

7.3.1 Biodiversity

AQA GCSE Biology (Higher) Question and answer notes

For more resources, visit www.mooramo.com

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 is biodiversity?

Biodiversity is the amount of variety of all the different species of organisms on Earth, or within an ecosystem.

What are the benefits to an ecosystem of having a high level of biodiversity?

A high level of biodiversity ensures the stability of an ecosystem by reducing the dependence of one species on another for food, shelter and the maintenance of the physical environment.

What is the human species' relationship to biodiversity?

The future of the human species relies on us maintaining a good level of biodiversity. Many human activities are reducing biodiversity. Only recently have measures been taken to try to stop this reduction.