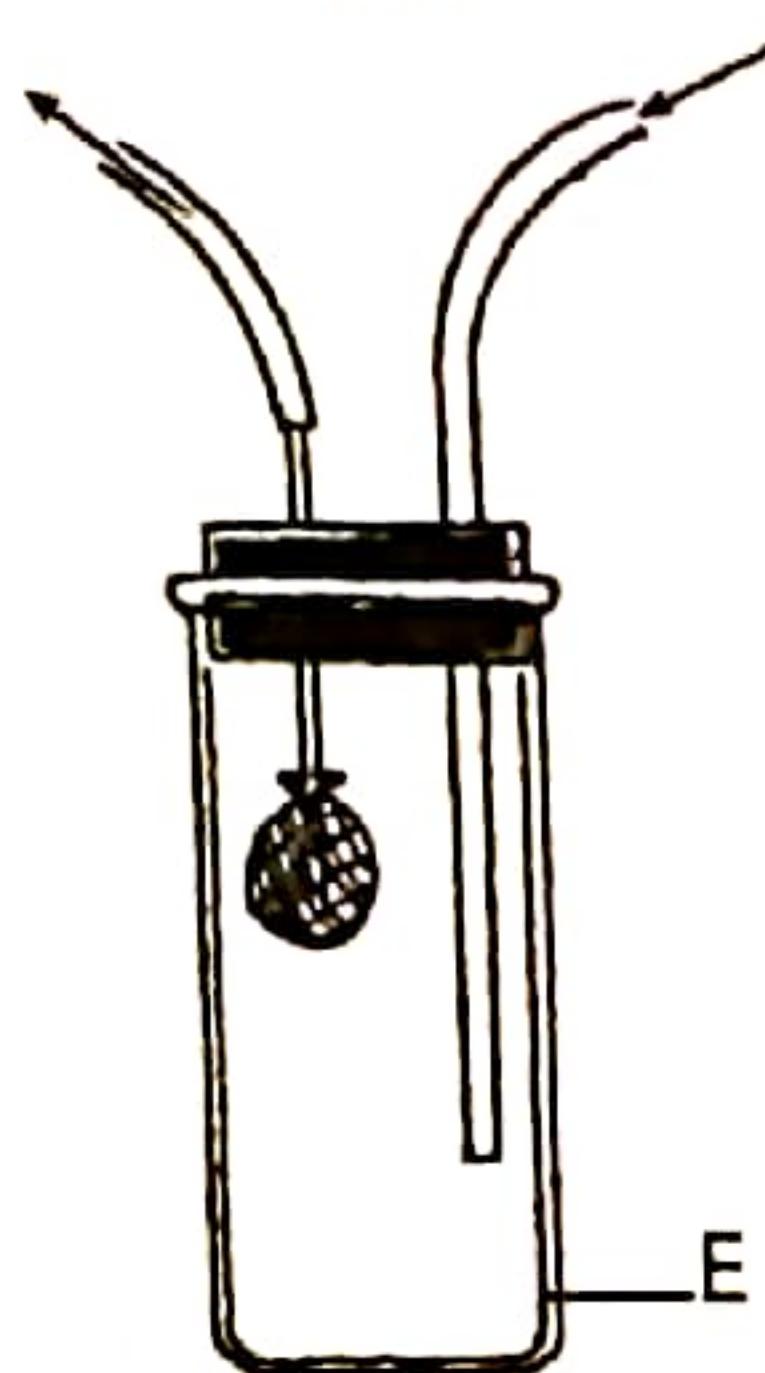


KCSE 2024  
BIOLOGY PAPER 1

2

Answer all the questions in the spaces provided.

- 1 The following diagram shows an apparatus used in ecological studies.



- (a) Name the apparatus. (1 mark)

Pooter / Aspirator;

- (b) Why is glass preferred in the making of the part labelled E? (1 mark)

Glass is transparent therefore allow light and the

specimens / characteristics of the collected specimen);

- 2 (a) Name the Kingdom whose members are all microscopic. (1 mark)

Monera

- (b) State two diseases caused by organisms belonging to the Kingdom named in 2(a). (2 marks)

~~and a  
line for 2~~  
Whooping cough; Pertussis;

Cholera; Tuberculosis; Dental carries; Gonorrhoea; Anthrax; B

Typhoid; Syphilis; Tetanus; Meningitis; Pneumonia; Dipt

- 3 During a microscopy practical, the following materials were provided:

- a temporary mount of an onion epidermis
- a transparent ruler

- (a) State the aim of the experiment. (1 mark)

To estimate the size/diameter of a cell/cells visible in the field of view;

- 3  
 (b) Explain how the aim stated in 3(a) can be achieved.

(3 marks)

- Using the ruler, determine the size of field of view (in mm).
- Count the (no. of) cells (that fits) across the field of view.
- Calculate / work out the diameter (size of one cell (in mm)) /  
 Diameter ~~is size of one cell~~ = ~~Diameter of field of view (in mm)~~  
 NO. of Cells.

- 4 The following diagram represents a specialized animal cell.



- (a) Identify the cell.

(1 mark)

Sperm cell; / spermatozoon;

- (b) (i) Name the cell organelle that is likely to be found in abundance in the part labelled F.

(1 mark)

Mitochondrion; Accept Mitochondrion.

