

NEET 2026 Botany

Question Paper PDF

Conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA)



General Instructions

- (i) Botany section consists of 45 questions.
- (ii) The maximum marks for Botany are 180.
- (iii) All 45 questions are compulsory.
- (iv) Each question carries +4 marks for correct answer and –1 mark for wrong answer.

Botany

1. Match List I with List II regarding the phases of the cell cycle and their activities:

List I (Phase) List II (Activity)

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| A. G_1 phase | I. Actual cell division occurs |
| B. S phase | II. Cell is metabolically active and continuously grows but does not replicate its DNA |
| C. G_2 phase | III. Synthesis of DNA occurs and the amount of DNA per cell doubles |
| D. M phase | IV. Proteins are synthesized while cell growth continues |

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I
- (2) A-IV, B-I, C-II, D-III
- (3) A-III, B-IV, C-I, D-II
- (4) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

2. Match List I with List II regarding patterns of inheritance:

List I

- A. Incomplete dominance
- B. Co-dominance
- C. Pleiotropy
- D. Polygenic inheritance

List II

- I. Human skin colour
- II. Inheritance of flower colour in *Antirrhinum* sp.
- III. Phenylketonuria disease in humans
- IV. ABO blood groups

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) A-II, B-IV, C-III, D-I
 - (2) A-I, B-IV, C-III, D-II
 - (3) A-I, B-III, C-II, D-IV
 - (4) A-II, B-I, C-III, D-IV
-

3. Which of the following statements are **correct**? A. The Amazon rainforest being cut and cleared for cultivation of soyabeans is an example of habitat loss.

B. Steller's sea cow and passenger pigeon became extinct due to over-exploitation by humans.

C. The Nile perch introduced into Lake Victoria in East Africa helped in population growth of cichlid fish in the lake.

D. Water hyacinth is an invasive species.

E. When a species becomes extinct, the plant and animal species associated with it are not affected.

- (1) B, C and D only
 - (2) A, B and D only
 - (3) A, B and E only
 - (4) C, D and E only
-

4. Which of the following statements are **correct** with reference to a transcription unit in DNA? A. A transcription unit in DNA is defined primarily by three regions: promoter, structural gene and terminator.

B. The promoter is said to be located towards the 5'-end of the structural gene.

C. The promoter is a DNA sequence that provides binding site for RNA polymerase.

D. The promoter defines the template and coding strands.

E. The terminator is located towards the 3'-end of the coding strand and it defines the end of the process of transcription.

- (1) A, C, D and E only
 - (2) A, B, C, D and E
-

(3) A, B, C and D only

(4) B, C, D and E only

5. Which of the following statements are true with reference to the sex-determination in honeybees?

A. An offspring formed from the union of a sperm and an egg develops as a female (queen or worker).

B. An unfertilized egg develops as a male by parthenogenesis.

C. A male has half the number of chromosomes than that of a female.

D. Males produce sperms by meiosis.

E. Honeybees have a haplodiploid sex-determination system.

(1) A, B, C and E only

(2) B, C, D and E only

(3) A, B, C and D only

(4) A, B, D and E only

6. Match List I with List II regarding cellular processes and their specific locations within the cell:

List I (Process)

List II (Location)

A. Glycolysis

I. Inner mitochondrial membrane

B. ETS

II. Mitochondrial matrix

C. Accumulation of protons

III. Cytoplasm

D. Krebs' cycle

IV. Intermembrane space

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) A-IV, B-II, C-I, D-III

(2) A-I, B-IV, C-III, D-II

(3) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I

(4) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II

7. How many ATP and *NADPH* molecules are required to make one molecule of glucose through the Calvin pathway?

(1) 18 ATP and 12 NADPH

(2) 6 ATP and 12 NADPH

(3) 24 ATP and 18 NADPH

(4) 12 ATP and 18 NADPH

8. Match List I with List II :

List I	List II
A. Genetically modified organism	I. <i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i>
B. Thermostable DNA polymerase	II. Bt cotton
C. Ti plasmid	III. <i>Thermus aquaticus</i>
D. pBR322	IV. <i>Escherichia coli</i>

