

**CBSE Class 11 Biology Important
Questions
Chapter 17
Breathing and Exchange of Gases**

1 Marks Questions

1. Define partial pressure of a gas.

Ans. Pressure contributed by an individual gas in a mixture of gases is called partial pressure of gas and it is represented as PO_2 for O_2 and PCO_2 for CO_2 .

2. Name the other pigments which are present in animals besides haemoglobin.

Ans. Haemocyanin and haemoerythrin.

3. What is the difference between alveolar air and inspired air?

Ans. Alveolar air – The air present in the alveoli.

Inspired air – The amount of air inspired at a time.

4. Define vital capacity.

Ans. Vital Capacity is the volume of air breathed out by a maximum forceful expiration.

5. What is the role of carbonic anhydrase in RBC's?

Ans. About 70% of CO_2 reacts with water to form carbonic acid in RBCs in the presence of enzyme carbonic anhydrase. $CO_2 + H_2O \rightleftharpoons H_2CO_3$

6. What is carbamino haemoglobin?

Ans. Carbaminohaemoglobin is formed when CO_2 combines with globin is reduced

haemoglobin.

7.Name the place where actual exchange of gases takes place in insects.

Ans. Tracheoles.

8.What is the percentage of O₂ in inspired & expired air?

Ans. Inspired air has 21% O₂ and expired air has 16% O₂.

9.What is the utility of chloride shift?

Ans. It maintains the ionic balance and electrochemical neutrality.

10.Name the organ in human respiratory system which produces sound.

Ans. Larynx (Sound box)

11.How many oxygen molecules can be carried out by one hemoglobin molecule.

Ans. Four molecules

12.Give the name and function of a fluid filled double membranous layer which surrounds the lungs.

Ans. Pleuron. It reduces the friction and keeps the two pleura together and the lungs inflated.

13.Which organ of our respiratory system acts as primary site of exchange of gases?

Ans. Alveoli of Lungs.

14.Cigarette smoking causes emphysema. Give reason.

Ans. Cigarette smoking damages alveolar walls due to alveolar sacs remaining filled with air

leading to decreased respiratory surface area

15. Name the principle of exchange of gases.

Ans. Diffusion.

16. What is the role of oxyhaemoglobin after releasing molecular oxygen in the

Ans. Amino group of reduced haemoglobin combines with CO_2 forming carbaminohaemoglobin to transport CO_2 .

17. Name the muscles which facilitate breathing.

Ans. External and internal intercostal muscles, situated between ribs.

18. How is the entry of food prevented in the respiratory tract?

Ans. During swallowing a cartilaginous flap like structure called epiglottis covers the glottis and prevents the entry of food into respiratory tract.

19. About 97% of O_2 is transported by RBCs in the blood. How does the remaining 3% of O_2 transported?

Ans. In simple solution form through plasma.

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Important Questions
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2 Marks Questions

1. Give role of intercostal muscles in respiration.

Ans. The contraction of the external intercostal muscles & diaphragm increases the volume of the thoracic cavity, lowers the pressure in the lungs. To fill up the gap, the fresh air reaches to the lungs resulting in the inspiration.

The relaxation of the inspiratory muscles decreases the volume of the thoracic cavity and subsequently, pressure in the lungs increases. To equalize this pressure, the air from the lungs rushes out through the respiratory passage to bring about expiration.

2. Explain Erythrocytes can carry out anaerobic metabolism only.

Ans. Erythrocytes lack mitochondria and respiratory enzymes to perform the process of aerobic respiration. Therefore, they undergo anaerobic respiration to carry out anaerobic metabolism only.

3. Describe how our brain gets a continuous supply of oxygen from the atmosphere.

Ans. Passage of air which contains oxygen:

Inhalation of fresh air → trachea → bronchi → lungs → alveoli → diffusion of O_2 into blood (RBC) → formation of oxyhaemoglobin → some in plasma → pulmonary vein → carry it to heart → left auricle → to ventricle → Dorsal aorta → Carotid artery to the brain dissociation of oxyhaemoglobin, O_2 supplied to the tissue, partial pressure of O_2 facilitates diffusion.

4. What is chloride shift? Explain.

Ans. The diffusion of chloride ions from blood plasma into RBCs is known as chloride shift.

- a) Occurs from plasma to RBC's in human body.
- b) It maintains ionic balance and electrochemical neutrality.

5.Explain briefly the first step is respiration?