- (ii) Explain the answer in 4(b)(i).

(2 marks)

Mitochondria enable the cell to respire hence provide energy; which aid in propulsion (of the cell).

5

- Name two components of blood that are absent in the tissue fluid.

(2 marks)

Red blood cell / Erythrocytes;

Some white blood cell / Leucocytes / non-phagocytic leucocytes;  
 Plasma protein; Platelets / thrombocytes;

6

- Name the structures in plants through which the processes of transpiration and guttation occur.

**Process**

**Structures in plants where it occurs**

a) Transpiration

Stomata / stom; cuticle(s); lenticel(s); (1 mark)

b) Guttation

Hydathodes; (1 mark)

7 Name two Classes of the Phylum Arthropoda that have a cephalothorax. (2 marks)

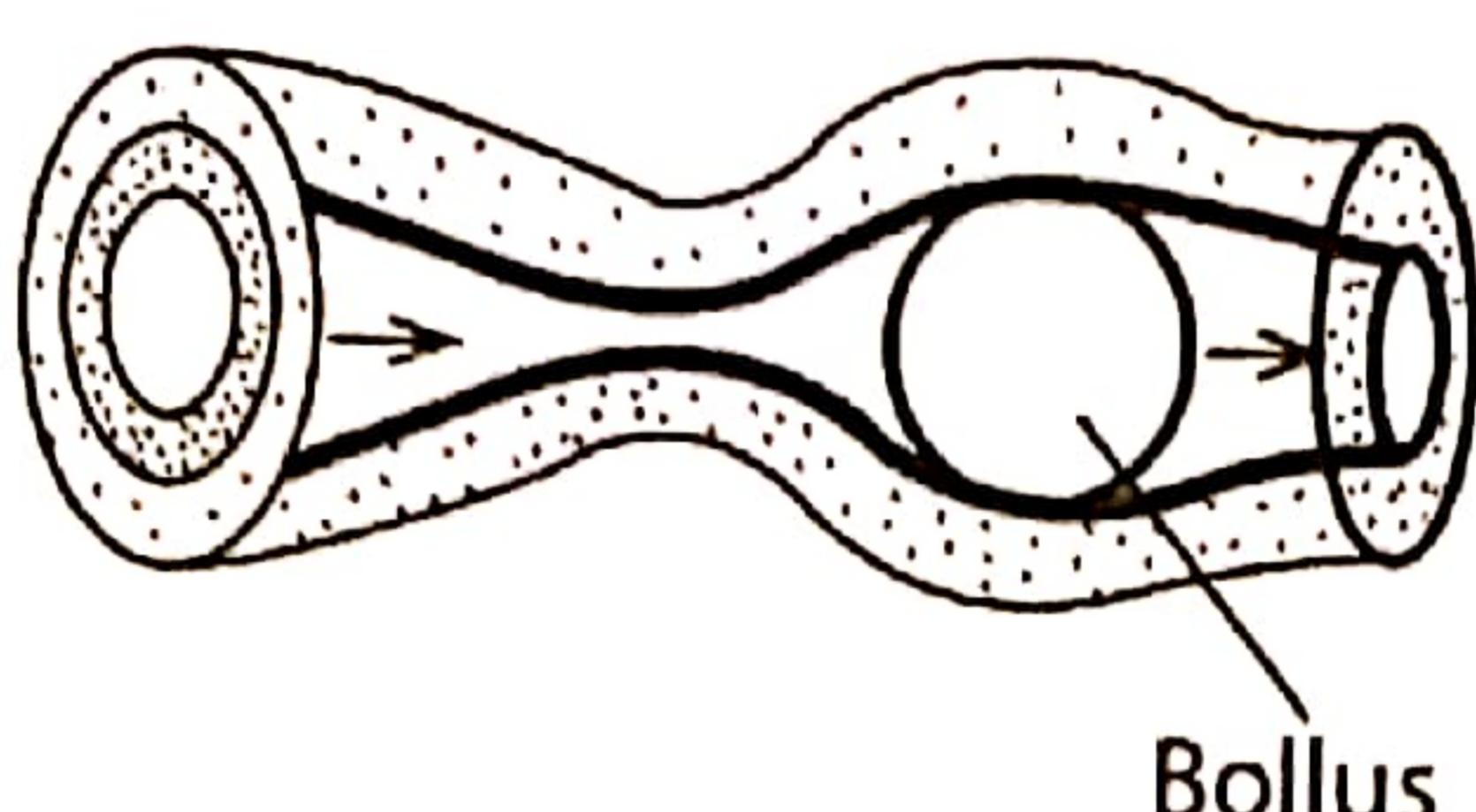
Crustacea;

Arachnida;

8 (a) Name the source of hydrochloric acid in the human alimentary canal. (1 mark)

Gastric glands / Parietal cells / oxyntic cells;

(b) The following diagram shows a process along the mammalian digestive system.



