

# GATTACA Biotechnology Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.**

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.**

**No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.**

**Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.**

**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

SAMPLE

- 1. Who makes a comment about the hand preferences of right-handed men?**
  - A. Director**
  - B. Lamar**
  - C. Vincent**
  - D. Jerome**
- 2. What does Jerome (Vincent) leave behind at the murder scene?**
  - A. An eyelash**
  - B. A piece of clothing**
  - C. A hairbrush**
  - D. A pair of glasses**
- 3. According to the director, Gattaca sometimes accepts candidates with minor shortcomings in what field?**
  - A. Engineering**
  - B. Law enforcement**
  - C. Medicine**
  - D. Astronautics**
- 4. What does the term "borrowed ladder" or "de-generate" refer to?**
  - A. A person with high intelligence**
  - B. A person who is genetically perfect**
  - C. A person lacking genetic perfection**
  - D. A person with a rare genetic condition**
- 5. What were Vincent's health conditions determined at his birth?**
  - A. 40% neuro disorder; 100% heart disorder**
  - B. 50% ADD; 99% heart disorder**
  - C. 60% neuro disorder; 89% ADD; 99% heart disorder**
  - D. 70% neuro disorder; 90% ADD**

- 6. What does Irene mean when she says "I had you sequenced"?**
- A. She is referring to a DNA test**
  - B. She is claiming to know his ancestry**
  - C. She is discussing academic achievements**
  - D. She is talking about a medical procedure**
- 7. In what sport did Eugene receive his medal?**
- A. Running**
  - B. Swimming**
  - C. Cycling**
  - D. Basketball**
- 8. What does Vincent's statement "I never saved anything for the way back" suggest about his character?**
- A. He is cautious about his future**
  - B. He takes risks without looking back**
  - C. He is planning a strategic retreat**
  - D. He values moderation and safety**
- 9. According to popular belief, children conceived in love have a greater chance of what?**
- A. Success**
  - B. Happiness**
  - C. Wealth**
  - D. Health**
- 10. Who says "if there is anything wrong with you, I can't see it from where I'm standing"?**
- A. Jerome**
  - B. Vincent**
  - C. Irene**
  - D. Lamar**

## **Answers**

SAMPLE

1. B
2. A
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. A
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. B

SAMPLE

## **Explanations**

SAMPLE



**1. Who makes a comment about the hand preferences of right-handed men?**

- A. Director**
- B. Lamar**
- C. Vincent**
- D. Jerome**

Lamar, a character in "GATTACA," makes an observation about the hand preferences of right-handed men, specifically noting that typically, the majority of right-handed men will have a dominant right hand. This comment reflects the broader themes of genetic determinism and the societal expectations embedded in the film's future world, where genetics largely determines an individual's potential and identity. Lamar's mention of hand preferences subtly hints at the meticulous analysis and categorization of individuals based on their genetic makeup, reinforcing the film's exploration of how traits and abilities are assessed in a highly controlled society. His character plays a role in the narrative that critiques the idea that one's genetics should dictate one's opportunities and worth.

**2. What does Jerome (Vincent) leave behind at the murder scene?**

- A. An eyelash**
- B. A piece of clothing**
- C. A hairbrush**
- D. A pair of glasses**

In the context of GATTACA, Jerome (Vincent) leaves behind an eyelash at the murder scene. This detail is significant because DNA can be extracted from such sources, enabling forensic investigators to identify individuals based on their genetic makeup. The film explores themes of genetic identity and the implications of genetic discrimination, and the eyelash serves as a crucial piece of evidence linking Jerome to the crime scene. The other options, while they might contain DNA as well, do not carry the same weight in the narrative, as the lost eyelash directly aligns with the film's emphasis on genetics and how easily one's identity can be traced back through seemingly minor biological materials. This event underscores the tension between genetic manipulation and the inherent unpredictability of human life, which is a central theme throughout the story.

**3. According to the director, Gattaca sometimes accepts candidates with minor shortcomings in what field?**

**A. Engineering**

**B. Law enforcement**

**C. Medicine**

**D. Astronautics**

In the context of Gattaca, the world depicted is heavily influenced by genetic engineering and eugenics, where individuals are often judged and discriminated against based on their genetic makeup. The director's statement about accepting candidates with minor shortcomings suggests a nuanced view of ability and worth. Specifically, the field of law enforcement is one where slight imperfections might be tolerated, reflecting the societal belief that not every role requires the highest genetic standards. This acceptance hints at the idea that some positions may value traits like empathy, intuition, or even human experience over strictly genetic traits. In contrast, fields such as engineering, medicine, and astronautics are portrayed as requiring the utmost perfection and genetic excellence, leaving little room for even minor shortcomings. Therefore, the acknowledgment of minor shortcomings in law enforcement highlights a more flexible approach to employment in that field, making it the correct answer.

