

Fertilization

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Gametes

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1. A gamete is a sex cell that is involved in reproduction. The following statements concern human gametes—that is, the ovum and the spermatozoan. Identify which of these two human gametes is involved in each statement.

- a) This is a male gamete.
- b) This is a female gamete.
- c) Only one is usually produced every month.
- d) Millions of them are produced each day.
- e) It survives 24 to 48 hours.
- f) It survives 2 to 4 days.
- g) It is about 300 times bigger than its counterpart.

2. What is fertilization?

3. Answer the questions below using the words in the box.

Scrotum	Prostate	Fallopian tube	Vagina
Penis	Testicle	Ovary	Uterus

- a) In which structure of the human reproductive system do ova form?
- b) In which structure of the human reproductive system do spermatozoa form?
- c) In which structure of the human reproductive system does fertilization occur?

4. True or false?

- a) For fertilization to occur, several spermatozoa must pass through the membrane of the ovum.
- b) Once it has been fertilized, the ovum is called a *zygote*.
- c) The ovum is the largest cell in the human body.
- d) Fertilization can occur at any time in women.
- e) If the ovum is not fertilized, it is eliminated during menstruation.
- f) Fertilization is possible for all women.
- g) The ovum and the spermatozoan travel to meet each other.