(i) Name the process. (1 mark)

Peristalsis;

(ii) State two roles of the process in digestion. (2 marks)

• Facilitate move of food (along the digestive tract/system);

• Enables Mixing of food (down the alimentary canal);

• Enables large intestines / colon / rectum to absorb water from undigested food;

X Name one blood disorder caused by gene mutation. (1 mark)

Sickle cell anaemia / sickle cell trait ; Haemophiliac;

Name the stage in meiosis where each of the following processes occur:

(a) formation of spindle fibres;

(1 mark)

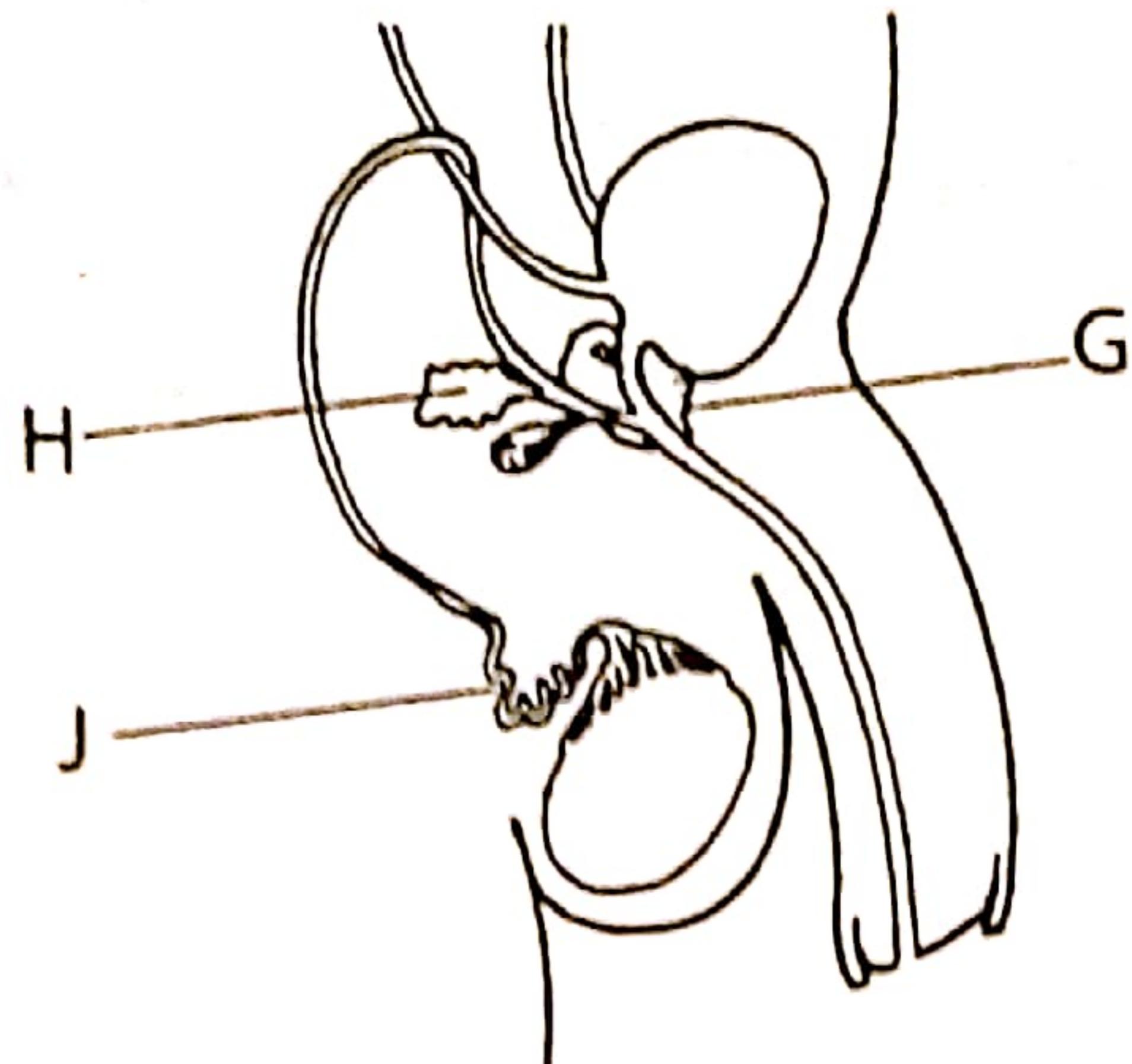
Metaphase I / Metaphase II;

(b) disappearance of nucleolus.

(1 mark)

Prophase I / Prophase II;

11 The following diagram represents part of the human male reproductive system.



e.g. - Prostate gland  
Prostate gland

Name the part labelled G.

(1 mark)

..... Prostate gland; ..... (1 mark)

(b) State one function of the structure labelled H.

*Acidic*

(1 mark)

• Provides an alkaline fluid to neutralize the vaginal fluid / Provider nourishment to the spermatozoa / Aid in sperm move; ..... (1 mark)

(c) How is the structure labelled J adapted to its function?

(2 marks)

• Highly coiled;

*long*  
*does not split*  
*but 2nd pos*  
*scores*

• To increase the S.A. for the storage of the sperms;

12 How do the following structural modifications in plants minimize the rate of water loss?

(a) Leaf folding.

(1 mark)

• Reduces the S.A. exposed (to light / temperature);

(b) Sunken stomata.

(1 mark)

• Water vapour / moisture accumulated is deposited in the pits / sunken stomata reducing the diff. gradient / saturation deficit (between intercell air spaces & the pits (inside and outside the leaf));

State two reasons for the absence of complex excretory organs in plants.