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A-II, B-III, C-I, D-IV
- (2) A-I, B-IV, C-III, D-II
- (3) A-I, B-II, C-IV, D-III
- (4) A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III

9. In which one of the following, the ovules are not enclosed by an ovary wall and remain exposed ?

- (1) *Funaria*
- (2) *Pinus*
- (3) *Selaginella*
- (4) *Wolffia*

10. The enzyme required for carboxylation in the Calvin cycle is :

- (1) Carboxypeptidase
- (2) PEP carboxylase
- (3) RuBP carboxylase – oxygenase
- (4) Hexokinase

11. Match List I with List II :

List I	List II
A. Trypsin	I. Intercellular ground substance
B. Morphine	II. Lectin
C. Concanavalin A	III. Enzyme
D. Collagen	IV. Alkaloid

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I
 - (2) A-III, B-II, C-IV, D-I
 - (3) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV
 - (4) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I
-

12. Which of the following statements are correct regarding amino acids?

- A. They are substituted methanes.
- B. Serine is an aromatic amino acid.
- C. Valine is a neutral amino acid.
- D. Lysine is an acidic amino acid.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) C and D only
 - (2) A and C only
 - (3) B and C only
 - (4) A and B only
-

13. Which one of the following disorders is caused by the substitution of Glutamic acid (Glu) by Valine (Val) at the sixth position of the beta globin chain of the haemoglobin molecule?

- (1) Thalassemia
 - (2) Haemophilia
 - (3) Sickle-cell anaemia
 - (4) Phenylketonuria
-

14. Which one of the following is the site for active ribosomal RNA synthesis?

- (1) Kinetochore
 - (2) Centrosome
 - (3) Chromatin
 - (4) Nucleolus
-

15. Which one of the following statements is **not true** about the universal rules of binomial nomenclature?

- (1) Both the words in a biological name, when handwritten, are separately underlined or printed in italics.
 - (2) Biological names are generally in Latin.
 - (3) The specific epithet in the biological name starts with a small letter.
 - (4) The first word in the biological name represents the specific epithet, while the second component denotes the genus.
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16. Match List I with List II :

List I (Growth Regulator)	List II (Function/Effect)
A. 2,4-D	I. Brewing industry
B. GA_3	II. Stimulation of stomatal closure
C. Kinetin	III. Herbicide
D. ABA	IV. Nutrient mobilisation

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I
 - (2) A-I, B-II, C-IV, D-III
 - (3) A-I, B-IV, C-III, D-II
 - (4) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II
-

17. Match List I with List II :

List I	List II
A. Conjunctive tissue	I. Specialised cells in the vicinity of guard cells
B. Casparian strips	II. Endodermal cells rich in starch
C. Subsidiary cells	III. Tissue between xylem and phloem
D. Starch sheath	IV. Endodermal cells with suberin deposition

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A-III, B-IV, C-I, D-II
 - (2) A-IV, B-III, C-I, D-II
 - (3) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I
 - (4) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I
-

18. Which one of the following types of pollination brings genetically different types of pollen grains to the stigma?

- (1) Cleistogamy
 - (2) Autogamy
 - (3) Geitonogamy
 - (4) Xenogamy
-

19. Heterophyllous development in response to environment is an example of which of the following phenomena?

- (1) Plasticity
 - (2) Dedifferentiation
 - (3) Redifferentiation
 - (4) Elasticity
-

20. Which of the following statements are **not true** regarding restriction endonucleases?

- A. They are called molecular scissors.
- B. These are the enzymes responsible for restricting the growth of bacteriophages in *E. coli*.
- C. They cut the DNA only at the centre of the palindromic sites.
- D. They remove nucleotides only from the ends of DNA fragments.
- E. They recognise specific palindromic base-pair sequences.

