

MDCAT Full-Length Practice Paper

200 MCQs — High-Difficulty Level — Fully Solved with Answer Key

Total Questions	200 MCQs
Subjects Covered	Biology (80) · Chemistry (60) · Physics (50) · English (10)
Difficulty Level	Advanced / Conceptual / Numerical — above standard MDCAT difficulty
Answer Key	Correct option highlighted & ticked (✓) after every question, plus a master key grid at the end
Generated	June 19, 2026

Instructions

- Each question carries equal marks; there is no negative marking unless specified by your institution.
- Attempt the paper first WITHOUT looking at the highlighted answers for an accurate self-assessment.
- The correct option is shaded green and marked with a ✓ tick; a short explanation follows each question.
- A consolidated Answer Key (grid form) is provided on the final pages for quick revision.
- Recommended time: 170 minutes (matching actual MDCAT pacing of ~50 seconds/question).

This is an AI-generated practice paper created for self-study purposes. Cross-check critical concepts with your standard textbooks.

SECTION

Biology

80 Questions (Q1-Q80)

1 A globular protein loses its biological activity when heated to 60°C, but its primary structure remains intact. Which bonds are MOST responsible for the loss of activity?

A. Hydrogen bonds and hydrophobic interactions stabilizing tertiary structure ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Glycosidic bonds linking sugar residues
- C. Phosphodiester bonds in the backbone
- D. Peptide bonds between amino acids

Explanation: Heat denaturation disrupts weak hydrogen bonds, ionic bonds, and hydrophobic interactions that maintain tertiary/quaternary structure, without breaking the covalent peptide bonds of the primary structure.

2 Cellulose and starch are both polymers of glucose, yet cellulose is indigestible by humans while starch is readily digested. This difference is due to:

- A. Starch having a higher molecular weight than cellulose
- B. Cellulose being a protein-carbohydrate complex
- C. Cellulose having α -1,4 glycosidic bonds and starch having β -1,4 bonds

D. Cellulose having β -1,4 glycosidic bonds which human amylase cannot hydrolyze ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Cellulose's β -1,4 linkages create straight, H-bonded chains that human salivary/pancreatic amylase (specific for α -1,4 bonds) cannot cleave.

3 An enzyme follows Michaelis-Menten kinetics with $K_m = 2$ mM. At a substrate concentration of 2 mM, the reaction velocity is 50 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$. What is V_{max} ?

- A. 50 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$
- B. 200 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$
- C. 25 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$

D. 100 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$ ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: When $[S] = K_m$, $v = V_{\text{max}}/2$ by definition of the Michaelis-Menten equation, so $V_{\text{max}} = 2 \times 50 = 100 \mu\text{mol}/\text{min}$.

4 A competitive inhibitor is added to an enzyme-catalyzed reaction. Which statement correctly describes the kinetic effect?

- A. Both V_{max} and K_m increase proportionally
- B. Both V_{max} and K_m decrease
- C. V_{max} decreases, K_m remains unchanged

D. V_{max} remains unchanged, apparent K_m increases ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Competitive inhibitors compete for the active site; at sufficiently high $[S]$, V_{max} can still be reached, but more substrate is needed to do so, so apparent K_m rises while V_{max} is unaffected.

5 Which of the following best explains why phospholipids spontaneously form bilayers in water rather than micelles?

A. They are completely hydrophobic

B. They have two nonpolar fatty acid tails and one polar head, giving a cylindrical shape favoring bilayers ✓ Correct Answer

C. They lack a phosphate group

D. They have only one fatty acid tail, favoring a cone shape

Explanation: The roughly cylindrical shape from two hydrophobic tails and one hydrophilic head packs efficiently into flat bilayers rather than the cone-shaped packing of micelle-forming single-tailed lipids.

6 In an experiment, isolated mitochondria are placed in a hypotonic medium with ADP, Pi, and succinate, but no oxygen is supplied. Which process will fail to proceed?

A. Fatty acid synthesis

B. Electron transport and oxidative phosphorylation only ✓ Correct Answer

C. Glycolysis

D. Krebs cycle substrate-level phosphorylation

Explanation: Without O₂, the terminal electron acceptor for the electron transport chain is absent, halting electron flow and the proton gradient needed for oxidative (chemiosmotic) phosphorylation; substrate-level steps within the Krebs cycle can still occur transiently.

7 During oxidative phosphorylation, the chemiosmotic theory proposes that ATP synthesis is driven directly by:

A. High concentration of oxygen in the matrix

B. Substrate-level phosphorylation at Complex IV

C. Direct transfer of phosphate from NADH to ADP

D. An electrochemical proton gradient across the inner mitochondrial membrane ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Peter Mitchell's chemiosmotic theory: electron transport pumps H⁺ into the intermembrane space, creating a gradient whose energy drives ATP synthase as protons flow back through it.

8 A cyanide-poisoned cell can still produce a small amount of ATP. This residual ATP is most likely generated by:

A. Complex IV bypass via alternative oxidase only

B. Photophosphorylation

C. Glycolysis (substrate-level phosphorylation) and Krebs cycle substrate-level steps ✓ Correct Answer

D. Continued oxidative phosphorylation at a reduced rate

Explanation: Cyanide blocks Complex IV, stopping the ETC and oxidative phosphorylation entirely; ATP can still form via substrate-level phosphorylation in glycolysis and the Krebs cycle (the latter limited since NAD⁺/FAD regeneration is impaired).