(2 marks)

• Wastes form slowly / little wastes accumulate (due to the inactivity of the plants);

• Some waste materials are recycled / reutilized;

• The wastes are less toxic;

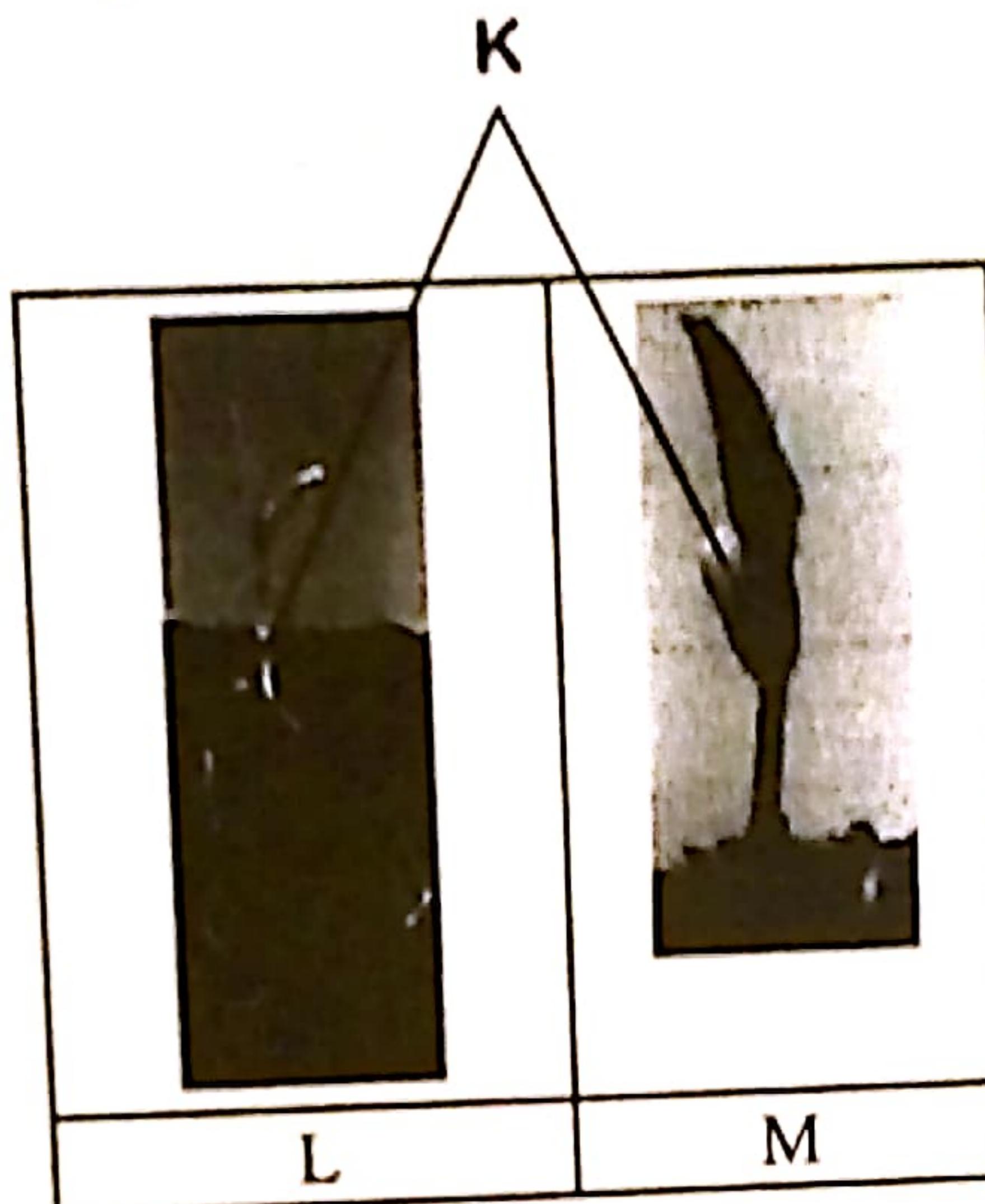
• Some are stored in plant parts that are older / later shed off / stored in dead tissues;

- 14 State the significance of each of the following characteristics in mammalian gaseous exchange structures and surfaces.
- (a) Presence of rings of cartilage in the trachea. (1 mark)
- Keep the trachea/wind pipe open / Prevent from collapsing (for gaseous exchange);
- (b) Numerous blood capillaries lining the lungs. (1 mark)
- Increase the S.A. for diffusion of (respiratory) gases / increase diffusion gradient; / rapid transport of (respiratory) gases / creates a steep concentration gradient;
- 15 What is the most appropriate method of estimating the population of black ants in a school playing field? (1 mark)
- Quadrat/capture-recapture method;
- (a) Why are shorter food chains advantageous in an ecosystem? (2 marks)
- They have fewer less trophic/feeding levels; therefore, (more) energy is conserved / minimize / reduce loss of energy;
- 16 (a) Using an example, define convergent evolution. (2 marks)
- Is the modification of structures of organisms of different ancestral/embryonic origin to perform similar functions; e.g wings of insects & birds / wings of bats / insects (modified for flying) / eyes of Mammals & (limbs of mammals and) Arthropods / flippers of whales & fins of fish;
- (b) Explain how natural selection is advantageous to living organisms. (3 marks)
- It serves to identify organisms with desirable traits/adaptations that help them survive and reproduce; eliminate organisms with harmful traits (that are less likely to survive and reproduce); pass on beneficial genetic traits/mutations to subsequent generations through
- 17 (a) (i) Name the blood vessel that carries oxygenated blood from the heart to the rest of the body tissues. (1 mark)
- Aorta;
- (ii) State the role of tricuspid valve in the mammalian heart. (1 mark)
- Prevent backflow into the right atrium (when ventricle muscles contract) / allow flow of blood from right atrium into the right ventricle;

