

Practical Exam in Biology

בחינת בגרות מעשית בביולוגיה

Problem 2

בעיה 2

יש לרשום את מספר תעודת הזהות שלך כאן:

Write your ID number here:

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Instructions:

הוראות:

א. Duration of the exam: Three hours

א. משך הבחינה: שלוש שעות.

ב. Material that may be used during the exam:

ב. חומר עזר מותר בשימוש:

- (1) Calculator
- (2) Hebrew-foreign language / foreign language-
Hebrew dictionary

- (1) מחשבון
- (2) מילון עברי-לועזי / לועזי-עברי

ג. Special instructions:

ג. הוראות מיוחדות:

- (1) Read the instructions carefully and think carefully before each step.
- (2) Write all of your observations and answers in pen (including sketches).
- (3) Base your answers on your observations and the results you obtained, even if they are not as expected.

- (1) יש לקרוא את ההנחיות ביסודיות, ולשקול היטב את הצעדים.
- (2) יש לרשום בעט את כל התצפיות והתשובות (גם סרטוטים).
- (3) יש לבסס את התשובות על תצפיותיכם ועל התוצאות שקיבלתם, גם אם הן אינן תואמות את הצפוי.

Write in the exam booklet only. Write the word "טיוטה" at the top of each page you use as a draft page. If you write any draft material outside the exam booklet, your exam may be disqualified.

יש לכתוב במחברת הבחינה בלבד. יש לרשום "טיוטה" בראש כל עמוד המשמש טיוטה. כתיבת טיוטה בדפים שאינם במחברת הבחינה עלולה לגרום לפסילת הבחינה.

Good Luck!

בהצלחה!

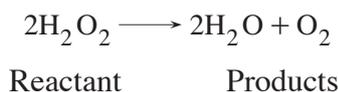
Problem 2

In this problem, you will be learning about the activity of the enzyme catalase in yeast and plants.

The questions in this exam are numbered **13–24**. The point value of each question is given on the left of each question.

Answer all of the questions in the answer booklet.

Under certain conditions, the compound H_2O_2 , hydrogen peroxide [מי חמצן], decomposes into water and oxygen according to the reaction:



When the gas oxygen is released in an aqueous environment, bubbles form in the liquid, and when they accumulate, they form a layer of foam on the surface of the liquid.

Part א — Learning a method of testing the process of hydrogen peroxide decomposition

Put on the gloves and safety goggles.

- On the table, you have:
- a test tube labeled "קטלאז" containing 1 ml of a solution of the enzyme catalase
 - a test tube labeled "תרחיף שמרים" [yeast suspension] containing 1 ml yeast suspension
 - a container of soapy water [מי סבון]
 - a container labeled "מי חמצן" containing hydrogen peroxide solution
 - a container of distilled water

- א. Use a glass marking pen to write "מים" [water] on an empty test tube.
- Write "מים" on a 1 ml pipette and use this pipette to transfer 1 ml of distilled water to the test tube labeled "מים".

Note: In Item ב you will add soapy water to the test tubes. To prevent soap bubbles from forming while adding the soapy water to the test tubes, hold the tip of the pipette against the wall of the test tube and only then gradually release the soapy water.

- ב. Write "מי סבון" on a 5 ml pipette, and use it to add 4 ml of soapy water to each of the three test tubes labeled: קטלאז, שמרים, תרחיף שמרים.

Notes:

- The soap will stabilize the gas bubbles formed during the reaction.
 - The soapy water solution is of a low concentration and does not interfere with protein activity.
- ג. Write "מי חמצן" on a 1 ml pipette and use this pipette to add 1 ml of hydrogen peroxide solution to each of the three labeled test tubes.

Do this in the same way that you added the soapy water to the test tubes in Item ב.

Write down the time _____ and wait for about 5 minutes.

While you are waiting, answer Question 13.

(6 points) **13.א.** Draw a table (Table 1) **in your answer booklet** summarizing the experiment setup you prepared in Items א-ג. Add a column to the table for recording the results.

(3 points) **ב.** Write suitable headings for the table and for each column.

ד. About 5 minutes after the time you noted in Item ג, check if bubbles have formed in the test tubes or if a layer of foam has formed over the liquid, and mark "+" or "-" in the appropriate boxes in the table **in your answer booklet**.

Answer Question 14.

(5 points) **14.א.** Suggest an explanation for the results you obtained in each of the three test tubes. Use the introduction to Part א to help you with your answer.

(4 points) **ב.** **Hypothesize** what the results in the "תרחיף שמרים" test tube would have been, if the hydrogen peroxide solution had been more concentrated. **Explain** your answer.

