

# 1. Characteristics and classification of living organisms

## Starter Quiz ·

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IGCSE Biology

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

1. The mnemonic MRS GREN helps you remember:
  - ☐ the food groups
  - ☐ the seven characteristics of living things
  - ☐ the parts of a cell
  - ☐ the kingdoms of life
2. A species is a group of organisms that can:
  - ☐ be the same colour
  - ☐ live in the same place
  - ☐ eat the same food
  - ☐ breed to produce fertile offspring
3. Which feature do plant cells have that animal cells do not?
  - ☐ a cell wall
  - ☐ cytoplasm
  - ☐ a nucleus
  - ☐ a cell membrane
4. In MRS GREN, the "R" for respiration means:
  - ☐ reproducing
  - ☐ breathing in air only
  - ☐ removing waste
  - ☐ releasing energy from food
5. In the binomial system, the first word of the name is the:
  - ☐ kingdom
  - ☐ genus
  - ☐ species
  - ☐ phylum
6. Which of these are kingdoms of living things? (Select all that apply.)
  - ☐ plants

☐ animals

☐ rocks

☐ fungi

*Tick every correct option.*

7. Excretion is the removal of undigested food from the body.

☐ True      ☐ False

8. Members of the same species breed to produce \_\_\_\_\_ offspring.

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Bacteria are prokaryotes, meaning their cells have no proper nucleus.

☐ True      ☐ False

10. Taking in materials for energy, growth and repair is called \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Answers ·

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### 1. the seven characteristics of living things

MRS GREN lists the seven life processes.

### 2. breed to produce fertile offspring

Members of a species breed to give fertile offspring.

### 3. a cell wall

Plant cells have a cell wall, chloroplasts and a large vacuole.

### 4. releasing energy from food

Respiration releases energy from food in every living cell.

### 5. genus

The binomial is genus then species, e.g. Homo sapiens.

### 6. plants; animals; fungi

Rocks are not living. The kingdoms include animals, plants, fungi, bacteria and protists.

### 7. False

False. That is egestion. Excretion removes waste made by the body's own metabolic reactions, such as carbon dioxide and urea.

### 8. fertile

Fertile offspring can themselves reproduce.

### 9. True

Bacteria lack a nucleus; the other kingdoms are eukaryotes.

### 10. nutrition

Nutrition is the N in MRS GREN.