



GAUTENG PROVINCE
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GAUTENG DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BASELINE ASSESSMENT

2026

TERM 1

GRADE 9

NATURAL SCIENCES

TIME: 1 HOUR

GRADE: 9

MARKS: 45

SCHOOL NAME	
NAME of School attended in 2025	
CLASS (e.g., 9A)	
STRAND	LIFE AND LIVING
SURNAME	
NAME	

Questions	1	2	3	4	TOTAL
Mark Allocation	10	9	10	16	45
Learner Marks					

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This baseline assessment paper consists of 06 pages in total including the cover page.
2. Please write neatly and legibly.
3. Read the instructions of each question carefully before attempting to answer.
4. All questions must be answered in the spaces provided on this question paper.
5. You are required to answer **ALL** the questions.

SECTION A: Multiple

QUESTION 1

1. Four options are given as possible answers to the following questions. Every question has only ONE correct answer. Choose the correct answer and write down only the letter (A-D) next to the question number (1.1 – 1.10)
- 1.1 Fusion of the egg and the sperm outside the mother's body. (1)
 - A. External fertilization
 - B. Metamorphosis
 - C. Internal fertilization
 - D. Adaptation
- 1.2 Puberty is a stage in a life cycle when (1)
 - A. Babies are born
 - B. People begin to age and die
 - C. Woman no longer menstruate
 - D. Sexual organs mature for reproduction
- 1.3 Jade wants to test whether the gas produced during an experiment is carbon dioxide gas. Which one of the following reactants can Jade use to test for the presence of carbon dioxide gas? (1)

- A copper hydroxide
- B iodine solution
- C clear lime water
- D milky white lime water

1.4 One of the following is not a condition for sustaining life (1)

- A. Water
- B. Energy
- C. Animals
- D. Suitable temperatures

1.5 The BEST reason for including protein in a healthy diet is because it is the main source of (1)

- A. energy for the body
- B. fibre for digestion
- C. raw materials for cell growth and repair
- D. vitamins for fighting disease

1.6 Eating leafy vegetables is important for human health. This is because leafy vegetables are a good source of which of the following? (1)

- A. protein
- B. carbohydrates
- C. minerals
- D. fat

1.7 Which of the following takes place during fertilization in animals? (1)

- A. production of sperm and egg
- B. joining of sperm and egg
- C. division of egg
- D. development of embryo

1.8 People get energy from the food they eat. Where does the energy stored in food come from? (1)

- A. Fertilizer
- B. The Sun
- C. Vitamins
- D. The soil

1.9 Alexander Fleming noticed that bacteria growing on a plate of agar did not grow next to a mould that was growing on the same plate. He wrote in his laboratory report: "The

mould may be producing a substance that kills bacteria." This statement is best described as

- A. an observation
- B. a hypothesis
- C. a generalization
- D. a conclusion

- 1.10 Andile wants to know which gas is given off during cellular respiration. He set up his investigation as in the following diagram.

Air is pumped into the system in the direction shown by the arrow. The lime water turns into milky colour. Determine which gas was pumped in.



- A. Oxygen
- B. carbon dioxide
- C. Hydrogen
- D. Methane

[10]

Question 2

Give ONE word/term for each of the following descriptions. Write only the word/term next to the question number (2.1 – 2.4)

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 2.1 | Male reproductive organ | (2) |
| 2.2 | Monthly bleeding from the vagina caused by the shedding of the lining of the uterus | (2) |
| 2.3 | Which gas do animals need to carry out life processes? | (2) |
| 2.4 | Removal of waste substances from the body | (2) |
| 2.5 | An organelle that is available on plant cells but not available on animal cells | (2) |

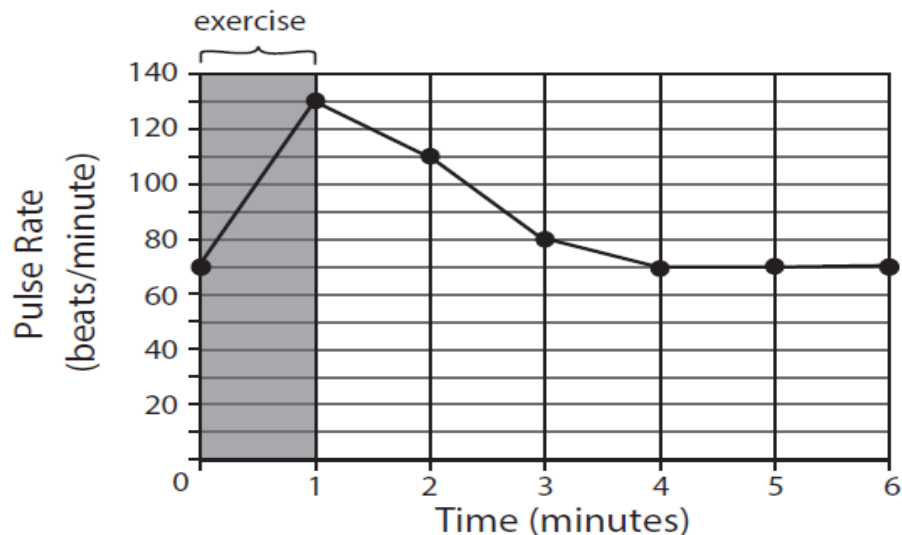
[10]

SECTION B

QUESTION 3

John measures his pulse rate before he exercises. He exercises for one minute and measures his pulse rate again. He then measures it every minute for several minutes. He draws a graph to show his results.

Study the graph and answer questions that follows

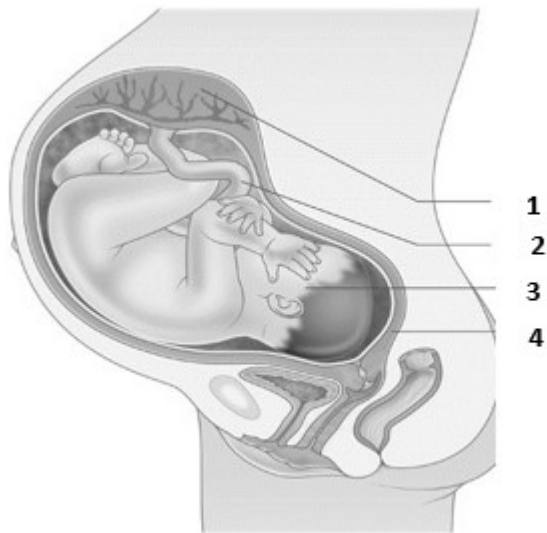


- 3.1 Determine what was John's pulse before exercise (2)
- 3.2 After how many minutes was the pulse decreased to 80 beats per minute (1)
- 3.3 Explain what happened to his pulse between 2 minutes and three minutes (2)
- 3.4 What can be concluded from his results? (2)
- 3.5 Identify independent variable (2)

[9]

Question 4

Study the following diagram and answer questions that follows



- 4.1 Name the parts numbered 3 and 4. (2)
- 4.2 Explain how the part numbered 3 develops, using the terms “fertilisation and implantation”. (6)
- 4.3 Name and give the function of the part numbered 1. (3)
- 4.4 Explain why a pregnant woman should eat healthy diet and not take drugs or drink alcohol. (2)
- 4.5 Identify two methods of preventing pregnancy. (2)
- 4.6 Identify one organ that is found in female reproductive system but not on male reproductive system (1)

[16]

GRAND TOTAL: [45]