Choose the answer from the options given below:

- (1) A and E only
 - (2) D and E only
 - (3) A and B only
 - (4) C and D only
-

21. Arrange the following steps of DNA fingerprinting in a correct sequence.

- A. Isolation of DNA and its digestion by restriction endonucleases.
 - B. Hybridisation using labelled VNTR probe.
 - C. Transferring of separated DNA fragments to synthetic membranes.
 - D. Detection of hybridised DNA fragments by autoradiography.
-

E. Separation of DNA fragments by electrophoresis.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) A, B, D, C, E
 - (2) A, E, C, B, D
 - (3) A, D, B, E, C
 - (4) A, E, B, C, D
-

22. Find the **incorrect** statement(s) about photosynthesis from the following:

- A. The water splitting complex is associated with PS I.
- B. C_4 plants use the C_3 pathway of CO_2 fixation as the main biosynthetic pathway.
- C. In C_4 plants, photorespiration does not occur.
- D. C_3 plants exhibit 'Kranz' anatomy.
- E. ATP synthesis in chloroplast occurs through chemiosmosis.

Choose the answer from the options given below:

- (1) B and C only
 - (2) B only
 - (3) A and D only
 - (4) B and E only
-

23. Arrange the following steps of somatic hybridisation in a correct sequence.

- A. Digestion of cell walls.
- B. Isolation of naked protoplasts.
- C. Fusion of protoplasts to get hybrid protoplast.
- D. Isolation of single cells from two different varieties of plants.
- E. Growing of hybrid protoplast to form a new plant.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) E, A, B, C, D
 - (2) D, B, A, E, C
 - (3) E, B, A, D, C
 - (4) D, A, B, C, E
-

24. The main function of bulliform cells in grasses is :

- (1) to make the leaf impermeable to fungal spores.
 - (2) to perform photosynthesis.
 - (3) to minimize water loss during water stress.
 - (4) to transport water.
-

25. Arrange the following in the correct developmental sequence related to microsporogenesis :

- A. Microspore tetrads
- B. Sporogenous tissue
- C. Pollen grains
- D. Pollen mother cells

- (1) D, A, C, B
 - (2) B, D, C, A
 - (3) A, D, C, B
 - (4) B, D, A, C
-

26. Which of the following is an *in situ* conservation method ?

- (1) Seed Bank
 - (2) Wildlife Safari Parks
 - (3) Botanical Gardens
 - (4) Sacred Groves
-

27. Which one of the following is a triploid cell ?

- (1) Zygote
 - (2) Central cell
 - (3) Primary endosperm cell
 - (4) Synergid
-

28. Since the origin and diversification of life on Earth, there have been five episodes of mass extinction of species. How is the sixth extinction, which is in progress, different from the previous episodes ?

- (1) The current species extinction rates are far lower than those in previous episodes.
 - (2) The current species extinction rate is nearly 10 times faster than that in previous episodes.
-

- (3) The present net species extinction rate is zero.
- (4) The present species extinction rates are 100 to 1000 times faster than in the pre-human times.
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29. In the *lac* operon, the *z* gene codes for :

- (1) permease
- (2) the repressor of *lac* operon
- (3) transacetylase
- (4) beta-galactosidase
-

30. In racemose inflorescence,

- (1) flowers are borne in an acropetal succession
- (2) flowers are solitary
- (3) the growth is limited
- (4) the main axis terminates in a flower
-

31. The main criteria used for Five Kingdom Classification proposed by R.H. Whittaker (1969) included :

- A. Cell structure
- B. Body organization
- C. Presence of flagellum
- D. Reproduction
- E. Phylogenetic relationships

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below :

- (1) A, B, C, D and E
- (2) A, B, D and E only
- (3) B, C and D only
- (4) A, B and E only
-

32. "The Evil Quartet" of biodiversity loss includes which of the following ?

- (1) Habitat loss and fragmentation; over-exploitation; Alien species invasions; Co-extinctions
- (2) Over-exploitation; Alien species invasions; Air pollution; Co-extinctions
-

(3) Habitat loss and fragmentation; Air pollution; Water pollution; Co-extinctions

(4) Over-exploitation; Alien species invasions; Water pollution; Co-extinctions

33. Identify the **correct** sequence of steps in each cycle of Polymerase Chain Reaction :

(1) Annealing → Denaturation → Extension

(2) Extension → Annealing → Denaturation

(3) Denaturation → Extension → Annealing

(4) Denaturation → Annealing → Extension

34. $2(C_{51}H_{98}O_6) + 145 O_2 \longrightarrow 102 CO_2 + 98 H_2O + \text{energy}$ The Respiratory Quotient (RQ) of a biomolecule used for respiration, as per the above equation, would be :

