

# Photosynthesis

## Question Paper 1

Level	GCSE (9-1)
Subject	Combined Science: Trilogy - Biology
Exam Board	AQA
Topic	4.4 Bioenergetics
Sub-Topic	Photosynthesis
Difficulty Level	Silver Level
Booklet	Question Paper 1

**Time Allowed:** 57 minutes

**Score:** /55

**Percentage:** /100

**Grade Boundaries:**

**Q1.**Plants absorb light to photosynthesise.

(a) What is the correct word equation for photosynthesis?

Tick **one** box.

carbon dioxide + glucose  $\longrightarrow$  oxygen + water

☐

glucose + oxygen  $\longrightarrow$  carbon dioxide + water

☐

oxygen + water  $\longrightarrow$  carbon dioxide + glucose

☐

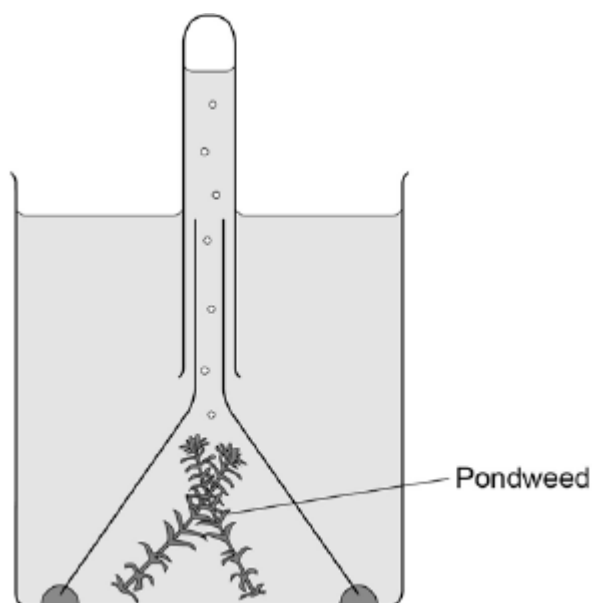
water + carbon dioxide  $\longrightarrow$  oxygen + glucose

☐

(1)

(b) **Figure 1** shows some of the apparatus that can be used to measure the rate of photosynthesis.

**Figure 1**



The rate of photosynthesis in the pondweed is affected by different colours of light.

Describe a method you could use to investigate this.

You should include:

- what you would measure
- variables you would control.

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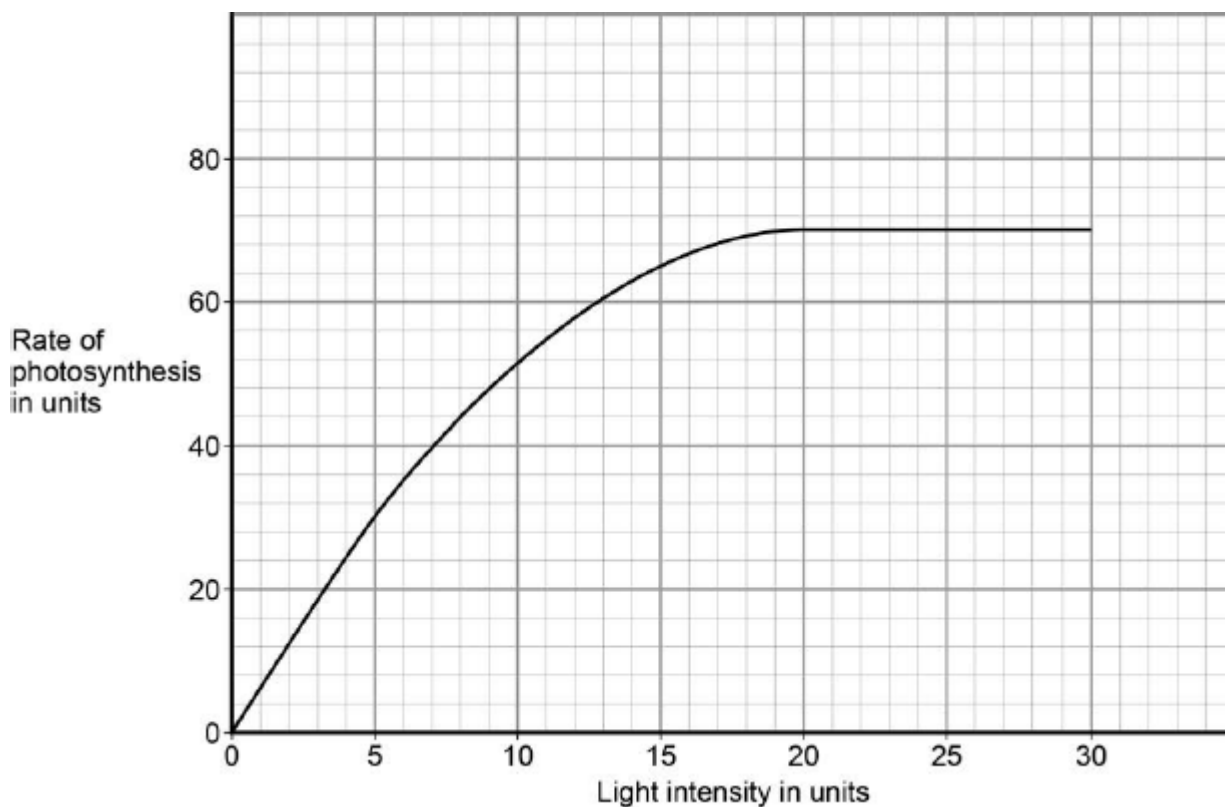
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(6)

