

## Engineered Futures Answer Key

### Model Summary (Sample Answer):

Genetic engineering is the process of altering DNA to give organisms specific traits. It is widely used in agriculture to improve crops and in medicine for treatments such as insulin production and gene therapy. While it offers many benefits, scientists and the public continue to debate its ethical and environmental risks.

### Why this works:

- Captures the **main idea**: definition of genetic engineering.
- Includes **key uses**: agriculture and medicine.
- Notes **ethical concerns**: risks and debates about altering nature.
- Leaves out nonessential details (e.g., examples like drought resistance are condensed into “improve crops”).

### Teacher's Notes:

- A strong summary should balance brevity with completeness.
- Accept variations that include the *what*, *where used*, and *debate* elements.
- Common student errors: including too many examples, copying sentences word-for-word, or leaving out the controversy aspect.
- Extension idea: Ask students to compare this summary with a classmate's and underline differences in word choice, showing how summaries can vary but still be accurate.