

1	Why is the Varroa mite a dangerous bee pest?	Transmission of disease
2	Name two different ways in which a novice beekeeper can obtain a stock of bees.	a) a swarm b) a nucleus colony
3	Varroa mites prefer worker brood over drone brood for reproduction: true or false?	False: longer time during pupa phase for mites to reproduce
4	What is varroa?	A parasitic mite.
5	What time of the year are drones normally present in a hive?	Mid-spring to late summer
6	Queens and worker honeybees are both female. What are the main differences between the two castes?	Queen has: longer legs, longer abdomen, larger eyes
7	List two reasons why the smoker is such a valuable tool for working honeybee colonies.	a) calm bees b) move bees
8	How do bees carry nectar back to the hive?	In their honey sac
9	What information does the round dance convey to foragers?	There is a source of nectar close to the hive, inside 100m
10	What is American foulbrood?	A spore forming disease of the brood.
11	When the beekeeper opens a hive for inspection, what should he/she normally be looking for?	5 key points: 1. Enough space 2. Enough food 3. Queen present 4. Queen cells 5. Disease
12	How would you know a drone from a worker?	Drone is larger, square body, large eyes
13	Name three ways in which American foulbrood is spread within an apiary.	1. by beekeeper 2. Drifting 3. Robbing
14	During an inspection, how would the beekeeper know that the queen was present and OK?	BIAS – brood in all stages Find her Good temper
15	What is cut-comb honey?	New question: Small section of honey cut from the comb
16	What is the first job that needs to be done in the apiary in spring?	Note 1.
17	What is a cast of bees?	A swarm with a virgin queen.
18	Where on the honeybee are the pollen baskets located?	Back legs of worker bee
19	What distinguishes capped worker brood from capped drone brood?	New question: Drone brood: larger cell domed capping. Worker: smaller cell flat capping
20	Are swarms normally good-tempered?	Yes
21	Name the types of cells that may be found on a brood frame.	Worker, drone, queen, transition. {first 3 will probably do}

22	Which sex of the varroa mite survives the winter in a colony that has a broodless period?	Female
23	What is a skep?	Old fashioned woven straw hive, now used to collect swarms
24	What does more harm to bees? Cold or damp?	New question: Damp
25	Name two types of hive in general use.	National, commercial, Langstroth, WBC, CDB, Dadant
26	What is a crownboard?	Cover under the roof to enclose the bees.
27	Why would a queen become a drone layer?	Store of sperm is exhausted
28	What kind of a disease is Nosema and what would make you suspect that a colony has it?	Protozoan. Infection of the bee's gut which can cause fouling in the hive
29	In beekeeping, what is meant by "robbing"?	Bees from one hive rob stores from another
30	How many days does a worker bee spend as a larva?	6 days
31	What would cause honey to ferment?	Increase in water content
32	What happens if the queen is accidentally killed?	Hive produces emergency queen cells
33	How many days after capping of the larva in its cell does the worker bee emerge?	12 days
34	What is the difference between swarming and supersedure?	Swarming: bees leave the hive with queen. Supersedure: bees and queen do not leave
35	Why is ivy an important source of bee forage?	Very good source of pollen and nectar in autumn when little else in flower
36	In general, how long does the adult worker bee live in summer?	6 weeks, 3 weeks in hive, 3 as forager
37	Describe two actions that a beekeeper may take to reduce drifting between colonies.	1. space hives well apart 2. point entrances in different directions
38	For what purpose do bees collect propolis?	Sterilise the hive and seal gaps
39	What causes laying workers?	No queen for approx. 6 weeks
40	What is a Porter bee-escape?	Device to remove bees from honey supers, one way valve for bees
41	How would you know if there was a "honey flow" on?	Strong activity by foragers, hive gains weight, supers are filled
42	How is nectar changed into honey?	Water is evaporated to reduce it below 20%
43	What is the difference between the type of foundation needed for extracted honey and that needed for cut comb honey?	Cut comb: super thin, unwired Extraction: thicker and wired
44	How do bees benefit farmers and growers?	Pollination of crops

45	A hive should be “queenright” going into the winter, what does this mean?	Hive has a healthy laying queen {not a drone layer}
46	How are drones produced in a bee colony?	Queen lays an unfertilised egg
47	If a colony does not have enough stores for the winter, how can it be given more?	Feed fondant directly over brood {do not feed syrup}
48	Do bees collect water and if so why?	Yes, to dilute honey and cool the hive
49	Name 3 items which bees bring back to the hive?	Pollen, nectar, water, propolis
50	Name a notifiable brood disease in Ireland.	AFB or EFB
51	Name two main sources of nectar in your area.	Chestnut, sycamore, dandelion, bramble, clover, ivy
52	What pest do you keep out in the winter by reducing the hive entrance?	Mice
53	What pest do you keep out in late summer by reducing the hive entrance?	Wasps
54	What hive part prevents the queen from laying in the super?	Queen excluder
55	Does the drone have a sting?	No
56	What word do beekeepers use to describe an unmated queen bee?	Virgin
57	The bee’s body is divided into 3 parts. Name them.	Head, thorax, abdomen
58	What is the blank frame some beekeepers put at the back of a brood box called?	Dummy board
59	Name the three castes in a honeybee colony?	Queen, worker, drone
60	What word is used to describe honeybee colony reproduction?	Swarming

Notes.

1. First act in spring. The original course notes from BBKA specifies replace all floors. Alternatively a very brief check on a warm day to ensure queen is laying and enough stores.