- (c) A scientist carried out a similar investigation.

Her results are shown in **Figure 2**.

**Figure 2**



The scientist said:

**‘Light stops being a limiting factor at a light intensity of 20 units.’**

Give evidence from **Figure 2** to support this statement.

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(1)

- (d) What could be limiting the rate of photosynthesis at a light intensity of 25 units?

Give **one** factor.

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(1)

(Total 9 marks)

**Q2.** Students used quadrats to estimate the population of dandelion plants on a field.

- (a) Describe how quadrats should be used to estimate the number of dandelion plants in a field.

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(4)

- (b) The field measured 40 m by 145 m.

The students used 0.25 m<sup>2</sup> quadrats.

The students found a mean of 0.42 dandelions per quadrat.

Estimate the population of dandelions on the field.

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Estimated population of dandelions = .....

(2)

- (c) In one area of the field there is a lot of grass growing in the same area as dandelions.

Suggest why the dandelions may **not** grow well in this area.

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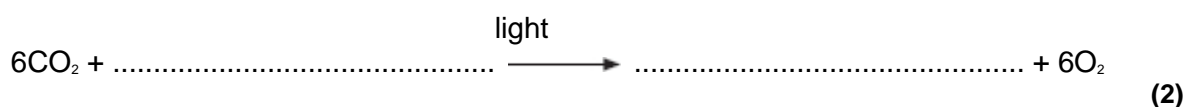
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(4)  
(Total 10 marks)

**Q3.**Photosynthesis needs light.

- (a) Complete the **balanced symbol** equation for photosynthesis.



- (b) A green chemical indicator shows changes in the concentration of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in a solution.

The indicator solution is **green** when the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> is normal.

The indicator solution turns **yellow** when the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> is high.

The indicator solution turns **blue** when the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> is very low or when there is no CO<sub>2</sub>.





The indicator solution does not harm aquatic organisms.

Students investigated the balance of respiration and photosynthesis using an aquatic snail and some pondweed.

The students set up four tubes, **A**, **B**, **C** and **D**, as shown in the table below.

The colour change in each tube, after 24 hours in the light, is recorded.

Tube A	Tube B	Tube C	Tube D
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Indicator solution only	Indicator solution + pondweed	Indicator solution + snail	Indicator solution + pondweed + snail
Stays green	Turns blue	Turns yellow	Stays green

- (i) What is the purpose of **Tube A**?

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(1)

- (ii) Explain why the indicator solution in **Tube C** turns yellow.

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(2)

- (iii) Predict the result for **Tube D** if it had been placed in the dark for 24 hours and **not** in the light.

Explain your prediction.

Prediction.....

