

THE ADVENTURES OF SAMMY THE SPERM AND EVA THE OVUM

Episode 1

Complete the blank spaces in the following story about Sammy the Sperm's adventures as he travelled from the testis to the penis:

“ Sammy the Sperm was a very healthy sperm cell, with a _____ full of genetic material and a strong tail. He had started his journey by being made in a _____. Then he swam into the epididymis which was a series of coiled tubes to store the sperm cells. It was getting very crowded in the _____ on the side of the testis. Sammy was being jostled about by millions of other _____ cells in the testis that day. At least it was cool - only 35 C - because the scrotum was descended outside of the man's body.

Suddenly there was rushing sound as the sperm cells swam through a thin tube. This tube was called the Vas deferens or sperm _____. It was a tough task with not much liquid in which to swim. It was quite dark with only one way to go because of the pressure of all the other sperm cells. Then they took a bend and picked up more liquid as they swam past glands called the _____.

It was much easier for Sammy to swim now because of the liquid called _____. Some of the other sperm cells were tiring and slowing down. They weren't going to make it. They would _____ within hours, and the chemicals that made them would be recycled in the man's body.

Then, they hit a straight stretch and picked up speed. It was the tube called the _____ that goes straight through the middle of the man's penis. At the end of the urethra, these millions of sperm cells were released in the process called _____.”

Episode 2

Complete the blank spaces about Sammy the Sperm's meeting with Eva the Ovum:

“Eva the Ovum had started life in the ovary of a woman who was married to the man who had made Sammy the Sperm. Eva was lonely. She was the only egg cell that the woman would release

that month in a process called _____. All the other immature egg cells in the ovary had to wait their turn to be released.

When Eva was released from the woman's _____, she travelled into a very long tube called the Fallopian tube or _____. She was a big round egg cell, with a centre of genetic material surrounded by a nutrient-rich jelly-like substance. She tumbled very slowly along the oviduct, taking quite a few _____ to travel about 30 centimetres.

Meanwhile, the man and woman who were in love had decided to make a baby. During _____ intercourse, Sammy the Sperm had swum out through the end of the man's _____ and inside the woman's _____. About 4 hours later, less than half the sperm cells that were released at the same time as Sammy made it into the woman's womb or _____. It was a marathon swim with a long way still to go.

About 24 hours after intercourse, there were only 6000 sperm cells left. After 30 hours, the field was thinning with only a few hundred sperm cells left. Some had taken a wrong turn into the wrong oviduct. Sammy knew that only _____ sperm cell would win the prize of meeting the egg cell called Eva. At last, Sammy the Sperm and Eva the Ovum met in the _____. Sammy didn't need his tail anymore. The man's genetic material in Sammy's head joined with the woman's genetic material inside Eva the Ovum to form one single _____ cell. The woman was now pregnant. _____ months later, she had a baby.