

Communicable Diseases

GCSE Biology · Written to the shared content for AQA, Edexcel and OCR

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Describe how measles is spread and how its spread can be reduced. (3 marks)

Step 1 · Pathogen

Measles is caused by a virus.

Step 2 · Spread

It is spread by inhaling droplets from the sneezes and coughs of an infected person.

Step 3 · Reduce spread

Vaccinating young children (MMR); isolating infected people.

Answer: Viral; droplet infection; reduced by vaccination and isolation

Check: Measles can be fatal if complications arise, which is why most young children are vaccinated.

2. Now try one with the steps

Explain why bacteria and viruses make us feel ill in different ways. (2 marks)

Step 1 · Bacteria

Step 2 · Viruses

Answer:

3. Practice

Show your working. The marks tell you how much is expected.

1. What is a pathogen? [1]

2. Name the four types of pathogen. [2]

3. Give three ways pathogens can be spread. [3]

4. Name the type of pathogen that causes malaria. [1]
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5. Describe the symptoms of Salmonella food poisoning. [2]
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6. Explain why poultry in the UK is vaccinated against Salmonella. [1]
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7. Describe two ways to reduce the spread of malaria. [2]
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8. Describe the symptoms of gonorrhoea and how its spread is controlled. [3]
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9. Explain how tobacco mosaic virus reduces plant growth. [3]
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10. Describe how rose black spot spreads and how it is treated. [2]
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11. Each infected person passes a disease to 2 others. Starting from 1 person, how many new infections occur in the 5th round? [2]
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12. In a school of 1200 pupils, 90 had flu. Calculate the percentage infected. [1]
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13. Explain why antibiotics cannot treat measles or HIV. [2]
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14. Evaluate methods used to reduce the spread of a new respiratory virus in a community. [4]

4. Before you hand it in

"Viruses are tiny bacteria."

Viruses are much smaller than bacteria, are not cells, and can only reproduce inside host cells.

"Malaria is caused by mosquitoes."

Malaria is caused by a protist; the mosquito carries it between people.

"Rose black spot affects humans."

Rose black spot is a fungal disease of roses. TMV is a viral disease of plants.