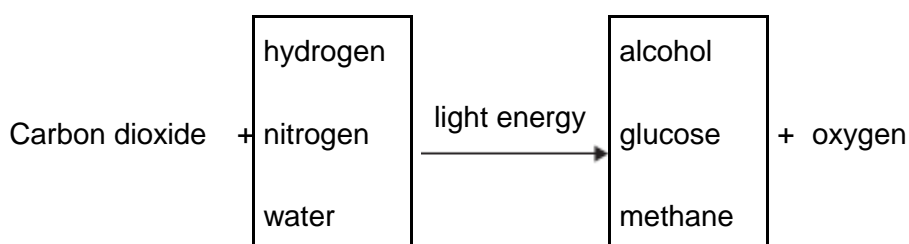
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Explanation.....

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(3)  
 (Total 8 marks)

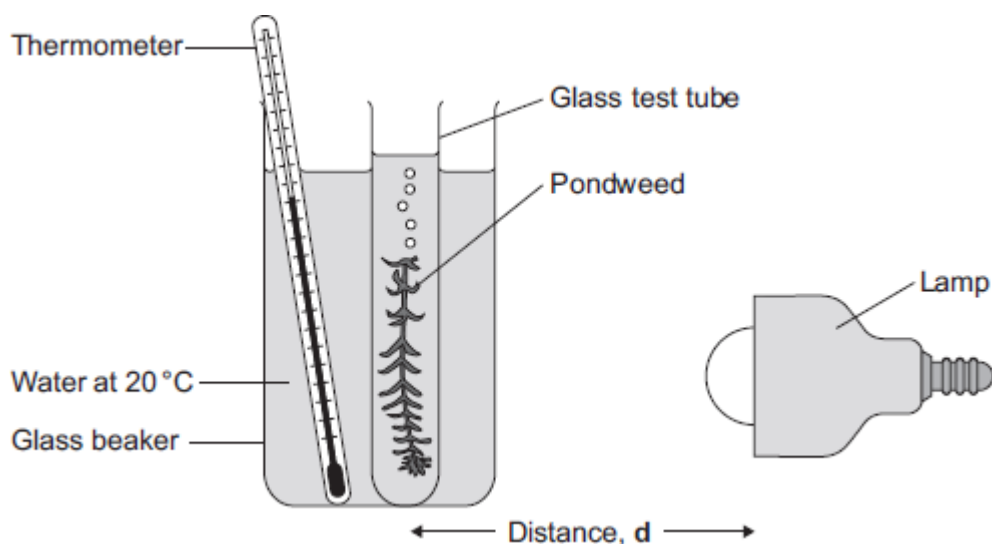
**Q4.(a)** Complete the equation for photosynthesis. Draw a ring around each correct answer.



(2)

Some students investigated the effect of light intensity on the rate of photosynthesis in pondweed.

The diagram shows the apparatus the students used.



The closer the lamp is to the pondweed, the more light the pondweed receives.



The students placed the lamp at different distances, **d**, from the pondweed.

They counted the number of bubbles of gas released from the pondweed in 1 minute for each distance.

- (b) A thermometer was placed in the glass beaker.

Why was it important to use a thermometer in this investigation?

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(3)

- (c) The students counted the bubbles four times at each distance and calculated the correct mean value of their results.

The table shows the students' results.

Distance <b>d</b> in cm	Number of bubbles per minute				
	1	2	3	4	Mean
10	52	52	54	54	53
20	49	51	48	52	50
30	32	30	27	31	30
40	30	10	9	11	

- (i) Calculate the mean number of bubbles released per minute when the lamp was 40 cm from the pondweed.