- (b) Why are people with blood group O referred to as universal donors? (2 marks)

*Blood group O lacks antigens A & B; therefore, no agglutination (with recipient antibodies).*

- 18 The following diagram shows germination in two different seedlings labelled L and M.



- (i) Identify the type of germination shown in seedling L. (1 mark)

*Hypogaeal.*

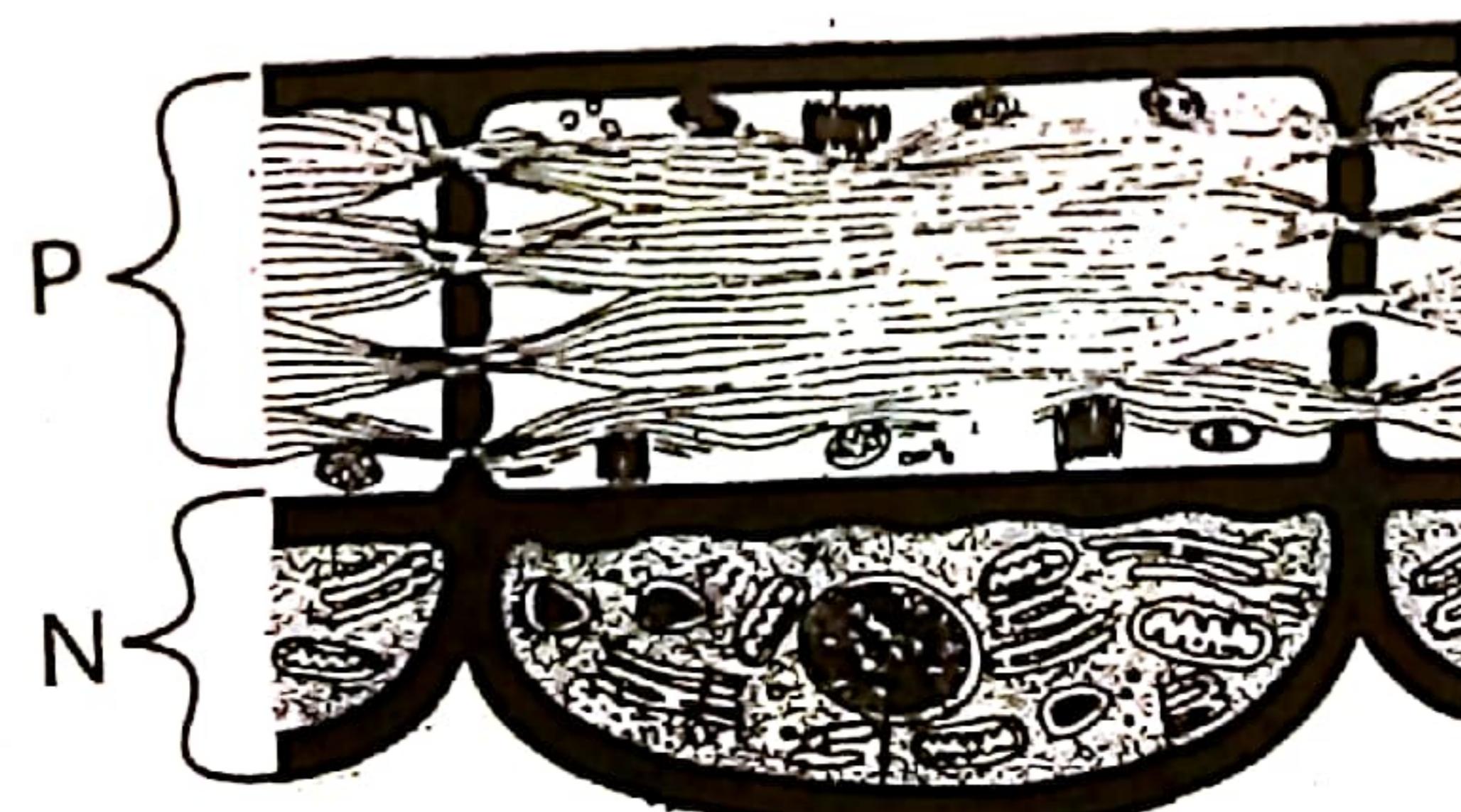
- (ii) Give a reason for the answer in 18(a)(i). (1 mark)

*The cotyledon remains below the soil surface/underground.*

- (b) State one common function of the parts labelled K in seedlings L and M. (1 mark)

*Storage of food/contain digestive enzymes that breakdown/hydrolyse (stored) food (needed for germination);*

- 19 The following diagram represents a longitudinal section through a phloem tissue.



