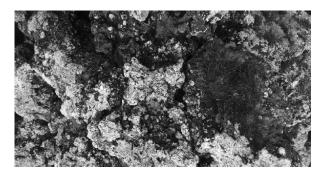
# **Questions**

Q1.

Lanzarote is a volcanic island in the Atlantic Ocean. It lies near the coast of West Africa. The photograph shows lichens growing on volcanic rock in Lanzarote.



Lichens are organisms composed of a fungus and algae living together.

Lichens colonise bare rock.

Devise an investigation to show how the lichen distribution is affected by a named abiotic factor.

(0)

(Total for question = 6 marks)

Q2.

The photograph shows *Galium verum* (Lady's bedstraw), a plant that grows in meadows, hedges, road verges and sand dunes.



(Source: © Alfio Scisetti/Alamy Stock Photo)

This plant grows to between 15 cm and 60 cm in height.

A student investigated whether *Galium verum* growing in meadows was taller than *Galium verum* growing on sand dunes.

(i)	Give a suitable null hypothesis for this investigation.	(1)
		. ,
		•
(ii)	Devise a method that can be used to collect valid results to test this null hypothesis.	(5)
		•
•••		
•••		•
		•

(iii) Explain which statistical test would be most suitable to test this null hypothesis.	
	(2)
(Total for question = 8 mark	ks)

Q3.

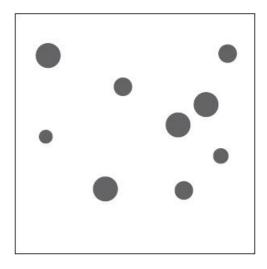
The drawing shows a plant called white clover, *Trifolium repens*.



A student used a 50 cm  $\times$  50 cm quadrat to compare the abundance of white clover in a trampled area of grassland and an untrampled area of grassland.

Each area measured 90 m x 45 m.

The diagram shows the distribution of white clover plants in one quadrat from the area of trampled grassland. Each circle represents one clover plant.



(i) Use the results from this quadrat to calculate the total number of white clover plants present in the area of trampled grassland.

(2)

Answer .....

### Edexcel (B) Biology A-level - The Nature of Ecosystems

Q4.

Answer the question with a cross in the box you think is correct  $\boxtimes$ . If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box  $\boxtimes$ . If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box and then mark your new answer with a cross and then mark your new answer with a cross  $\boxtimes$ .

The photograph shows a glacier that is melting. As the glacier gradually melts, it leaves behind bare rock.



(Source: © CHARLES D. WINTERS/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY)

Scientists sampled the soil from areas that had been uncovered for different lengths of time after the glacier ice had melted.

The table shows the results from the samples.

Length of time since glacier melted / years	Soil depth / cm	Mass of nitrate in soil / mg m <sup>-2</sup>	Mass of leaf litter that falls to ground each year / g m <sup>-2</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup>
5	5.2	3.8	1.5
15	6.4	4.1	1.7
40	7.0	5.3	12.8
100	9.2	21.8	277.0
150	10.8	35.4	335.0
200	15.1	53.3	277.0
250	16.2	61.4	261.0

Which of the following should be used to determine if there is an association between length of time since the glacial ice has melted and soil depth?

	Α	chi squared
	В	correlation coefficient
	С	standard deviation
3.0	D	t_tost

(Total for question = 1 mark)

(1)

# Mark Scheme

# Q1.

Question Number	Acceptable Answers	Additional Guidance	Mark
	An answer that makes reference to six of the following:  • relevant abiotic factor named (1)	eg light intensity, temperature, distance from sea, altitude	
	<ul> <li>select {sample sites with environmental differences /one site with environmental gradient}</li> <li>(1)</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>{quadrats / point frame} used {at random /in a transect} (1)</li> <li>to measure presence or absence of lichens (1)</li> </ul>	Allow calculation of percentage cover described	
	<ul> <li>method used to measure abiotic factor described (1)</li> <li>t test carried out to measure significant difference (1)</li> </ul>	Allow correlation test carried out to measure correlation if appropriate Allow standard deviations compared.	(6)
	other named variable controlled or measured (1)		

### Q2.

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
(i)	there is no difference in the (mean) height of <i>Galium</i> verum growing in meadow and dunes (1)	Accept reference to no significant difference in the (mean) height of <i>Galium verum</i> growing in meadow and dunes	Exp (1)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
(ii)	An answer that includes the following:		
	use of random numbers to select sampling site (1)	Accept description of setting up grid and using co- ordinates for random sampling	
	use of (frame or point) quadrat (to define sampling area) in meadow and dune (1)	Accept closest plant to point selected in meadow and dune	
	measurement of height of <i>Galium verum</i> (1)		
	large sample size or use of running mean (1)	eg at least 10 plants in each place	
	attempt to {control / measure} named variable (1)	eg shading / slope / grazing / trampling / time of year / rainfall / use of herbicide Ignore soil type / pH / time of day	Exp (5)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
(iii)	An explanation that includes the following points		3
	• t-test (1)	Accept other suitable test eg Mann Whitney U test	
	(because it) tests for the difference between the means of two sets of values (1)	Accept it tests for a (significant) difference between two sample sets	Exp

# Q3.

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
(i)		Example of calculation	
	calculate the area of quadrat and calculate the area of grassland to calculate the number of quadrats in grassland (1)	$50 \times 50 = 2500 \text{ cm}^2 / 0.25 \text{ m}^2 \text{ and}$ $90 \times 45 = 4050 \text{ m}^2$	
	multiply number of quadrats in area of grassland by number of clover (1)	4050 × 4 = 16200 16200 × 9 = 145800	
	Or		
	• number of clover plants per m² (1)	9 × 4 = 36	
	<ul> <li>multiply by total area of grassland in m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>(1)</li> </ul>	36 × (90 × 45) = 145800	
		Correct answer with no working gains full marks	(2)

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
(ii)	An explanation that makes reference to three of the following:		
	use {several quadrats / larger quadrat} (1)		
	therefore larger area sampled (1)		
	place quadrats at random / use random number generation (1)		
	therefore achieve a consistent measure of the mean (1)	Accept use of running mean	(3)

### Q4.

Question Number	Answer	Additional Guidance	Mark
	The only correct answer is:	2	
	B correlation coefficient		
	A is incorrect because chi squared compares		
	frequencies		1
	C is incorrect as standard deviation is a measure of dispersion		comp
	D is incorrect as t-test compares mean values		