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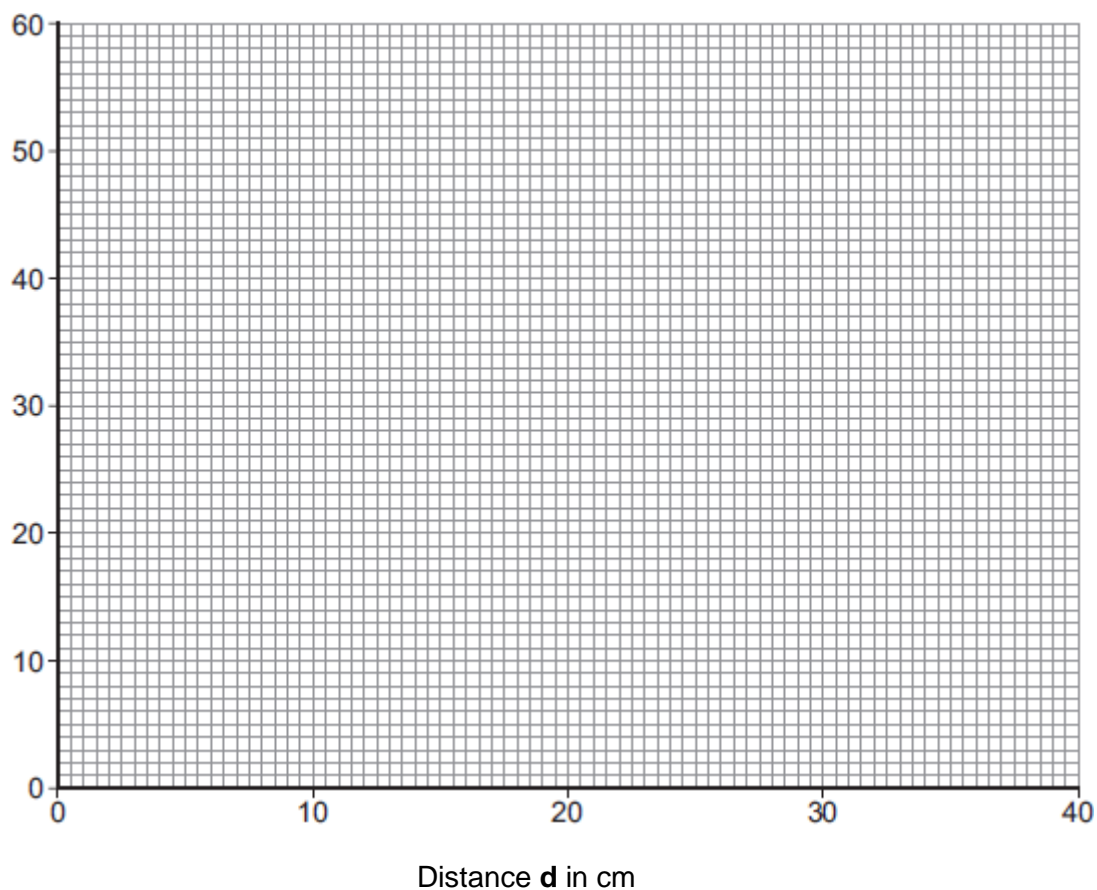
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Mean number of bubbles at 40 cm = .....

(2)

(ii) On the graph paper below, draw a graph to show the students' results:

- add a label to the vertical axis
- plot the **mean values** of the number of bubbles
- draw a line of best fit.



(4)

(iii) One student concluded that the rate of photosynthesis was inversely proportional to the distance of the lamp from the plant.

Does the data support this conclusion?

Explain your answer.

