

Biodiversity

Specification reference	Checklist questions	
3.4.5	Can you explain that two organisms belong to the same species if they are able to produce fertile offspring?	
3.4.5	Can you describe courtship behaviour as a necessary precursor to successful mating?	
3.4.5	Can you explain the role of courtship in species recognition?	
3.4.5	Can you describe how a phylogenetic classification system attempts to arrange species into groups based on their evolutionary origins and relationships?	
3.4.5	Can you describe how a phylogenetic classification system uses a hierarchy in which smaller groups are placed within larger groups, with no overlap between groups?	
3.4.5	Can you explain that each group in a phylogenetic classification system is called a taxon (plural <i>taxa</i>)?	
3.4.5	Can you describe how one hierarchy comprises the taxa: domain, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species?	
3.4.5	Can you describe how each species is universally identified by a binomial consisting of the name of its genus and species, for example, <i>Homo sapiens</i> ?	
3.4.5	Can you explain how advances in immunology and genome sequencing help to clarify evolutionary relationships between organisms?	
3.4.6	Can you explain how biodiversity can relate to a range of habitats, from a small local habitat to the Earth?	



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3.4.6	Can you explain that species richness is a measure of the number of different species in a community?	
3.4.6	Can you explain how an index of diversity describes the relationship between the number of species in a community and the number of individuals in each species?	
3.4.6	Can you calculate an index of diversity (<i>d</i>) from the formula $d = \frac{N(N-1)}{\Sigma n(n-1)}$	
	where $N =$ total number of organisms of all species and $n =$ total number of organisms of each species?	
3.4.6	Can you explain how farming techniques reduce biodiversity?	
3.4.6	Can you explain the balance between conservation and farming?	
3.4.7	Can you identify the genetic diversity within, or between species, in reference to: • the frequency of measurable or observable characteristics • the base sequence of DNA • the base sequence of mRNA • the amino acid sequence of the proteins encoded by DNA and mRNA?	
3.4.7	Can you suggest relationships between different organisms within a species and between species by interpreting data relating to similarities and differences in the base sequences of DNA and in the amino acid sequences of proteins?	
3.4.7	Can you describe how gene technology has caused a change in the methods of investigating genetic diversity; inferring DNA differences from measurable or observable characteristics has been replaced by direct investigation of DNA sequences?	

10 Biodiversity Checklist

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	Can you undertake quantitative investigations of variations within a species, including:	
3.4.7	 collecting data from random samples calculating a mean value of the collected data and the standard deviation of that mean interpreting mean values and their standard deviations? 	