ה. Place the three test tubes you used in the waste container.

Part ב — Experiment: testing the activity of the enzyme catalase in yeast

Step ב1 — Prepare salt solutions with different concentrations

On your table are four small beakers and a container of a 6 % solution of the salt sodium chloride (NaCl).

א. Mark the beakers: 1, 2, 3, 4.

- On your table you have two 10 ml pipettes. Mark one pipette "תמיסת מלח" [salt solution] and the other "מים" [water].
- Using the correct pipettes, transfer distilled water and 6 % salt solution to beakers 1-4 as described in Table 2.

Table 2

Beaker	Volume of distilled water (ml)	Volume of 6 % salt solution (ml)	Final concentration of salt solution (%)
1	20	—	
2	10	10	
3	—	20	
4	20	—	

Step ב2 — Prepare discs of yeast fixed in agar

In this experiment you will use yeast fixed in agar.

Agar is a semi-solid, jello-like substance that allows dissolved substances to pass through it. When the agar was prepared, yeast was added to it, and after the agar set the yeast was fixed in it. Fixing yeast in agar does not interfere with the life processes of the fixed yeast cells.

You have on your table two Petri dishes marked "A" and "B".

Dish **A** contains yeast fixed in agar.

Dish **B** contains only agar, with no yeast.

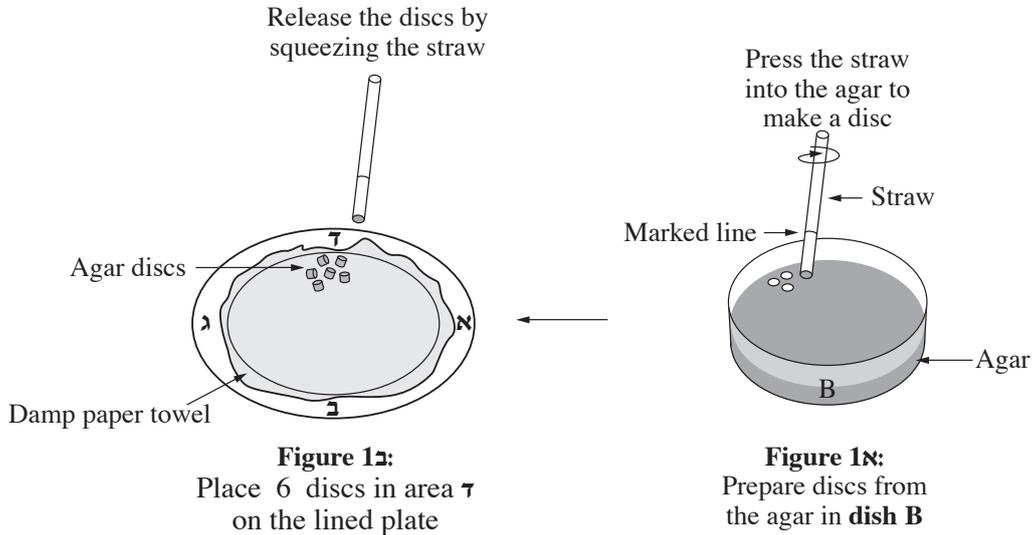
You also have a drinking straw marked with a line, and a plate lined with a damp paper towel.

Four areas are marked on the rim of the plate, א, ב, ג, ד.

You will use the straw to prepare discs from the agar in dish **B**.

First read the instructions in Item ז, and only then carry them out.

Figure 1



ז. Hold the straw so that the edge marked with a line is close to dish **B**, then press the straw into the agar until it reaches the bottom of the dish (see Figure 1א).

— Give the straw half a turn in the agar, tilt it slightly sideways, and pull it out of the agar.

Note: There is a disc of agar inside the straw now.

— Repeat this step twice, so that you have 3 discs inside the straw.

Note: Make sure that all three places from which you take agar are close together, as shown in Figure 1א.

— Now the discs must be placed on the lined plate near the ז marking, as follows: Grip the straw just above the marked line and squeeze it with your fingers. Squeeze a few more times, each time moving your fingers a little further down the straw. Push the agar discs down the straw in this way until they pop out and are lying on the plate in area ז (see Figure 1ב).

— Repeat all these steps until you have 6 discs of agar without yeast in area ז on the plate.

ח. Now move to dish **A**: Repeat the steps described in Item ז to take agar discs with fixed yeast from dish **A**, and place them in areas א-ג on the lined plate.

