

Chapter 7. Respiration in Plants

Exercise 1

Solution A.

1. (c) in which glucose is broken down into pyruvate
2. (b) Stomata and lenticels
3. (d) Baker's yeast

Solution B.1.

Respiration is an essential life process for all living organisms. Therefore, plants also respire all day and all night.

Solution B.2.

- (a) ATP
- (b) Respiration
- (c) Fungus
- (d) Glycolysis
- (e) Oxygen
- (f) Soda lime

Solution B.3.

- (a) False. Aerobic respiration of one mole of glucose yields 38 ATP.
- (b) False. Anaerobic respiration in plants yields ethanol.
- (c) True
- (d) False. All leaves of a green plant normally respire aerobically at night.

Solution C.1.

The energy liberated in respiration is stored in the form of ATP inside the cells. Some part of it is lost as heat to the surroundings.

Solution C.2.

During day time, both photosynthesis and respiration takes place in green plants. Evolution of CO_2 is an indicator to demonstrate respiration in living organisms. CO_2 produced during respiration in plants gets utilized during photosynthesis and thus, there is no evolution of CO_2 . Therefore, it is difficult to demonstrate respiration in green plants as there is no evolution of CO_2 during day time.

Solution C.3.

Respiration is said to be the reverse of photosynthesis due to the following reasons:

1. In respiration, the organic food is broken down into its inorganic compounds, i.e., CO_2 and H_2O , while in photosynthesis the organic food is synthesized from its inorganic components, i.e., CO_2 and H_2O .
2. In respiration, CO_2 is given out, while in photosynthesis CO_2 is consumed.
3. In respiration, O_2 is consumed, while in photosynthesis O_2 is released or evolved.
4. In respiration, energy is liberated, while in photosynthesis energy is absorbed.

Solution C.4.

illing makes the soil porous and airy. The underground parts of the plants get sufficient amount of oxygen for respiration. In this way, tilling helps the crops to grow faster.

Solution C.5.

ATP: Adenosine triphosphate

ADP: Adenosine diphosphate

Solution C.6.

Cell respiration cannot occur in any organism at a temperature of about 65°C because the enzymes involved in respiration become inactivated at high temperatures.

Solution C.7.

- (a) Lenticels
- (b) Cytoplasm
- (c) Glucose
- (d) Photosynthesis, respiration
- (e) Pyrogallate of potash
- (f) KOH (caustic potash)

Solution D.1.

Oxidation of organic food particularly carbohydrates in living cells to release energy is called respiration.

Similarities between respiration and burning:

1. Both require oxygen
2. Both produce energy
3. Both result in the formation of CO_2 and water

Differences between respiration and burning:

Respiration	Burning
1. Occurs in a series of chemical steps	1. Occurs in a single step
2. Carried out by enzymes	2. Carried out by heat
3. Biochemical process	3. Physico-chemical process

4. Energy is liberated in the form of ATP and some heat	4. Energy is liberated in the form of heat and light
5. No light energy is produced	5. Light energy is produced
6. Cellular process	6. Non-cellular process
7. Occurs at body temperature	7. Occurs at high temperature (at ignition point)
8. No supply of heat energy is required	8. Supply of heat energy is required
9. The organic compound is oxidized to carbon dioxide and water.	9. The organic compound initially chars and later burns, producing a flame.

Solution D.2.

Difference between aerobic and anaerobic respiration in plants:

