

A

The variety of life

① **Classifying living things**

Living things are sorted into groups that have similar characteristics.

Ilex aquifolium or European holly has shiny, dark green, prickly leaves. It is best known for its red berries in winter.

Holm oak or *Quercus ilex* has dark green, often spiny leaves. It produces acorns not berries.

They are both trees but they are completely different species.

a Highlight or draw a ring around the scientific names for these two tree species.

b Put a ring around the incorrect statement about a species.

A species is a group of organisms that:

- can breed to produce fertile offspring
- has similar individuals that produce infertile offspring
- have similar characteristics and can breed
- has individuals, with some differences, that produce fertile offspring.

c Draw a ring around the incorrect statement about a kingdom.

A kingdom is a group of organisms that:

- contains many different organisms
- contains both plants and animals
- is a large group of organisms

② **Adapting for survival**

Holly is a slow-growing tree. In woods it is often found in the shade of bigger trees. It is evergreen, keeping its leaves through winter. The leaves are replaced about every two years.

The prickliest leaves are found at the bottom of the tree. The least prickly are found at the top.

Use the information to complete the table below.

Holly leaf adaptation	How the adaptation increases the tree's chance of survival
prickly leaves	
dark-green leaves	
shiny/waxy leaves	