- (a) Account for the high concentration of mitochondria in the part labelled N. (3 marks)

- To synthesize the energy;
- Needed for the active transportation / translocation;
- Of food substances in / out of the sieve tubes;

Mark the 1st  
function no  
numberic

- (b) State one structural adaptation of the part labelled P to its function. (2 marks)

- Close to companion cells for easy access of energy/nutrients;
- Filled with fine cytoplasmic filaments; for streaming of food from one sieve tube to another;
- Has organelles placed against the wall; increase SA for packaging of filaments;
- Has (sieve plate) sieve pores; to allow continuous flow of materials;

20

The following word equation represents a metabolic reaction taking place in an animal tissue.



- (a) State the condition under which the reaction occurs. (1 mark)

In the absence of oxygen / insufficient supply of oxygen | Anaerobic conditions /  
Anaerobic respiration / Anaerobiosis;

- (b) How does the size of an animal affect the rate of respiration? (3 marks)

Small bodied animals have larger SA:VR; exposed to higher  
faster heat loss; hence higher rate of respiration to compensate  
for the lost heat; (and vice versa);

21

- (a) How can sexual reproduction in organisms lead to the evolution of new species?

3 Points (3 marks)

- Gametes (with different genes/alleles) from different parents;

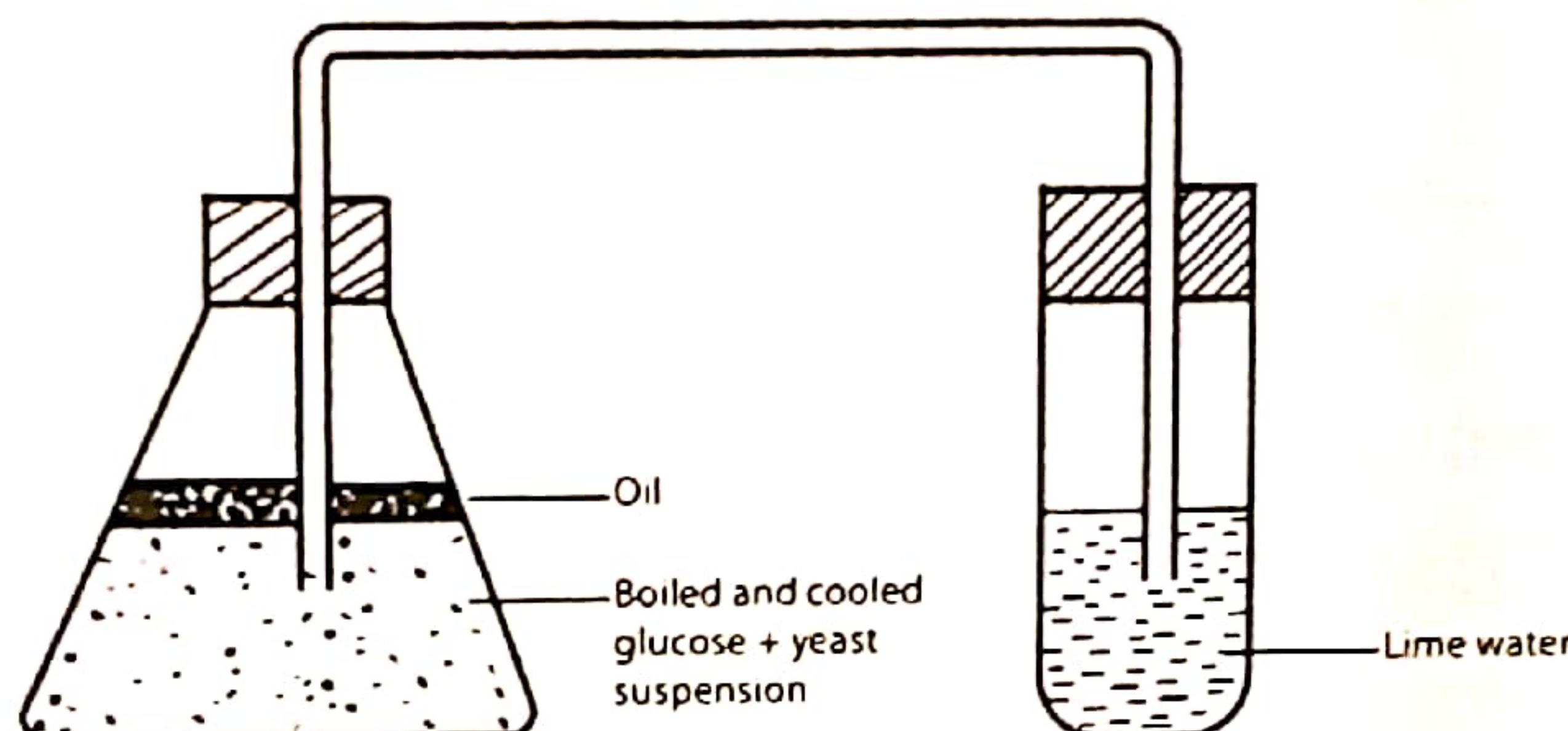
• Fuse to form a new offspring;

- The varied offspring pass the desirable / advantageous traits to subsequent generations;
- Which may finally result in the establishment of new species over a long period of time; Overtime

- (b) State the role of continental drift in the evolution of organisms. (2 marks)

• Isolation/separation of organisms (with the same genetic composition) from the same origin to different environmental conditions; lead to the development of adaptive traits/traits (for successful survival in the new habitat); outcome

- 22 The following diagram represents an experimental set-up used to investigate a certain biological process.