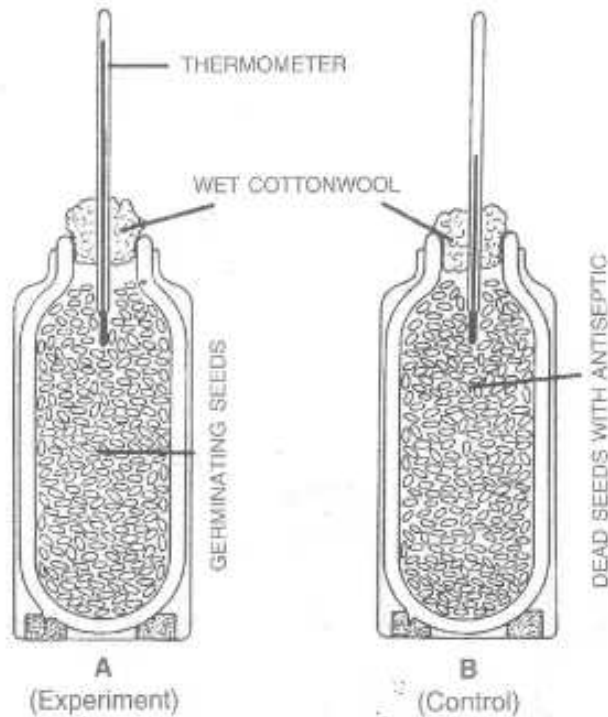
Aerobic respiration in plants	Anaerobic respiration in plants
1. Also called oxybiotic respiration	1. Also called anoxybiotic respiration
2. Proceeds in the presence of oxygen	2. Proceeds in the absence of oxygen
3. Occurs in mitochondria	3. Occurs in cytoplasm
4. Complete breakdown of glucose	4. Incomplete breakdown of glucose
5. End-products are carbon dioxide and water	5. End-products are ethyl alcohol and carbon dioxide
6. Large quantity of energy is liberated (38ATP) from one mole of glucose	6. Small quantity of energy is liberated (2ATP) from one mole of glucose
7. Occurs normally throughout the life	7. Occurs temporarily for short periods

Solution D.3.

(a) Experiment demonstrating that germinating seeds produce heat.

1. Take two thermos flasks 'A' and 'B'.
2. Take about 200 bean or pea seeds and soak them in water for more than 24 hours.
3. Divide the seeds into two equal groups. Kill one group of seeds by boiling them and then, wash them with dilute formalin to prevent bacterial decay. Place the live germinating seeds in flask A and the killed one in flask B.
4. Insert a thermometer in each of the flasks and plug their mouths with cotton wool. Note the initial reading in the thermometer.
5. After few hours, the thermometer in flask A will show a higher reading indicating that the germinating seeds produce heat. There will not be any rise in the

temperature of flask B.

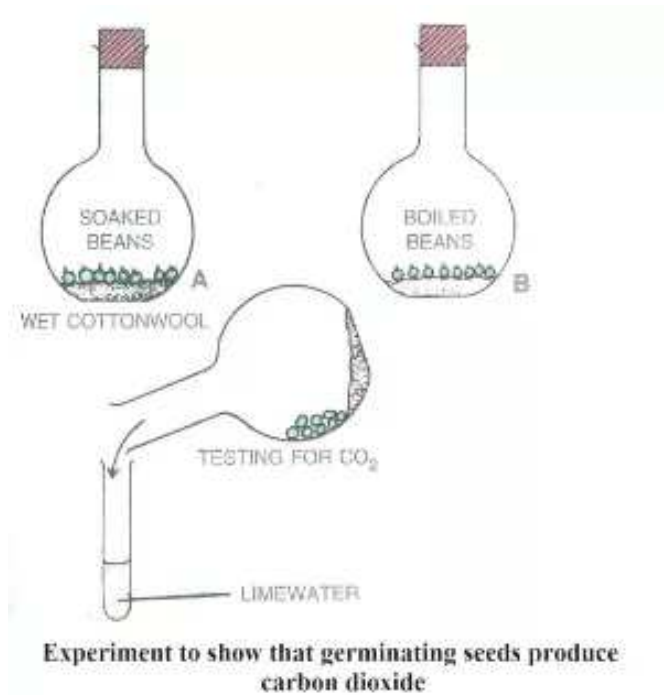


Experiment to show that germinating seeds produce heat

(b) Experiment demonstrating that germinating seeds give out carbon dioxide.

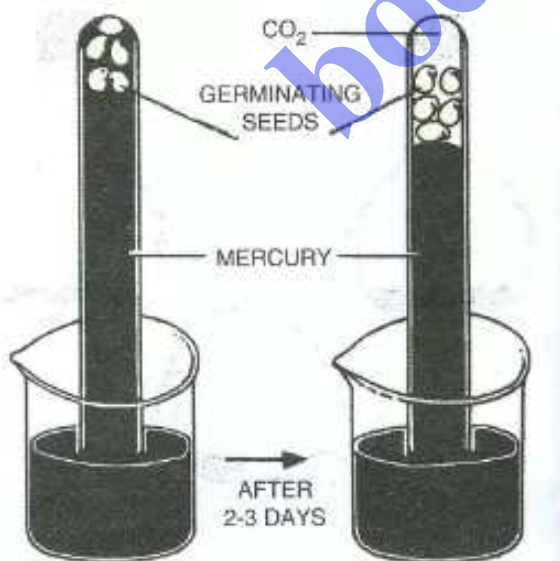
1. Take two flasks 'A' and 'B'.
2. Place some wet cotton wool at the bottom of both the flasks.
3. Place some soaked seeds of pea in flask A and an equal number of boiled or dead seeds in flask B. Add some carbolic acid to flask B to prevent the growth of bacteria on dead seeds.
4. Cork the flasks and keep them undisturbed for few days.
5. After few days, the seeds in flask A will have germinated and the seeds in flask B do not show any signs of germination.
6. The gases in each of the flasks are then tested by removing the cork and tilting the flask over a test tube containing limewater and then shaking up the test tube.
7. The expected CO_2 present in flask A will turn limewater milky showing that germinating seeds give out CO_2 , while the gas in flask B will show no effect on

