈkəʊdɒn/	The **codon** AUG codes for the amino acid methionine. AUG
mitosis /maɪˈtəʊsɪs/	**Mitosis** makes two identical cells.
meiosis /meɪˈəʊsɪs/	**Meiosis** makes sperm and egg cells.
haploid /ˈhæplɔɪd/	Sperm and egg cells are **haploid**: they have one set of chromosomes.
mutation /mjuːˈteɪʃn/	A **mutation** is a change in the DNA. DNA
natural selection /ˈnætʃərəl sɪˈlekʃn/	**Natural selection** means the best-suited animals survive and have young.
oestrogen /ˈiːstrədʒn/	**Oestrogen** controls the menstrual cycle.

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