Ans. First step in respiration is called breathing. In breathing atmospheric air is taken in by inspiration and alveolar air is released out by expiration. The exchange of O₂ and CO₂ between deoxygenated blood and alveoli, transport of gases throughout body by blood, exchange of O₂ and CO₂ between the oxygenated blood and tissues and utilization of O₂ by the cells are the other steps involved in it.

6.Write a note on bronchitis and its prevention.

Ans. It is “inflammation of the bronchi and is characterized by hypertrophy hyperplasia seromucous glands and goblet cells lining the bronchi”

Symptoms are coughing with thick greenish-yellow sputum. It shows infection, that excessive secretion of mucus. It is caused by pollutants as well as the cigarette smoking. Prevention of Bronchitis –

- 1) Avoiding exposure to allergens.
- 2) Treatment involves antibiotic therapy & bronchodilator drugs, etc.

7.What is the difference between carbaminohaemoglobin and oxyhaemoglobin.

Ans.

	Oxyhaemoglobin	Carbominohaemoglobin
1.	It is formed by the combination of oxygen with the Fe ²⁺ part of haemoglobin.	It is formed by the combination of carbon dioxide with the amine radical of haemoglobin.
	Its formation occurs on the alveolar	Its formation occurs in the tissues.

2.	surface.	
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8.What is functional residual capacity?

Ans. When a person inhales and exhales in a normal way, the volume air that remains in the lungs is known as functional residual capacity (FRC). It includes the residual volume and expiratory reserve volume, i. e, $FRC = RV + ERV$.

9.Describe the transport of O₂ and CO₂?

Ans. O₂ is transported as oxyhaemoglobin. In the alveoli of lungs (PO₂ is higher), O₂ gets bound to hemoglobin that dissociates at tissues where PO₂ and H⁺ concentration are high. Approx 70% CO₂ transported as bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻) with the help of the enzyme carbonic anhydrase, 20-25% CO₂ is carried by haemoglobin as carbaminohamoglobin. In tissues PCO₂ is high its gets bound to blood but in alveoli where PCO₂ is low and PO₂ is high, this removed from blood.

10. Name the organs of respiration in the following organisms.

a) Flatworms b) Birds c) Frog d) Cockroach

Ans. a) Body surface b) lungs c) skin and lungs d) Network of trachea

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3 Marks Questions

1. What is hypoxia, artificial hypoxia & Anaemic hypoxia?

Ans. Hypoxia – It is a condition of oxygen shortage in the tissues. It is 2 kinds – artificial hypoxia and anaemic hypoxia.

Artificial hypoxia – It is the result of shortage of air over 2400m altitudes. The mountain sickness is caused by headache, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, mental fatigue and breathlessness etc.

Anaemic hypoxia – results due to reduced O₂ capacity of blood due to less content of Hb or carbon monoxide poisoning.

2. How is respiration regulated?

Ans. Respiratory centre located in floor of the medulla oblongata of the brain controls respiration. The centre is bilateral and its two halves which are connected together by commissural neurons. The sides of this centre are connected with motor respiratory neuron. The nerve cells of the centre are connected with the breathing apparatus forming a reflex arc. These nerve cells are sensitive to chemical composition of blood. Half of the respiratory centre is an inspiratory centre and expiratory centre. It is believed that the inspiratory centre works in normal breathing and expiratory centre during other conditions like coughing, sneezing and laughing. These two centres control the entire breathing in man with his knowing about it. Dorsal respiratory group, ventral respiratory group and pneumotaxic groups act as respiration centers in the brain.

Neumotaxic centre is located dorsally in upper pons. It transmits signals to inspiratory area. It controls the switch off point of inspiration.

3. Differentiate between vital lung capacity and total lung capacity.

Ans.

	Vital Capacity (VC)	Total lung Capacity. (CT2C)
1.	Sum total of tidal volume, expiratory reserve and inspiratory reserve volume.	Sum total of vital capacity and residual volume.
2.	$VC = V_t + ERV + IRV$	$TLC = VC + RV$
3.	Value is 3500-4500ml.	Value is 5000 – 6000ml
4.	Represents maximum amount of air that a person can expel after filling the lungs to the maximum.	Represents maximum total amount of air which can be present in lungs after maximum inspiratory effort.

4. Explain the mechanism of breathing in humans.

Ans. The mechanism of breathing in human involves breathing in of air in the lungs and breathing out of air from lungs thoracic cavity. The form is called inspiration and later expiration. The lungs are located in the closed thoracic cavity. A muscular partition called diaphragm separates the thoracic cavity from the abdominal cavity.

