

## IN VITRO FERTILISATION

Read the text. Then write main points in the spaces on the right.

<b>TEXT</b>	<b>MAIN POINTS</b>
<p>Human reproduction is the process of joining a male sperm cell and a female egg cell in the fallopian tube for the production of new life and the continuation of genetic material from generation to generation. The process has many factors - sufficient healthy male sperm, available healthy female egg, a healthy fallopian tube and a healthy uterus to carry the unborn baby. IVF (<i>in vitro</i> fertilisation) may be used when one or more of these factors is absent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human reproduction is joining of sperm and egg to make new life</li><li>• Needs healthy sperm, egg, fallopian tube and uterus</li><li>• IVF used if one of these is unhealthy</li></ul>
<p>In IVF, the union of the sperm and the egg occurs in the laboratory after both sperm and eggs have been collected, and the fertilised eggs are transferred to the woman's womb to continue growing. In all, IVF is a very lengthy procedure which has high emotional and financial costs.</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>The scientific research surrounding IVF could have great benefits in non-human areas such as agriculture and conservation. For some time, it has been known that an increased number of offspring could be produced if the IVF-produced embryos of animals with well-adapted traits were carried in the wombs of surrogate mothers. These mothers could be from another similar species whose size and gestation periods are alike. This could increase the productivity in animal husbandry as well as saving endangered species. For example, a zebra foal has been born to a surrogate horse.</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>IVF is generally unnecessary in our overpopulated society. For those married participants in IVF programmes, many have brought the childless problem on themselves by deliberately delaying child-bearing. The success rates are too low and the risks and costs are too high to warrant further use of IVF.</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>