



INSTITUCIÓN EDUCATIVA FEDERICO SIERRA ARANGO	CÓDIGO: FGA
NIT: 811039779-1 DANE: 105088001750	Versión 1
	Fecha 22/05/2012
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Grado: ELEVENTH (11°)			Grupos: 1, 2					

THE BIOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW

Omaira M. is preparing a paper on organism biology and she is asking her teacher for help.

Professor Victor A.: *With respect to the way you should carry out your research, don't forget to keep in mind the basic principles of the scientific method: the problem, the hypothesis and the formulation of the theory.*

: Could you give me an example?

Professor Victor: *Of course! Let's take a look at the information of this book.*

Omaira M. reads the introduction.

THE PROBLEM OF DIVERSITY

The organism is a concept that is familiar to everyone from routine observation. Even the most inexperienced reader has a practical knowledge of organisms, an idea of the fantastic range in their size and appearance, and an appreciation of their activities and requirements. When observing the great variety of structures that can be considered organisms, questions of criterion and definition arise in only a few special instances.

For example, in some colonies the individual organism is so intimately associated with its siblings, that it is difficult to establish its physical and functional individuality; and it is not clear whether the colony or the individual member should be regarded as an organism. But solving this problem does not lead us to clarify the concept of the organism as a distinct and living individual.

Our primary concern in this text is with the individual organism – how it originates, what kind of structure it has, and how it functions. Any attempt to achieve this objective implies a practical problem of major dimensions. Between one and two million species of organisms have been described in the journals of biology. This figure shows the enormous amount of energy utilized by the



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taxonomists who have collected, described and classified each of these species. However, this work is still unfinished. This fact elicits the problem of the diversity of organisms. What general statements can be made about two million kinds of organisms with two million different structures and two million different ways of making a living? Is there really a biology organism, a set of principles and problems that are relevant from the amoeba to the elephant, and from the viper to the lily? Or must be content with the totality impractical objective of trying to understand each of the two million kinds of organisms separately or of trying to understand the structure and operations of a few examples?

Our belief is that a general biology of organisms is more practical objective than the study of the diversity of species. The organism, which is the middle stage between the cell and the population, is characterized by principles generally relevant to all forms of life. Every organism is a unit in a population of many organisms of similar structure and behavior which consists of either a cohesive population of cells or of a single cell. This fact has general consequences for the structure of organisms and the way they operate.

By exploring each of relationships between the structure and function of organisms, we envisage a general biology of organisms.

The following are the questions that Professor Victor Aristizabal asked Omaira Muñoz about the text. Circle the letter to the correct answer:

A. About the problem:

1. What is the reading about?
 - a. The problem of the collection of organisms.
 - b. The problem of the description of organisms.
 - c. The problem of the classification of organisms.
 - d. The problem of the diversity of organisms.
2. What evidence of previous studies is mentioned in the text?
 - a. Biologists have solved the problem of defining organisms.
 - b. Biologists have found a working knowledge of organisms.
 - c. Taxonomists have studied about one or two million organisms.
 - d. Taxonomists have discovered characteristics common to all organisms.
3. What are the scientific activities that biologists have traditionally carry out?



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- a. Collecting, describing and classifying.
- b. Associating, classifying and structuring.
- c. Viewing, regarding and defining.
- d. Observing, grasping and appreciating.

B. About the hypothesis:

4. What is the scientific procedure that the author proposes in the text?
 - a. Understanding the relationships between organisms in their structure and function.
 - b. Understanding the individual organism and the population.
 - c. Exploring the relationships between organisms and their structure and function.
 - d. Exploring the individual organism and the population.
5. Why does the author propose this procedure?
 - a. Because he thinks that it classifies the concepts of cell, organism and population.
 - b. Because he thinks that a general biology of organisms is more practical than a taxonomic study.
 - c. Because he thinks that questions of criterion and definition arise in only a special instances.
 - d. Because he thinks that organism biology is more interesting than taxonomy for the inexperienced reader.

C. About the verification of the hypothesis:

6. How is the author going to achieve a general biology of organisms?
 - a. By finding a new way of classifying and describing living organisms.
 - b. By understanding the structures and operations of unclassified organisms.
 - c. By looking into the relationships existing between the structures and functions of organisms.
 - d. By identifying the thesis about general biology of organisms.

D. About the law:

7. What is the principle formulated by the author?
 - a. Between one and two million species of organisms have been described in the journals of biology.



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- b. Our primary concern in this text is with the individual organism-how it originates, what kind of structure it has, how it functions.
- c. When observing the great variety of structures that can be considered organisms, questions of criterion and definition arise in only a few special instances.
- d. The organism, which it is the middle stage between the cell and the population, is characterized by principles generally relevant to all forms of life.

E. SEARCH THE PRESENT AND PAST PERFECT IN THE WEB PAGE TO MAKE AN EXAM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lzsd rz2QtcM>