

2.1.1 Principles of organisation

AQA GCSE Biology (Higher) Question and answer notes

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How to use these notes

These notes cover everything you need to know for this part of the specification. They have been written in question-answer format to make them easier for you to study from.

In order to study successfully, I recommend you do the following for each question and answer:

- Read it carefully and make sure you **understand** it.
- **Memorise** the answer.
- **Practice** applying your understanding to past exam questions.

A good way to memorise information is to use **retrieval practice**. This is when you practise retrieving information from your memory. You could do this by making a flashcard for each question with the question on one side and the answer on the other. Or you could use a flashcard app. Alternatively, use a sheet of paper to cover up the answer so you can only see the question. Try to answer the question and then check how you did.

You should practise retrieving each answer from your memory until you can do it perfectly. Even once you can retrieve the answer perfectly, your ability to retrieve it will probably fade as time passes without practising. Therefore you will need to keep going back to the questions that you have previously mastered and practising them again. However, each time you re-learn the answer, the memory will be stronger and will last longer than the time before.

What are the five levels of organisation within multicellular organisms?

The five levels of organisation within multicellular organisms are:

- Cell
- Tissue
- Organ
- Organ system
- Organism

What are the basic building blocks of all living organisms?

Cells are the basic building blocks of all living organisms.

What is a tissue?

A tissue is a group of cells working together to form a set of functions.

What is an organ?

An organ is a group of tissues working together to perform a set of functions.

What is an organ system?

An organ system is a group of organs working together to perform a set of functions.