During inspiration the diaphragm is lowered due to contraction intercostals muscle. This result into the increase of volume of thorax causing fall of air pressure in the thoracic cavity lowers the pressure in the lungs and the air rushes from outside into lungs through external nares, trachea & bronchi.

During expiration the diaphragm move upward and the lateral thoracic walls move inwards due to the relaxation of muscles of diaphragm and the intercoastals muscles. This decrease the volume of thorax and the pressure inside the thorax and lungs is increased which results in the expulsion of some of air from the lungs to the atmosphere outside the body.

5. Define oxygen dissociation curve? Why it has sigmoidal pattern?

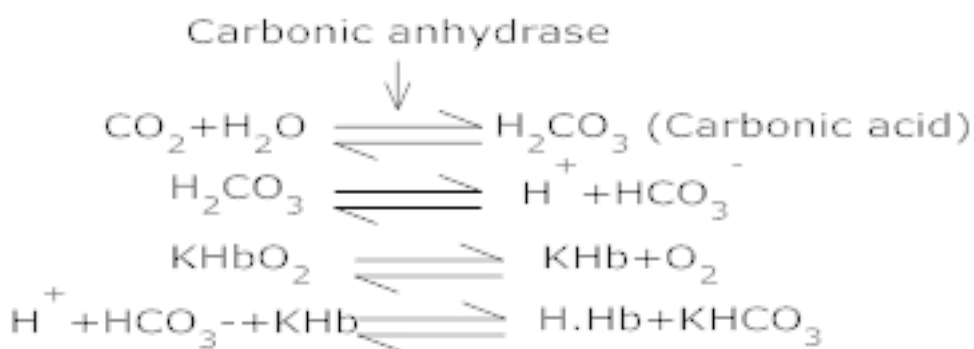
Ans. The relationship between O_2 tension and its absorption by haemoglobin produces a graph called oxygen dissociation curve (O_2 equilibrium curve). At about 100 mm Hg O_2

tension Hb is 98% saturated (complete formation of haemoglobin). As it falls, the saturation of Hb decreases slowly. When O₂ tension is about 40mm Hg, oxyhaemoglobin dissociates and O₂ is available to the tissues.

The O₂ gets bound to Hb in lung surface and it gets dissociated at tissues.

6.What is the role of carbonic anhydrase? Show by series of reactions how carbonic anhydrase starts the reactions leading to the formation of hemoglobinic acid?

Ans. Carbonic Anhydrase : CO₂ reacts with water in presence of carbonic anhydrase in erythrocytes, Carbonic acid (H₂CO₃) is dissociated into hydrogen (H⁺) and bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻) ions). Oxyhaemoglobin (HbO₂) of RBC's is weakly acidic and remain in association with K⁺ ions as KHbO₂. H⁺ ions combine with haemoglobin. Bicarbonate ions diffuse out into plasma and combine with haemoglobin to form haemoglobinic acid (H. Hb)



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5 Marks Questions

1. Describe transport mechanism of CO₂.

Ans. Transport of CO₂ in the blood.

(i) In the dissolved form

About 5 – 7 % of carbon – dioxide is transported in dissolved form in the plasma of blood.

(ii) In the form of bicarbonate.

The remaining part of carbon dioxide enters the erythrocytes, where it reacts with the water to form carbonic acid (H₂ CO₃) ; this reaction is catalysed by carbonic anhydrase.

O Carbonic acid immediately dissociates into hydrogen ions (H⁺) and bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻)

O These H⁺ ions combine with haemoglobin, after the oxyglobin (KHbO₂) dissociates to liberate the oxygen ; as a result haemoglobinic acid (H.Hb) is formed.

O The majority of bicarbonate ions (HCO₃⁻) diffuses out of the erythrocytes into the plasma, following a concentration gradient.

O In response, chloride ions (Cl⁻) diffuse from the plasma into the erythrocytes (Chloride shift) and electrical neutrality is maintained.

O The chloride ions combine with potassium to form potassium chloride.

O In the plasma the bicarbonate ions combine with sodium and transported as sodium bicarbonate (NaHCO₃)

O Nearly 70% of the carbon dioxide is transported in this form.

(iii) In the form of carbaminohaemoglobin

O Same amount of CO_2 reacts with the amine radicals (NH_2^+) of haemoglobin and form carbaminohaemoglobin (HbCO_2) molecule.