— Continue until you have 6 discs of agar with fixed yeast in each of the areas א-ג.

ט. You will now move the agar discs from the lined plate to beakers 1-4.

Do this as follows:

- Use a spoon to gently move 6 discs of fixed yeast from area א on the plate to beaker 1.
- In the same way, move discs from areas ב and ג to beakers 2 and 3, respectively.
- Move 6 discs of agar without yeast from area ד to beaker 4.
- Write down the time _____ and wait at least 10 minutes.
- While you are waiting, read Note 1, and answer Question 15.

Note 1:

The salt sodium chloride (NaCl) breaks down into ions in an aqueous solution. The sodium ions penetrate the cells and affect the spatial structure of proteins.

Answer Question 15.

(3 points) 15. Calculate the final concentrations of salt solutions in each of the beakers 1-4, and write down the concentrations in the correct places in Table 2 on page 3 of your exam paper.

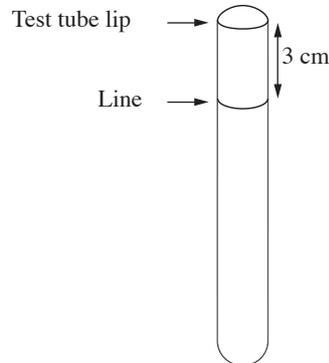
Note: The salt solution you used has a concentration of 6% .

- י. When 10 minutes have passed from the time you recorded in Item ט, use a spoon to remove the agar discs of fixed yeast from beaker 1 and put them back in area א on the lined plate.
- Remove the discs from beakers 2, 3, 4 and put them back in their corresponding areas ב, ג, ד on the plate.

Step 13 — Testing the activity of the enzyme catalase in fixed yeast

- א. Label four empty test tubes: א, ב, ג and ד. These test tubes will be experimental test tubes.
Use a ruler to mark a line 3 cm from the lip of each of the test tubes ד-א (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Experimental test tube



- א. Hold test tube א over the waste container, and pour hydrogen peroxide into it up to the marked line.
— Repeat this step with each of the test tubes ב-ד.

Note: In Items ג-ד you will place agar discs on the surface of the liquid in the experimental test tubes. In some cases, the disc will sink and then float up to the surface again. Measure the length of time (in seconds) from the moment you put the disc into the test tube until the disc floats up to the surface again. Write the results in the **Reference table** (page 7).

- Take three measurements for each of the test tubes.
- To simplify your time calculations, make sure to place each disc into the liquid, according to the instructions below, when the clock shows a whole minute, for example:

10 : 05 : 00
(hour) (minutes) (seconds)

Note 2:

The agar discs float because gas bubbles are released.

Note: The agar discs are transparent, which makes it hard to follow their movement. To make it easier, place the colored sheet of paper you were given behind the test tube stand.

- You only need 3 discs from each area for the following measurements, so select intact, undamaged discs only.

In Items ג-ד you will have to work quickly and efficiently. **First read the instructions and notes for these items and only then carry them out.**

- יג. Use a spoon to transfer one disc of fixed yeast from area **א** on the plate to test tube **א** which contains hydrogen peroxide.
- Write the exact time (minutes and seconds) in the reference table **immediately**, in the column marked "Start time" of Measurement I in test tube **א**.

Note: If the disc does not sink, use a the straw to gently push the disc into the liquid.

- יד. Watch the movement of the disc in the test tube, and measure the time from the moment the disc is inserted into the liquid until it floats back up to the surface of the liquid. This time interval will be referred to as the **floating time**.
- Write the exact time at which the disc reached the surface in the reference table, in the column marked "Finish time" of Measurement I.
 - When you have finished measuring, remove the disc from test tube **א** with the tweezers from your table, and discard the disc into the waste container.
 - Wipe the spoon and the tips of the tweezers with a paper towel.

Notes:

- Even if the disc does not sink to the bottom of the test tube, measure the time from inserting the disc into the test tube until it floats back up to the surface.
- If the disc does not sink at all (even though you tried to push it down), write in the "Floating time" column: 0 seconds.
- If the disc is still resting at the bottom of the test tube after 2 minutes (120 seconds), stop measuring the time and write "Did not float" in the reference table. If the disc does not float on the first two measurements, do not take another measurement.
- If the disc stays at the bottom of the test tube, there is no need to remove it.