(1) 1.0

(2) Less than 0.7

(3) Between 0.5 and 0.95

(4) Between 1.25 and 2

35. Exploring molecular, genetic and species-level diversity for products of economic importance is called :

(1) Biomagnification

(2) Bioremediation

(3) Biofortification

(4) Bioprospecting

36. Match List I with List II :

List I

List II

A. Decomposition

I. Accumulation of dark coloured amorphous colloidal substance

B. Detritus

II. Release of inorganic nutrients by the activity of microbes in soil

C. Mineralisation

III. Breaking down of complex organic matter into inorganic substances

D. Humification

IV. Dead remains of plants and animals including fecal matter

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

(1) A-III, B-II, C-I, D-IV

(2) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

(3) A-IV, B-III, C-I, D-II

(4) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I

37. Identify the correct statements about biomolecules. A. Lipids are generally water soluble. B. Proteins are polypeptides. C. Polysaccharides are long chains of sugars. D. Adenine and guanine are substituted pyrimidines. E. Almost all enzymes are proteins.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

(1) C, D and E only

(2) B, C and E only

(3) B, D and E only

(4) A, B and C only

38. In angiosperms, root hairs arise from which one of the following regions of the root ?

(1) The region of meristematic activity

(2) The root cap zone

(3) The region of maturation

(4) The region of elongation

39. Which one of the following is **not** a characteristic of plant cells in the phase of elongation ?

(1) Large conspicuous nuclei

(2) Increased vacuolation

(3) Cell enlargement

(4) New cell wall deposition

40. Which of the following floral formula is the correct floral formula of Solanaceae family ?

(1) $\oplus \zeta K_{(5)} C_{(5)} A_5 \underline{G}_{(2)}$

(2) $\oplus \zeta K_5 C_{(5)} A_5 \underline{G}_{(2)}$

(3) $\oplus \zeta K_5 C_5 A_5 \underline{G}_{(2)}$

(4) $\oplus \zeta K_{(5)} C_5 A_5 \underline{G}_{(2)}$

41. Which of the following statements are correct with reference to packaging of DNA helix?

- A. Histones are organized to form a unit of eight molecules called histone octamer.
- B. Histones are negatively charged basic proteins.
- C. Histones are rich in the basic amino acid residues – lysine and arginine.
- D. The positively charged DNA is wrapped around the histone octamer to form nucleosome.
- E. The packaging of chromatin at higher levels requires an additional set of proteins called non-histone chromosomal proteins.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A, B and D only
 - (2) B, D and E only
 - (3) A, C and E only
 - (4) C, D and E only
-

42. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to DNA separation, isolation and visualization ?

- A. The cutting of DNA is done by molecular scissors.
- B. The DNA fragments separate according to their size in an agarose gel, upon electrophoresis.
- C. The separated DNA fragments can be seen without staining when exposed to UV light.
- D. The separated DNA fragments, when stained with ethidium bromide, can be seen in visible light.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) B and C only
 - (2) B and D only
 - (3) A and B only
 - (4) A and D only
-

43. Alpha-helix is found in which level of protein structure ?

- (1) Tertiary structure
 - (2) Quaternary structure
 - (3) Secondary structure
 - (4) Primary structure
-

44. Match List I with List II :

List I

- A. Productivity
- B. Net primary productivity
- C. Gross primary productivity
- D. Secondary productivity

List II

- I. Gross primary productivity minus respiration losses
- II. Rate of formation of new organic matter by consumers
- III. Rate of biomass production
- IV. Rate of production of organic matter during photosynthesis

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II
 - (2) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV
 - (3) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV
 - (4) A-I, B-III, C-IV, D-II
-

45. Match List I with List II :

List I (Placentation) List II (Example)

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| A. Marginal | I. Mustard |
| B. Axile | II. Pea |
| C. Parietal | III. Marigold |
| D. Basal | IV. Lemon |

Choose the correct answer from the options given below :

- (1) A-I, B-III, C-II, D-IV
 - (2) A-IV, B-II, C-I, D-III
 - (3) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III
 - (4) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II
-