Reproduction

IGCSE Biology · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
reproduction /rɪprəˈdʌkʃn/	**Reproduction** makes new living things.
asexual reproduction /eɪˈsekʃuːəl rɪprəˈdʌkʃn/	Strawberry plants can make new plants by **asexual reproduction**.
parent /ˈpeərənt/	Each **parent** gives half of its genes.
offspring /ˈɒfsprɪŋ/	The **offspring** look like their parents.
genes /dʒiːnz/	**Genes** control your eye colour.
environment /enˈvaɪrənmənt/	A fish lives in a water **environment**.
sexual reproduction /ˈsekʃuːəl rɪprəˈdʌkʃn/	**Sexual reproduction** needs a male and a female.
fusion /ˈfjuːʒn/	The **fusion** of a sperm and an egg makes a zygote.
nuclei /ˈnjuːklɪi/	The **nuclei** of the sperm and egg join.
gametes /ˈgæmiːts/	Sperm and egg cells are **gametes**.
zygote /ˈzaɪgəʊt/	A **zygote** is a fertilised egg.
fertilisation /ˌfɜːtɪlaɪˈzeɪʃn/	**Fertilisation** happens when a sperm joins an egg.
variation /ˌveərɪˈeɪʃn/	People's heights show **variation**.
haploid /ˈhæplɔɪd/	Sperm and egg cells are **haploid**: they have one set of chromosomes.

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chromosomes /ˈkrəʊməsəʊmz/	Humans have 46 **chromosomes** in each body cell. 46
diploid /ˈdɪplɔɪd/	Body cells are **diploid**: they have two sets of chromosomes.
sepals /ˈseplz/	The green **sepals** protect the flower bud.
petals /ˈpetlz/	Bright **petals** attract insects.
insects /ˈɪnsekts/	Bees and ants are **insects**.
stamens /ˈsteɪmenz/	The **stamens** are the male parts of a flower.
filament /ˈfɪləmənt/	The **filament** holds up the anther.
anther /ˈænθə/	The **anther** makes pollen.
pollen grains /ˈpɒlən greɪnz/	**Pollen grains** carry the male cells.
carpel /ˈkɑːpl/	The **carpel** is the female part of a flower.
stigma /ˈstɪgmə/	Pollen lands on the sticky **stigma**.
style /staɪl/	The **style** joins the stigma to the ovary.
ovary /ˈəʊvəri/	The **ovary** becomes the fruit.
ovules /ˈɒvjuːlz/	The **ovules** become seeds.
pollination /ˌpɒlɪˈneɪʃn/	Bees help **pollination** by carrying pollen.
self-pollination /self ˌpɒlɪˈneɪʃn/	In **self-pollination**, pollen lands on the same plant.

Word	Example
cross-pollination /krɒs ˌpɒlɪˈneɪʃn/	In **cross-pollination**, pollen moves to another plant.
pollinators /ˈpɒlɪneɪtəz/	Bees are important **pollinators**.
pollen tube /ˈpɒlən tjuːb/	A **pollen tube** grows down to the ovule.
micropyle	The pollen tube enters the ovule through the **micropyle**.
seed /siːd/	A **seed** has the whole file and shares it.
germinate /ˈdʒɜːmɪneɪt/	Seeds **germinate** when they are warm and wet.
oxygen /ˈɒksɪdʒn/	Your cells need **oxygen** to release energy.
temperature /ˈtemprɪtʃə/	The thermometer shows the water's **temperature**.
testes /ˈtestiːz/	The **testes** make sperm.
sperm /spɜːm/	A **sperm** swims to the egg.
testosterone /teˈstɒstərəʊn/	**Testosterone** causes a boy's voice to deepen.
scrotum /ˈskrəʊtəm/	The **scrotum** holds the testes.
sperm ducts /spɜːm dʌkts/	The **sperm ducts** carry sperm from the testes.
prostate gland /ˈprɒsteɪt glænd/	The **prostate gland** adds fluid to the sperm.
urethra /jʊəˈriːθrə/	Urine leaves the body through the **urethra**.
penis /ˈpiːnɪs/	Urine and sperm leave the body through the **penis**.

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ovaries /ˈəʊvəriz/	The **ovaries** make eggs.
egg cells /eg selz/	**Egg cells** are made in the ovaries.
oestrogen /ˈiːstrədʒn/	**Oestrogen** controls the menstrual cycle.
oviducts /ˈəʊvɪdʌkts/	Eggs travel down the **oviducts**.
uterus /ˈjuːtərəs/	A baby grows in the **uterus**.
cervix /ˈsɜːvɪks/	The **cervix** is the opening of the uterus.
vagina /vəˈdʒaɪnə/	The baby is born through the **vagina**.
flagellum /fləˈdʒeləm/	A sperm swims by moving its **flagellum**, or tail.
mitochondria /ˌmaɪtəˈkɒndrɪə/	**Mitochondria** release energy from food.
enzymes /ˈenzaɪmz/	**Enzymes** speed up reactions in the body.
acrosome /ˈækrəʊsəʊm/	The **acrosome** helps the sperm get into the egg.
jelly coat /ˈdʒelɪ kəʊt/	The **jelly coat** around the egg changes after one sperm enters.
embryo /ˈembrɪəʊ/	The **embryo** grows into a baby.
implants /ˈɪmplænts/	The embryo **implants** in the wall of the uterus.
fetus /ˈfiːtəs/	After eight weeks, the embryo is called a **fetus**.
placenta /pləˈsentə/	The **placenta** passes food and oxygen to the baby.

Word	Example
umbilical cord /ʌm'bılıkl kɔ:d/	The **umbilical cord** joins the baby to the placenta.
amniotic sac /ˌæmnı'ɒtık sæk/	The **amniotic sac** surrounds the baby.
amniotic fluid /ˌæmnı'ɒtık 'flu:ıd/	**Amniotic fluid** protects the baby from knocks.
pathogens /'pæθədʒnz/	Bacteria and viruses can be **pathogens**.
toxins /'tɒksınz/	Smoking passes **toxins** to the baby.
puberty /'pju:bəti/	**Puberty** starts at about age 11 to 14. 11 14
hormones /'hɔ:məʊnz/	Insulin and adrenaline are **hormones**.
secondary sexual characteristics /'sekəndəri 'sekʃu:əl ˌkærıktə'rıstıks/	A deeper voice is one of the **secondary sexual characteristics**.
menstrual cycle /'menstru:əl 'saıkl/	The **menstrual cycle** lasts about 28 days. 28
ovulation /ˌɒvjʊ'leıʃn/	**Ovulation** releases an egg from the ovary.
progesterone /prəʊ'dʒestərəʊn/	**Progesterone** keeps the uterus lining thick.
pregnancy /'pregnənsi/	**Pregnancy** lasts about nine months.
pituitary gland /pı'tju:ıtəri glænd/	The **pituitary gland** is at the base of the brain.
follicle	Each **follicle** holds a developing egg.
corpus luteum	The **corpus luteum** forms after ovulation.

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Word	Example
sexually transmitted infection /'sekʃu:əli træn'smıtıd ın'fekʃn/	HIV is a **sexually transmitted infection**. HIV
infection /ın'fekʃn/	A cut can lead to **infection**.
virus /'vaırəs/	A **virus** copies itself into other files.