Reference table

			Disc floating time								
			Measurement I			Measurement II			Measurement III		
Experimental test tube	Concentration of salt solution in which the agar discs were soaked (%)	Fixed yeast in the agar (- / +)	Start time	Finish time	Floating time (duration in seconds)	Start time	Finish time	Floating time (duration in seconds)	Start time	Finish time	Floating time (duration in seconds)
א		+									
ב		+									
ג		+									
ד		-									

- טו. Repeat the procedure described in Items יד-יג with another yeast disc from area א, and write down the measurement start time and finish time (Measurement II) in the reference table.
- Repeat the procedure described in Items יד-יג using another yeast disc from area א (Measurement III).
- טז. Repeat the procedure described in Items טו-יג using agar discs with fixed yeast from area ב of the plate and the experimental test tube ב.
- Repeat the procedure described in Items טו-יג using agar discs with fixed yeast from area ג of the plate and the experimental test tube ג.
 - Repeat the procedure described in Items טו-יג using agar discs from area ד of the plate and the experimental test tube ד.

You do not need gloves and safety goggles for the rest of the exam, so you can take them off now.

- יז. Calculate the disc floating time in seconds: the difference between the start time and finish time for each of the measurements I-III of all the test tubes.
- Write down the results of your calculations in the appropriate boxes of the "Floating time" columns in the reference table.
- יח. Copy the concentrations of the salt solutions in which the agar discs were soaked from Table 2 to the appropriate column in the reference table (page 7).
- יט. Copy Table 3 below into your **answer booklet**. For an easier fit, you may rotate the page to draw the table.
- Copy the data you wrote in the reference table into Columns A, B, and C of Table 3 in your **answer booklet**.

Table 3

Experimental test tube	A Concentration of salt solution in which the agar discs were soaked (%)	B Yeast in the agar discs (- / +)	C			Calculation results: Average floating time (duration in seconds)
			Results: Disc floating time (duration in seconds)			
			Measurement I	Measurement II	Measurement III	
א						
ב						
ג						
ד						

Answer questions **16-21**.

- (8 points) **16. א.** For each of the test tubes, calculate the average floating time of the three measurements I-III.
Write the results of your calculations in the appropriate boxes in Table 3 in your **answer booklet**.
— If there are measurements in which the disc did not float to the surface again, do not include them when calculating the average.
— If, when taking measurements for a particular experimental test tube, none of the discs floated back to the surface, write "Did not float" as the calculation result.
- (5 points) **ב.** You took three measurements for each of the test tubes γ - κ .
Explain why it was important to repeat the measurements in this experiment.
- (3 points) **17. א.** Write a heading for Table 3 in your **answer booklet**.
- (3 points) **ב.** What is the independent variable in the experiment you conducted in Part α ?
- (3 points) **18. א.** What is the dependent variable in the experiment you conducted in Part α ?
- (5 points) **ב.** Explain why measuring the disc's floating time is an appropriate way of measuring the dependent variable.
- (7 points) **19.** Suggest an explanation for the results of the experiment, using the information in Note 1 on page 5.
- (3 points) **20. א.** The procedure in test tube γ is a control procedure. Why is this control procedure important in this experiment?
Below are four possible answers. **Copy** only the correct answer **into your answer booklet**.
- to prove that the disc's floating is also affected by the presence of hydrogen peroxide in the solution
 - to prove that the disc's floating is also affected by the presence of yeast
 - to prove that the disc's floating time can be more than 120 seconds
 - to prove that the disc's floating time is affected by the concentration of hydrogen peroxide in the solution
- (4 points) **ב.** The experiment you conducted in Part α had an additional control procedure.
What is this additional control procedure?
Why was it important to also include it in the experiment?
- (2 points) **21. א.** Name two factors that remained constant in the experiment you carried out.
- (4 points) **ב.** Choose one of the factors you named and explain why it was important to keep this **specific** factor constant in the experiment.

(Note: The exam continues on the next page.)

Part 1 – Analyzing research results: Adaptations of Bermuda grass [צמח היבלית] to its habitat

When farmland is irrigated with treated waste water [מי קולחין], the salt concentration in the soil increases. An additional cause of high soil salinity is a high level of evaporation of water from the soil. High soil salinity is one of the abiotic factors that affect the development of plants.

Researchers have found varieties of Bermuda grass that are adapted to saline conditions, in other words, they can grow in soils that contain a high concentration of salts. Understanding the mechanisms by which plants adapt to saline soil conditions will be useful in developing plants that can grow in these conditions.

Experiment 1:

The researchers cultivated two varieties of Bermuda grass, Variety A and Variety B, of the same age in solutions of different concentrations of the salt NaCl .

After three weeks, they prepared extracts of both grass varieties and measured the concentration of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) in the extracts. Hydrogen peroxide is a by-product of cellular respiration and is toxic to cells.