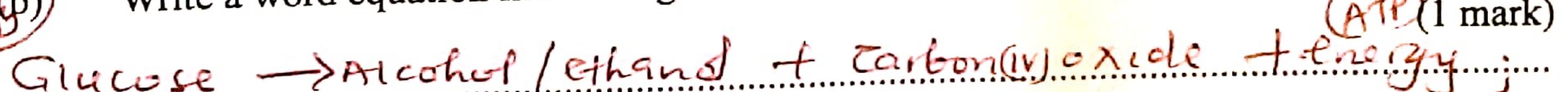
- (a) (i) Identify the biological process that can be investigated using the set-up. (1 mark)

Anaerobic / Fermentation / Anaerobiosis ;

- (ii)* Give a reason for the answer in 22(a)(i). (1 mark)

Boiling removes / drives out air / oxygen / the layer of oil prevents the entry / supply of oxygen / air;

Write a word equation illustrating the reaction taking place in the experiment.



Suggest a modification on the set-up that would increase the rate of reaction in the conical flask. (1 mark)

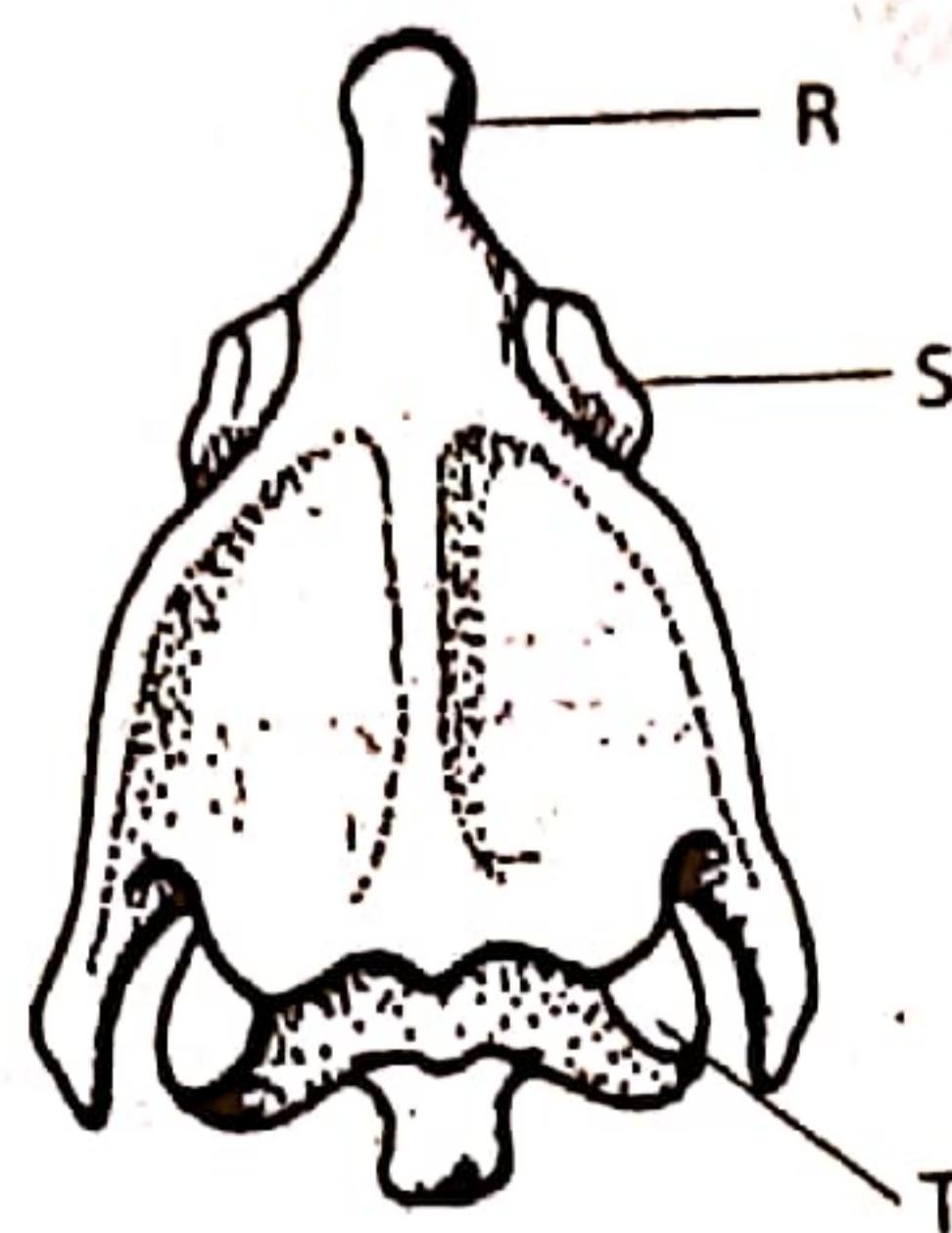
- Increasing temperature to optimum (to activate the respiratory enzymes)
- Increasing the concentration of yeast / Glucose ;

*Accept - warming re-introduce heat* (d) Why is it necessary to cool glucose before adding yeast in the conical flask? (1 mark)

- To avoid killing the yeast cells / denature the enzymes in the yeast / zymase ;



- 23 The following diagram represents a bone obtained from a mammalian axial skeleton.