O About 23% of carbon – dioxide is transported in this form.

2. Describe in brief the respiratory organs of man.

Ans. The following are the main respiratory organs:-

1) Nostrils – These are the paired openings situated at the anterior and posterior ends of the nasal chambers. They are lined up with ciliated epithelium and mucous cells. These prevent the entrance of dust into lungs and help in warming and moistening the air. The nasal chamber opens interiorly by external nostril and posterior internal nostril into the pharynx.

2) Larynx – It is situated at the anterior part of trachea and communicates with the pharynx. The glottis is protected by a stiff cartilage called epiglottis. The larynx contains pairs of vocal cords which set into vibrations when the air enters into it and produces the sound.

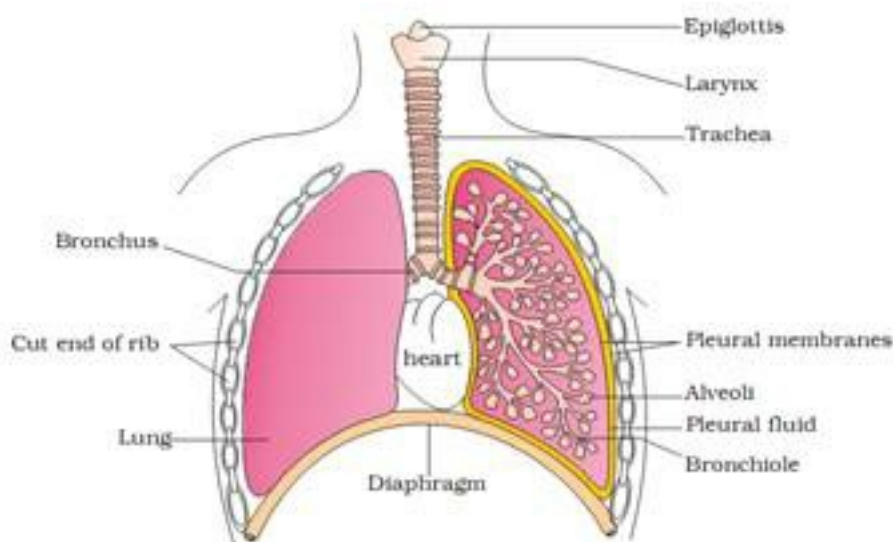


Figure 17.1 Diagrammatic view of human respiratory system (Sectional view of the left lung is also shown)

3) Trachea – It is a long ringed tube. It is supported by c-shaped elastic cartilaginous rings to prevent its collapsing. It is lined internally with mucous membrane to hold the dust particles,

bacteria and other foreign bodies. It also warms the air.

4)Bronchi – Inside the thorax, the trachea bifurcates into two bronchi and each of which enters into one lung. In each lung, the bronchus again redivides into numerous small branches known as bronchioles. These bronchioles further divide at its ends to form respiratory bronchioles.

5)Lungs – There are two large bag-like spongy structures which are the main respiratory organs. These are enclosed by double pleural membranes. The lungs are divided externally by lobes. The right lung consists of four lobes and left by two lobes. Inside the lungs, the respiratory bronchioles give rise to alveolar ducts, alveolar sac and finally alveoli. Each lung contains millions of alveoli. Each alveolus is exceptionally thin walled. Its walls are highly permeable and richly supplied with blood capillaries.

The blood is supplied to the lungs by a pair of pulmonary arteries. These bring blood which is poor in oxygen & rich in CO_2 . The exchange of gases occurs in the alveoli of the lungs. The oxygenated blood from alveolar capillaries is carried by pair of pulmonary vein to be conveyed to the heart.

3. Explain how our heart muscles get a continuous supply of atmospheric oxygen.

Ans. When inspiration occurs, the O_2 is taken into lungs. O_2 mixes with air already present in alveoli and becomes alveolar air, whose PO_2 is 100 mm Hg.

As PO_2 of blood in the vessels is 40 mmHg oxygen diffuses into blood vessels from alveoli and the oxyhaemoglobin is formed when oxygen combines loosely with the Fe^{++} ions of haemoglobin.

Oxygenated blood from the lungs reaches the left auricle through pulmonary vein; to left ventricle is pumped out through aorta also.

The branch supplying blood to heart muscles is coronary artery. In heart muscles, as the PO_2 is lower than that of the blood in the branches of coronary artery, oxyhaemoglobin dissociates and releases O_2 to cardiac muscles.