The results of the experiment are shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4

Concentration of the salt NaCl in the growth medium (%)	Concentration of hydrogen peroxide in the extract (relative units)	
	Variety A	Variety B
0	2.5	2.5
0.3	2.3	2.5
0.5	2.5	2.7
0.7	2.3	3.5
1.0	2.4	4.7

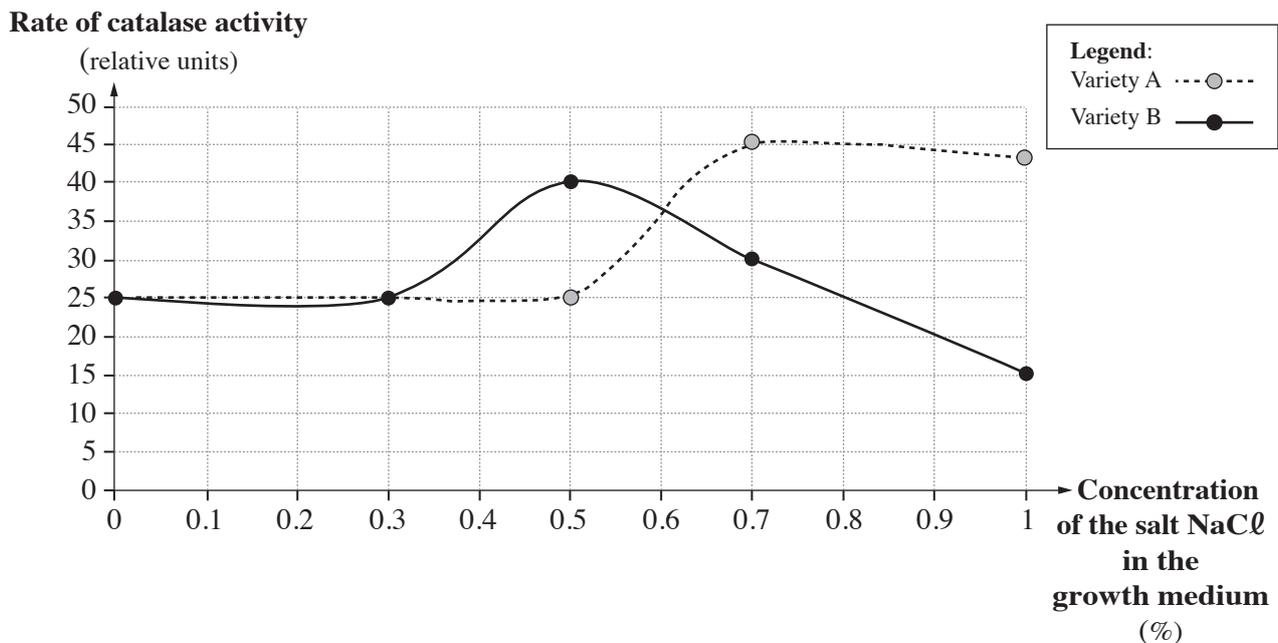
- (10 points) **22.א.** (1) What type of graphical representation is most suited to describing the results shown in Table 4, a continuous graph or a bar diagram? Explain your answer.
- (2) Draw a suitable graphical representation of the results in Table 4 in **your answer booklet**.
- (6 points) **22.ב.** Describe the results of Experiment 1, based on the graphical representation.

Experiment 2:

The researchers examined the activity rate of the enzyme catalase in both varieties of Bermuda grass that they had grown.

The results of the experiment are shown in the graph below.

The effect of salinity on the rate of catalase activity in two varieties of Bermuda grass



- (2 points) **23. א.** Use the information given in the description of Experiment 1 on page 10 and the results of Experiments 1 and 2 carried out by the researchers to determine which variety of Bermuda grass, Variety A or B, is adapted to growing in saline conditions of 0.7% salt and above, and which variety is not adapted to these saline conditions.
- (5 points) **ב.** Explain your answers in Item א regarding each of the two varieties, based on the results of Experiments 1 and 2 conducted by the researchers.
- (4 points) **24. א.** Use your answer to Question 19 to suggest one reason for the difference between the results of the experiment you conducted in Part ב and the results obtained for the **adapted** variety in the researchers' Experiment 2.
- (5 points) **ב.** **List** an additional effect of soil salinity on plants, aside from the effect described in Note 1 on page 5. **Explain** how this effect impacts the plants.

Give the proctor your exam paper and your answer booklet.

Good Luck!

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בהצלחה!

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