limewater.



(c) Experiment demonstrating that germinating seeds can respire even in total absence of air.

1. Take few soaked and peeled off pea seeds and push them into the mouth of a test tube filled with mercury and inverted in a beaker of mercury. The seeds will float to the top and will be completely surrounded by mercury.
2. After few days, the level of mercury falls and the presence of some gas in the test tube can be detected.
3. Add some KOH to the test tube. The gas present in the test tube will be absorbed and the level of mercury will again rise showing that the gas was CO₂. Hence, we can prove that germinating seeds respire even in the total absence of air.



Experiment to show that germinating seeds can respire even in total absence of air

Solution D.4.

- (a) Lenticels help the stem to participate in respiration.
- (b) Stomata help the leaves to participate in respiration.
- (c) Root hairs help the roots to participate in respiration.

Solution E.1.

- (a) Five flasks (A-E) are having different plant parts for observation.
- (b) Limewater absorbs CO_2 present in the flasks. If CO_2 is produced, limewater turns milky.
- (c) All the five flasks (A-E) containing plant parts will show respiration and thus, the tubes containing limewater will turn milky. The flask F does not contain any plant part. So, there is no respiration and hence, there is no change.
- (d) Set-up F acts as a control for the experiment, where all the conditions are similar except for the plant part, which is missing.
- (e) It can be concluded from this experiment that CO_2 is produced during respiration.

Solution E.2.

- (i) (a) $6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (b) $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
- (ii) (a) Aerobic respiration; (b) Anaerobic respiration
- (iii) Reaction (a) can be completed only in the presence of oxygen, while reaction (b) can be completed in the absence of oxygen.

Solution E.3.

- (a) Potassium hydroxide solution is kept in test tube X and Y to check the presence of CO_2 , as KOH can absorb CO_2 , if it is produced.
- (b) When the process of respiration takes place in test tube X, the O_2 present in the test tube is consumed. The CO_2 produced due to respiration is absorbed by the KOH present in the test tube. Hence, a space is developed due to consumption of oxygen and hence, the coloured water rises in tubing 1.
- (c) In test tube Y, boiled peas soaked in disinfectant are kept because the boiled seeds are dead and cannot respire. Therefore, the process of respiration does not take place in test tube Y.
- (d) Respiration is the cause of the above rise.
- (e) The catabolic process of releasing energy from simple sugars for carrying out life processes is called respiration.

Solution E.4.

(a) The experiment was set up to study that CO₂ is given off from living plant material which performs respiration.

(b) Soda lime is kept in bottle 'A' so as to check the (presence of) passage of CO₂ present in bottle 'B'. This is because soda lime has a tendency to absorb CO₂ present in air.

The limewater present in bottle 'B' shows that no CO₂ is entering bottle C with the air passing through bottle C.

(c) The bottle 'D' having limewater will show that CO₂ is produced due to respiration taking place in bottle 'C' having germinating seeds in it. Due to the CO₂ produced in bottle C, the limewater turns milky, which passes through bottle 'D'.

(d) $C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 \rightarrow 6CO_2 + 6H_2O + 38ATP$ (Energy)

(e) The bottle 'C' when covered with black cloth will have no scope for photosynthesis. Hence, only the process of respiration can be observed.

(f) By introducing a thermometer in bottle 'C', the change in temperature is checked or observed. If respiration takes place, there will be a rise in temperature and if there is no rise in temperature, no respiration occurs. Therefore, a three-holed rubber stopper and a thermometer were introduced.

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