

2002 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

Biology

Section I – Part B (continued)

	Marks
Question 25 (4 marks)	
(a) Define the concept of <i>punctuated equilibrium</i> in evolution.	1
<p><i>Punctuated equilibrium is when change has occurred, but has reached a stable state and doesn't change after gradualism.</i></p>	
(b) How does punctuated equilibrium differ from the process proposed by Darwin?	3
<p><i>Darwin stated the theory of natural selection and that gradualism, which is change over a period of time, for example the horse, then after change has occurred, the organism becomes extinct because of natural selection. But, punctuated equilibrium proposed by Eldridge and Gould that after gradualism takes place, or change over a long period time, it reaches a state of equilibrium or stable state and doesn't change.</i></p>	