- (a) Identify the: (1 mark)

(i) bone;

*Axis*;

(ii) part labelled R.

*Odontoid process / Peg*;

- (b) Name the bones that articulate at the points labelled S and T. (1 mark)

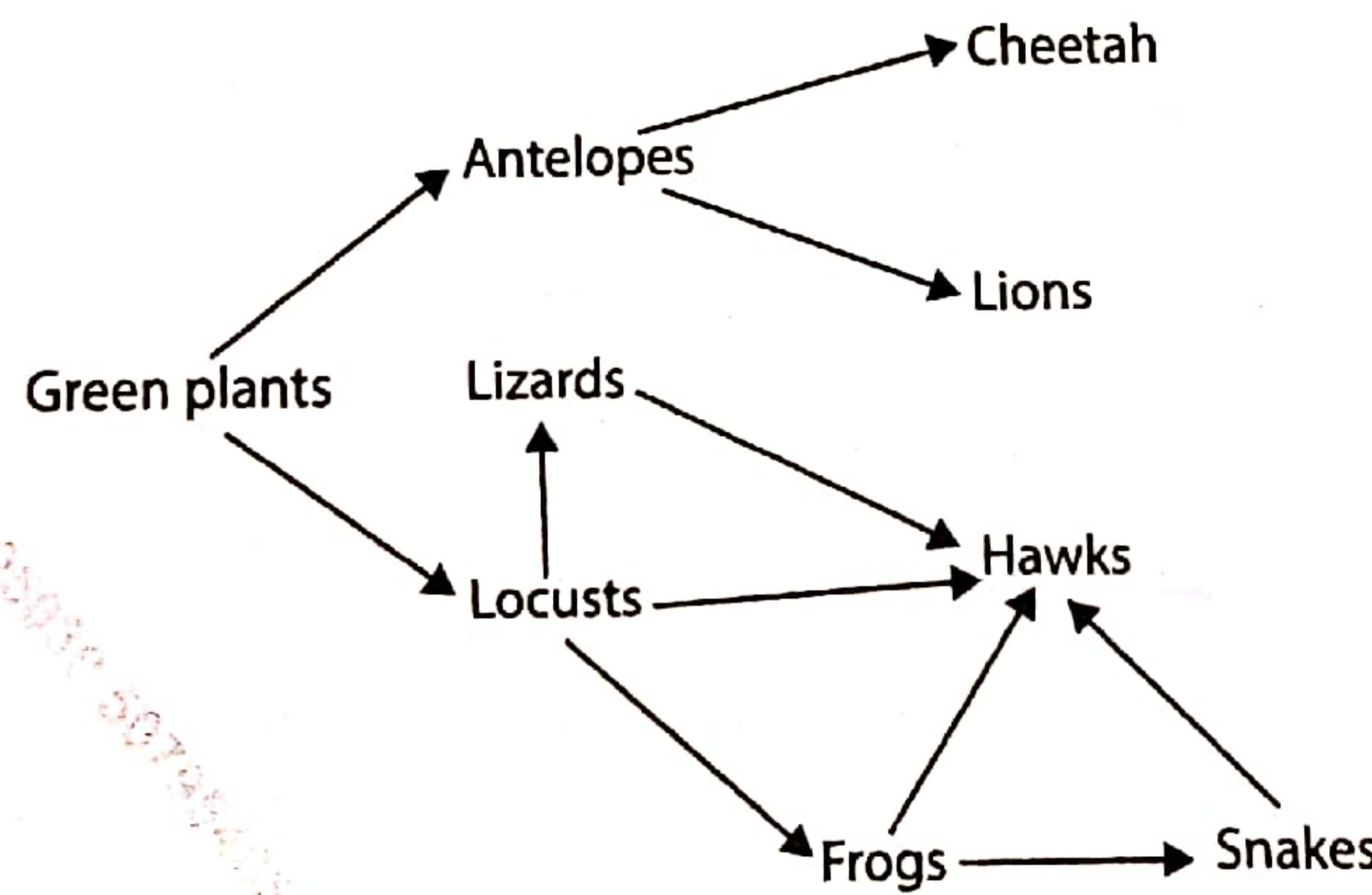
S *Atlas*

T *(Other) Cervical vertebra / 3rd cervical vertebra*;

(1 mark)

(1 mark)

- 24 The following food web shows a feeding relationship found in a certain ecosystem.



- (a) From the food web, identify the:

(i) organism with the lowest biomass;

(1 mark)

*Hawks*;

- (ii) trophic level occupied by lizards. (1 mark)  
..... • Secondary consumer / 3<sup>rd</sup> trophic level;
- (b) Name the type of feeding relationship between the: (1 mark)
- (i) lion and the cheetah;  
..... • (Interspecific) competition; Hej intraspecific
- (ii) cheetah and the antelopes. (1 mark)  
..... • Predation / Predator-Prey relationship
- (c) Explain the role bacteria would play in this ecosystem. (2 marks)  
..... • Decomposition; for releasing / recycling of more nutrients in the ecosystem / cleaning the environment;

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