Name: ERASMUS EDNA

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ANSWERS:

**1. Is Corona Virus a Teratogen?**

From the research carried out to determine if corona virus is a teratogen ( an agent that can disturb the development of an embryo or fetus and may cause a defect in the child ), we can not conclude if the virus is a teratogen or not because findings about the virus are still preliminary.

**2**. **Impact of Aging in the outbreak of COVID-19:**

While COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus, can lead to hospitalization and even death for young and middle-aged adults, it has caused the most severe health issues for adults over the age of 60 — with particularly fatal results for those [**80 years and older.**](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/14/health/coronavirus-elderly-protection.html) This is due in no small part to the number of underlying health conditions present in older populations. Conditions like [**diabetes, heart disease**](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/12/health/coronavirus-midlife-conditions.html?searchResultPosition=1)**,** and other chronic illnesses can lead to more intense symptoms and complications in the disease. Additionally, as people age, their immune system gradually [**loses its resiliency**](https://www.aarp.org/health/conditions-treatments/info-2020/coronavirus-severe-seniors.html)**,** meaning that they are more susceptible to infection of any kind, especially a new one like COVID-19.

**Impact of Environment:**

For communities, inadequate shelter and overcrowding in our environment are major factors in the transmission of diseases with epidemic potential such as acute respiratory infections, meningitis, typhus, cholera, scabies, etc. Outbreaks of disease are more frequent and more severe when the population ( hence our environment ) density is high.

**3. Spermatogenesis and oogenesis** are the processes of formation of male and female gametes. **Spermatogenesis** leads to the formation of sperms, whereas, **oogenesis** helps in the formation of ova. The fertilization of sperm and ova leads to the formation of a zygote which further develops into a embryo.

**Importance of Spermatogenesis:**

1. During spermatogenesis, one spermatogonium produces four sperms,
2. Sperms have half the number of chromosomes. After fertilization, the diploid chromosome number is restored in the zygote. It maintains the chromosome number of the species,
3. During meiosis I crossing over takes place which brings about variation,

(iv) Spermatogenesis occurs in various organisms. Thus it supports the evidence of the basic relationship of the organisms.

**Importance of Oogenesis:**

(i) One oogonium produces one ovum and three polar bodies.

(ii) Polar bodies have small amount of cytoplasm. It helps to retain sufficient amount of cytoplasm in the ovum which is essential for the development of early embryo. Formation of polar bodies maintains half number of chromosomes in the ovum.

(iii) During meiosis first crossing over takes place which brings about variation.

(iv) Oogenesis occurs in various organisms. Therefore, it supports the evidence of basic relationship of the organisms.

**4. Personal hygiene in correlation to COVID-19**:

Personal hygiene is how you care for your body. This practice includes bathing, washing your hands, brushing your teeth, and more.

Every day, you come into contact with millions of outside germs and viruses. They can linger on your body, and in some cases, they may make you sick. Personal hygiene practices can help you and the people around you prevent illnesses. They can also help you feel good about your appearance.

Personal hygiene to observe during the Pandemic include:

* [Wash your hands](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHISh559oho) frequently with soap and water, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
* Don’t touch your face. This is a lot harder than it sounds and requires conscious effort. The average person touches their face [23 times an hour](https://www.ajicjournal.org/article/S0196-6553(14)01281-4/fulltext), and about half of the time, they’re touching their mouth, eyes, or nose — the mucosal surfaces that COVID-19 infects.
* Cover coughs and sneezes with the inside of your elbow or upper arm.
* Stay home if you are feeling sick, and seek appropriate medical guidance.
* Keep surfaces clean: Use the product right. First, clean dirt off of the surface. Then wipe the surface with disinfectant. Leave the surface wet with disinfectant for as many minutes as the product instructions require. This is a vital step that people often miss. It’s not enough to just wipe the surface and go.
* Keep your distance. The number of people in any given location is important, but density is even more important. Respiratory droplets from a cough or sneeze can travel up to six feet and be inhaled into the lungs of people within range. Protect yourself by staying out of range.

**Disasters in correlation to COVID-19:**

The damage the global outbreak will do to the African economy in the medium term may be far more severe than its health impact. In the current situation, negative trends in stock markets, commodity prices, the value of national currencies and interest rates, as well as the blocking/reduction of international circulation are the main factors triggering a global economic crisis.