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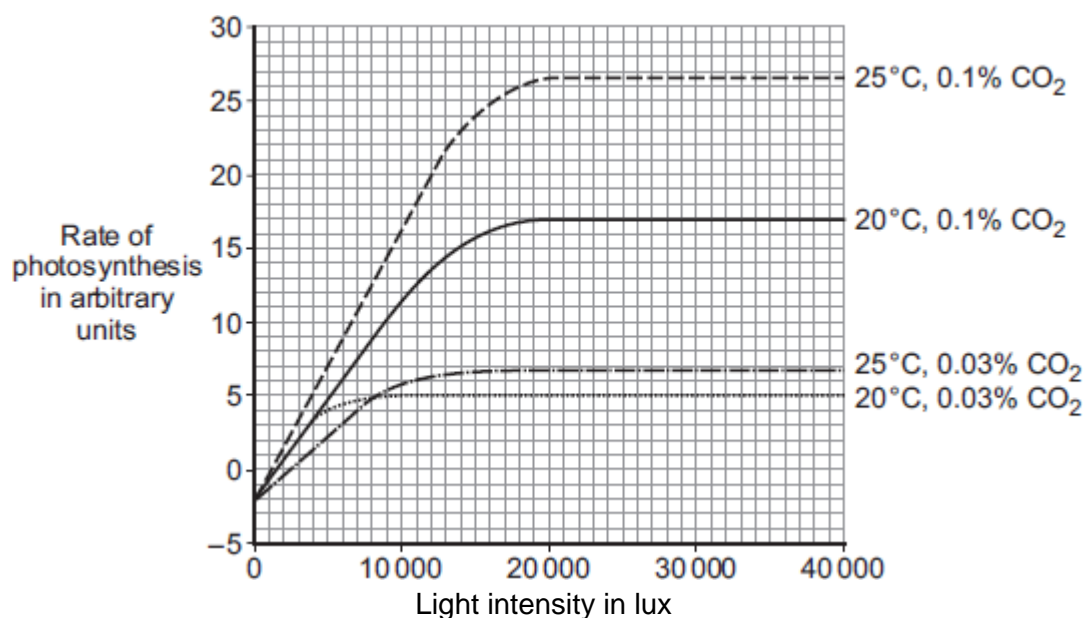
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(2)

- (d) Light intensity, temperature and concentration of carbon dioxide are factors that affect the rate of photosynthesis.

Scientists investigated the effects of these three factors on the rate of photosynthesis in tomato plants growing in a greenhouse.

The graph below shows the scientists' results.



A farmer in the UK wants to grow tomatoes commercially in a greenhouse.

The farmer read about the scientists' investigation.

During the growing season for tomatoes in the UK, natural daylight has an intensity higher than 30 000 lux.

The farmer therefore decided to use the following conditions in his greenhouse during the day:

- 20°C
- 0.1% CO<sub>2</sub>

- no extra lighting.

Suggest why the farmer decided to use these conditions for growing the tomatoes.

You should use information from the scientists' graph in your answer.

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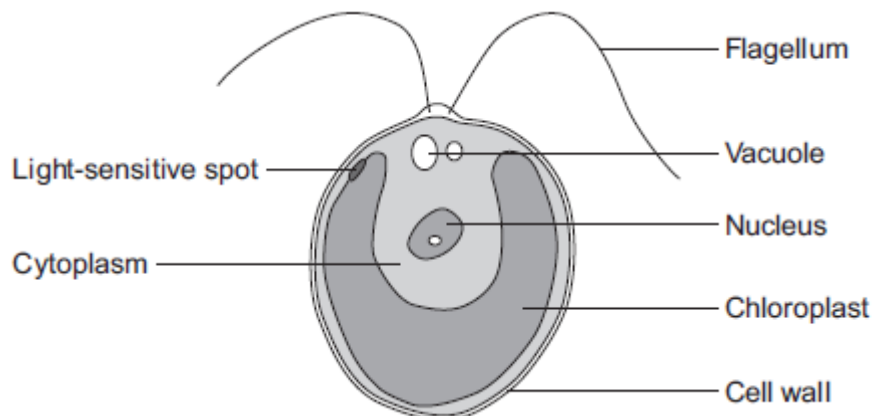
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(4)  
(Total 17 marks)

**Q5.** The diagram below shows a single-celled alga which lives in fresh water.



(a) Which part of the cell labelled above:

(i) traps light for photosynthesis

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(1)

(ii) is made of cellulose?

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(1)

(b) In the freshwater environment water enters the algal cell.

(i) What is the name of the process by which water moves into cells?

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(1)

(ii) Give the reason why the algal cell does not burst.

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(1)

(c) (i) The alga can photosynthesise.

Complete the **word** equation for photosynthesis.

water + .....  $\xrightarrow{\text{Light energy}}$  ..... + oxygen

(2)

(ii) The flagellum helps the cell to move through water. Scientists think that the flagellum and the light-sensitive spot work together to increase photosynthesis.

Suggest how this might happen.

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(2)

- (d) Multicellular organisms often have complex structures, such as lungs, for gas exchange.

Explain why single-celled organisms, like algae, do **not** need complex structures for gas exchange.

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(3)

(Total 11 marks)