

F212 Key definitions

Primary structure- The sequence of amino acids present in the polypeptide chain

Secondary structure- The coiling or folding of the polypeptide chain due to hydrogen bonding between the amino and carboxyl groups that leads either to alpha helix or beta pleated sheet

Tertiary structure- Is the further coiling or folding of the polypeptide chain due to various bonds between the R groups of the amino acids. These bonds include H bonds, disulfide bridges, ionic bonds and hydrophobic and hydrophilic interaction.

Balance diet- A diet that contains all the nutrients required for health in appropriate portions

Health- a complete state of mental physical and social wellbeing with not merely the absence of infirmity and disease.

Disease- a departure from good health cause by a malfunction of the mind or the body

Parasite- an organism the live in or on another living thing causing harm to its host

Pathogen -an organism that causes disease

Immune response- the specific response to a pathogen which involves the action of lymphocytes and the production of antibodies

Antigen- molecules that stimulate an immune response

Antibodies- are protein molecules that can identify and neutralize antigens

Species- a group of organisms whose members are similar to each other in shape, physiology, biochemistry and behavior and can reproduce to produce fertile offspring

Habitat- the place where an organism or population lives. It includes the climatic, topographic and edaphic factors as well as the plants and animals that live there

Biodiversity- the number and variety of living things to be found in the world, ecosystem or habitat

Classification- the process of sorting living things into groups

Taxonomy- the study of the principles of classification

Phylogeny- the study of the evolutionary relationships between organisms

Variation- the presence of variety of difference between individuals

- Genetic variation- differences between the genes of individuals

- Continuous variation- full range of phenotypes between extremes

- Discontinuous variation is the variation in which there are discrete groups of phenotypes

Speciation- the formation of a new species