

## Definitions and Concepts for AQA Biology GCSE

## **Topic 4: Bioenergetics**

Definitions in **bold** are for higher tier only

Definitions marked by "are for separate sciences only

**Aerobic respiration:** A form of respiration that uses oxygen to release energy from molecules like glucose - represented by the following word equation:

**Anaerobic respiration:** A form of respiration that releases energy from molecules like glucose without using oxygen - represented by the following word equation:

Glucose 
$$\longrightarrow$$
 Lactic acid

**Cellular respiration:** An exothermic reaction which is continuously occurring in living cells.

**Inverse proportion:** A relationship between two values where as one value increases, the other value decreases at the same rate.

**Inverse square law:** As the distance from a light source increases, the light intensity is inversely proportional to the distance squared - given by the following equation:

Light intensity 
$$\propto \frac{1}{(Distance\ from\ the\ light\ source)^2}$$

**Limiting factor:** A factor that limits the rate of a reaction when there is not enough of it.

**Metabolism:** The sum of all the reactions in a cell or the body.

Oxygen debt: The amount of extra oxygen the body needs after exercise to react with the accumulated lactic acid and remove it from the cells. +

**Photosynthesis:** An endothermic reaction in which energy is transferred from the environment to the chloroplasts by light.