Reproduction and inheritance

Pearson Edexcel · International GCSE · Biology · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
pollination /ˌpɒlɪ'neɪʃn/	Bees help **pollination** by carrying pollen.
fertilisation /ˌfɜːtɪlaɪ'zeɪʃn/	**Fertilisation** happens when a sperm joins an egg.
pollen tube /'pɒlən tjuːb/	A **pollen tube** grows down to the ovule.
FSH /ˌef es 'eɪtʃ/	**FSH** helps a follicle develop in the ovary.
progesterone /prəʊ'dʒestərəʊn/	**Progesterone** keeps the uterus lining thick.
testosterone /te'stɒstərəʊn/	**Testosterone** causes a boy's voice to deepen.
genome /'dʒiːnəʊm/	The human **genome** is all of our DNA. DNA
allele /ə'liːl/	The gene for eye colour has a brown **allele** and a blue allele.
dominant /'dɒmɪnənt/	The brown-eye allele is **dominant**.
recessive /rɪ'sesɪv/	The blue-eye allele is **recessive**.
homozygous /ˌhɒmə'zɪgəs/	A **homozygous** plant has two identical alleles, such as TT. TT
heterozygous /ˌhetrə'zɪgəs/	A **heterozygous** plant has two different alleles, such as Tt. Tt
genotype /'dʒenətaɪp/	Bb is a **genotype**. Bb

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phenotype /'fenətaɪp/	Eye colour is a **phenotype**.
codominance /'kəʊdəmɪnəns/	In **codominance**, both alleles show, as in red and white spots.
double helix /'dʌbl 'hiːlɪks/	DNA is shaped like a **double helix**: a twisted ladder. DNA
transcription /træn'skrɪpʃn/	In **transcription**, the DNA code is copied into RNA. DNA RNA
translation /træn'sleɪʃn/	In **translation**, the ribosome reads the RNA and builds a protein. RNA
codon /'kəʊdɒn/	The **codon** AUG codes for the amino acid methionine. AUG
mitosis /maɪ'təʊsɪs/	**Mitosis** makes two identical cells.
meiosis /meɪ'əʊsɪs/	**Meiosis** makes sperm and egg cells.
haploid /'hæplɔɪd/	Sperm and egg cells are **haploid**: they have one set of chromosomes.
mutation /mjuː'teɪʃn/	A **mutation** is a change in the DNA. DNA
natural selection /'nætʃərəl sɪ'lekʃn/	**Natural selection** means the best-suited animals survive and have young.
oestrogen /'iːstrədʒn/	**Oestrogen** controls the menstrual cycle.