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Genetic Variation Worksheet
Date _____ Name _____
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Below are scenarios in which a population's gene pool is affected. Remember, we discussed 3 ways in which a population's gene pool can be affected (recall in text). After reading the scenario, write which of the 3 ways is demonstrated and explain using 2 complete sentences why you chose this answer.

Scenario #1 In a population of spiders, there is a protein that is coded in the DNA to make venom. In a particular spider, there was a protein variation due to a change in the genetic code. This protein variation caused the spider's venom to be stronger to kill its prey. This genetic variation was passed down to offspring and was favored due to the amount of time shortened to eat its prey.

Event Causing Genetic Variation in the Gene Pool:



Explanation:

Scenario #2 In a population of pigeons, there are genotypes for iridescent feathers and non-iridescent feathers. Over time, the females of the population would prefer males with iridescent feathers 75% of the time. Eventually, the phenotype of non-iridescent feathers has decreased dramatically.

Event Causing Genetic Variation in the Gene Pool:



Explanation:

Scenario #3 In a population of tropical fish, there are two types of genotypes that protect it from the fish to survive better in cooler water. Industry has created a pipeline that goes from the plant to the habitat of this fish. In the pipeline was a cold water hypodermic from cooling a machine. Since the water has been added to the habitat, those with the recessive genotype have ended up dead.

Event Causing Genetic Variation in the Gene Pool:



Explanation:

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