**4. What does the term "borrowed ladder" or "de-generate" refer to?**

**A. A person with high intelligence**

**B. A person who is genetically perfect**

**C. A person lacking genetic perfection**

**D. A person with a rare genetic condition**

The term "borrowed ladder" or "de-generate" is typically used in the context of genetics and biotechnology to refer to individuals who do not possess the ideal or enhanced genetic traits that are often sought after in a society that values genetic perfection. In the setting of the film "GATTACA," the concept underscores the distinction between those who are genetically engineered for optimal traits and those who are conceived naturally, resulting in a lack of certain enhancements. Individuals categorized as "de-generate" often face societal prejudice and discrimination due to their perceived inferiority in a world obsessed with genetic superiority. This context highlights the challenges faced by such individuals, making the term a descriptor for those who are considered lacking in terms of genetic perfection, rather than those who possess high intelligence, genetic perfection, or rare genetic conditions.

**5. What were Vincent's health conditions determined at his birth?**

- A. 40% neuro disorder; 100% heart disorder**
- B. 50% ADD; 99% heart disorder**
- C. 60% neuro disorder; 89% ADD; 99% heart disorder**
- D. 70% neuro disorder; 90% ADD**

Vincent's health conditions determined at his birth included a significant probability of a heart disorder, as well as a neuro disorder and ADD. Option C reflects the high likelihoods associated with these conditions, specifically noting a 99% chance of a heart disorder, 60% chance of a neuro disorder, and 89% chance of having ADD. This portrayal is crucial within the context of the film "GATTACA," which emphasizes the implications of genetic predispositions on an individual's life. Vincent's genetic profile sets a foundation for his struggles against societal expectations and prejudices based on his perceived genetic disadvantages. The other options do not represent the dramatic health risks showcased in the narrative, making option C the most accurate representation of Vincent's genetic health predictions at birth.

**6. What does Irene mean when she says "I had you sequenced"?**

- A. She is referring to a DNA test**
- B. She is claiming to know his ancestry**
- C. She is discussing academic achievements**
- D. She is talking about a medical procedure**

When Irene says "I had you sequenced," she is referring to a DNA test. In the context of the film "GATTACA," sequencing typically involves analyzing an individual's genetic material to determine their DNA profile. This process reveals a wealth of information about a person's genetic predispositions, health risks, and overall suitability for various societal roles. It suggests that she has obtained detailed genetic data about the person in question, which is significant in the dystopian world of GATTACA where genetics play a critical role in determining one's social status and opportunities. This statement underscores the central theme of the film related to genetic engineering and determinism, highlighting how DNA analysis intersects with personal identity and societal expectations.

**7. In what sport did Eugene receive his medal?**

- A. Running
- B. Swimming**
- C. Cycling
- D. Basketball

Eugene received his medal in swimming. This aligns with the themes explored in the film "GATTACA," where he is depicted as an elite swimmer, showcasing the genetic engineering trends prevalent in their society. His accomplishments in swimming are significant to his character's narrative, representing the heights he could achieve despite societal challenges related to his genetic background. Swimming embodies not just physical ability but also the emotional and psychological hurdles that Eugene must navigate as he strives for acceptance and success in a highly competitive world. This choice highlights the focus on athleticism in a context shaped by genetic predispositions, reinforcing the film's central themes of identity and potential.

**8. What does Vincent's statement "I never saved anything for the way back" suggest about his character?**

- A. He is cautious about his future
- B. He takes risks without looking back**
- C. He is planning a strategic retreat
- D. He values moderation and safety

Vincent's statement "I never saved anything for the way back" suggests that he embraces a bold and adventurous approach to life. This reflects a character who is committed to pursuing his goals with full intensity and is willing to take significant risks for the chance of achieving his dreams. By not saving anything for the return, he implies that he has no intention of retreating or backing down from his aspirations, signifying a deep-seated determination and an all-or-nothing mentality. This attitude highlights his willingness to push boundaries and confront challenges head-on, rather than shying away from difficulties or playing it safe. Vincent's character embodies the theme of striving against societal expectations and limitations, which resonates throughout the narrative.

**9. According to popular belief, children conceived in love have a greater chance of what?**

**A. Success**

**B. Happiness**

**C. Wealth**

**D. Health**

The belief that children conceived in love are more likely to experience greater happiness is grounded in the understanding of emotional and psychological well-being. When children are born into a loving environment, they are more likely to receive emotional support, nurturing, and stability from their parents. This strong foundational bond can contribute positively to a child's mental health and overall happiness throughout their life. Children raised in loving homes often have better self-esteem, feel more secure, and are better equipped to build healthy relationships as they grow. This nurturing environment fosters emotional intelligence and resilience, enabling them to navigate challenges more successfully, further enhancing their overall happiness and life satisfaction. Hence, the association between love during conception and the potential for greater happiness in children is rooted in the impact of a loving upbringing on their development and emotional health.

**10. Who says "if there is anything wrong with you, I can't see it from where I'm standing"?**

**A. Jerome**

**B. Vincent**

**C. Irene**

**D. Lamar**

The phrase "if there is anything wrong with you, I can't see it from where I'm standing" is uttered by Vincent. This line encapsulates a significant moment in the film "GATTACA," reflecting a theme of acceptance and the complexity of identity. Vincent, who embodies the struggles against societal prejudice based on genetic status, receives affirmation from someone who values him beyond his DNA. This statement underscores the film's central message about the limitations of genetic determinism and the importance of individual potential. The characters around Vincent, such as Jerome, Irene, and Lamar, contribute to various themes and conflicts within the narrative, but this specific line highlights Vincent's journey towards self-acceptance and the breakthrough of human connection that transcends genetic engineering.