

Task 1

Use the words in the box to fill in the gaps on the stages involved in IVF procedures:

1. A woman is given ; FSH to several eggs and LH to bring them to the point of
2. The eggs are collected from the woman's during a small operation.
3. In a laboratory the eggs are mixed with
4. either occurs naturally or a sperm's nucleus is injected into an egg.
5. The fertilised eggs forming
6. After a few days one or two embryos are inserted into the woman's

Keywords				
uterus	sperm	ovaries	injections	ovulation
hormone	fertilisation	mature	embryos	divide



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Task 2 - IVF information

There are a number of **health risks** involved, including:

- side effects from the medications used during treatment, such as hot flushes and headaches
- multiple births (such as twins or triplets) - this can be dangerous for both the mother and the children
- an ectopic pregnancy - where the embryo implants in the fallopian tubes, rather than in the womb.

Some people are **against** IVF:

- The process of IVF often results in unused embryos that are eventually destroyed. Because of this, some people think it is unethical as each embryo is a potential human life.
- The genetic testing of embryos before implantation also raises ethical issues as some people think it could lead to the selection of preferred characteristics, such as gender or eye colour.

There are **disadvantages** to IVF, including:

- low success rate
- high treatment costs
- emotional and physical stress.

Read the information above to answer the following questions.

1. Why might some couples find it difficult to become pregnant?
2. Which two hormones are injected into a woman at the beginning of the IVF procedure? Why?
3. How could fertilisation occur? State two ways.
4. Where are the embryos placed at the end of the IVF procedure?
5. State two disadvantages of IVF.
6. Describe two main health risks to the mother or baby.
7. Explain two reasons why people might object to IVF.
8. Evaluate the use of IVF as a fertility treatment.

Task 2 - IVF answer sheet

1. Why might some couples find it difficult to become pregnant?

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3. How could fertilisation occur? State two ways.

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4. Where are the embryos placed at the end of the IVF procedure?

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5. State two disadvantages of IVF.

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6. Describe two main health risks to the mother or baby.

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7. Explain the reasons why people might object to IVF.

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Answers

Task 1

1. A woman is given **hormone injections**; FSH to **mature** several eggs and LH to bring them to the point of **ovulation**.
2. The eggs are collected from the woman's **ovaries** during a small operation.
3. In a laboratory the eggs are mixed with **sperm**.
4. **Fertilisation** either occurs naturally or a sperm's nucleus is injected into an egg.
5. The fertilised eggs **divide** forming **embryos**.
6. After a few days one or two embryos are inserted into the woman's **uterus**.

Task 2

1. Male - sperm may not be strong swimmers or low in number. Female - may have blocked oviducts or not release eggs.
2. FSH to mature several eggs and LH to release the eggs from the ovaries.
3. Fertilisation either occurs naturally or a sperm's nucleus is injected into an egg
4. Into the uterus
5. Low success rate, high treatment costs, emotional and physical stress
6. Side effects such as hot flushes and headaches, multiple births, ectopic pregnancy
7. Opposed to the use of unwanted embryos as destroying a potential human life or opposed to the use of genetic testing as god lead to selection of preferred characteristics.