9 In C₄ plants, the initial CO₂ fixation occurs in mesophyll cells via PEP carboxylase rather than RuBisCO. The main advantage of this adaptation is:

A. PEP carboxylase has a lower affinity for CO₂, increasing fixation rate

B. It eliminates the need for the Calvin cycle

C. It allows photosynthesis to occur without light

D. PEP carboxylase does not bind O₂, minimizing photorespiration under high temperature/low CO₂ ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: PEP carboxylase is highly specific for CO₂ (as HCO₃⁻) and does not catalyze the oxygenase reaction that RuBisCO does, so C₄ plants concentrate CO₂ around RuBisCO in bundle sheath cells and suppress photorespiration.

10 During the light-dependent reactions, if DCMU (an herbicide) blocks electron flow from Photosystem II to the plastoquinone pool, which of the following will be directly affected?

A. Photolysis of water, O₂ evolution, and linear electron flow to NADP⁺ ✓ Correct Answer

B. Only the synthesis of starch in the stroma

C. Only cyclic photophosphorylation

D. Only the Calvin cycle's RuBisCO activity

Explanation: Blocking PSII's electron exit halts linear (non-cyclic) electron flow that normally derives electrons from water (releasing O₂) and ultimately reduces NADP⁺ to NADPH.

11 A respirometer shows a germinating pea seed consumes O₂ but the volume of gas in the chamber does not change. This indicates the respiratory quotient (RQ) is approximately:

A. 1.0 (carbohydrate respiration) ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Greater than 1 (anaerobic respiration)
- C. 0 (no respiration occurring)
- D. 0.7 (fat respiration)

Explanation: If gas volume is unchanged, CO₂ produced equals O₂ consumed, giving $RQ = CO_2/O_2 = 1$, characteristic of complete aerobic oxidation of carbohydrates.

12 Which statement correctly distinguishes facilitated diffusion from active transport?

- A. Both require ATP but differ in protein type
- B. Facilitated diffusion requires ATP; active transport does not
- C. Facilitated diffusion moves substances against the concentration gradient using carrier proteins; active transport does not

D. Facilitated diffusion moves substances down the concentration gradient via channel/carrier proteins without ATP; active transport moves against the gradient using ATP ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Facilitated diffusion is passive transport (down gradient, no ATP) via membrane proteins; active transport pumps solutes against their gradient and requires energy, typically ATP hydrolysis.

13 A plant cell placed in a hypertonic solution shows plasmolysis. If the same cell is then placed in pure water, which sequence correctly describes subsequent events?

- A. No water movement occurs because plasma membrane is impermeable
- B. Water moves out further, increasing plasmolysis
- C. Cell wall ruptures immediately due to osmotic shock

D. Water moves in by osmosis, cell becomes turgid, but cell wall prevents bursting ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: In hypotonic pure water, water enters the cell by osmosis down its potential gradient; turgor pressure builds against the rigid cell wall, preventing lysis (unlike in animal cells).

14 Which of the following organelles would be most abundant in a pancreatic acinar cell that secretes large quantities of digestive enzymes?

A. Rough endoplasmic reticulum, Golgi apparatus, and secretory vesicles ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Chloroplasts and vacuoles
- C. Lysosomes and centrioles only
- D. Smooth endoplasmic reticulum and peroxisomes

Explanation: Protein-secreting cells require extensive RER for enzyme synthesis, Golgi for processing/packaging, and secretory vesicles for exocytosis of zymogen granules.

15 A cell biologist observes that a drug blocks microtubule polymerization. Which phase of mitosis would be most directly disrupted?

- A. Interphase DNA replication
- B. Prophase chromosome condensation only

C. Metaphase chromosome alignment and anaphase chromosome separation via spindle fibers ✓ Correct Answer

- D. Cytokinesis cell membrane pinching only

Explanation: Spindle fibers (microtubules) are essential for aligning chromosomes at the metaphase plate and pulling sister chromatids apart in anaphase; blocking polymerization arrests mitosis at metaphase.

16 In the cell cycle, the G₁/S checkpoint primarily verifies:

- A. Successful cytokinesis
- B. Correct spindle attachment to kinetochores

C. Cell size, nutrient availability, and DNA integrity before committing to DNA replication ✓ Correct Answer

- D. Complete separation of sister chromatids

Explanation: The G₁ checkpoint (restriction point) ensures conditions are favorable and DNA is undamaged before the cell commits to S phase and DNA replication.

17 A virus that has a DNA genome but uses an RNA intermediate during its replication cycle, requiring reverse transcriptase, is classified as:

A. A pararetrovirus (e.g., Hepatitis B virus) ✓ Correct Answer

- B. A negative-sense RNA virus
- C. A bacteriophage
- D. A retrovirus

Explanation: Pararetroviruses (like Hepatitis B virus) have a DNA genome but replicate through an RNA intermediate via reverse transcriptase, distinguishing them from true retroviruses which have an RNA genome.

18 Which feature distinguishes Archaea from Bacteria at the molecular level, supporting their classification into separate domains?

- A. Archaea possess a nuclear envelope
- B. Archaea use peptidoglycan in their cell walls identical to bacteria
- C. Archaea lack a cell wall entirely

D. Archaea have ether-linked lipids in their membranes and unique RNA polymerase structure resembling eukaryotes ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Archaeal membranes contain ether-linked (not ester-linked) lipids, and their transcription/translation machinery shares more similarity with eukaryotes than with bacteria, justifying separate domain status.

19 Mycorrhizae represent a mutualistic association between fungi and plant roots. The primary functional benefit to the plant is:

A. Increased absorption of water and minerals (especially phosphate) via extended hyphal network ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Protection from all viral pathogens
- C. Production of chlorophyll by the fungus for the plant
- D. Nitrogen fixation directly by the fungal hyphae

Explanation: Mycorrhizal hyphae vastly increase the absorptive surface area for water and minerals, particularly phosphate, in exchange for photosynthetically-derived sugars from the plant.

20 A bacterium is found to be Gram-negative based on staining. This indicates its cell wall has:

- A. A thick peptidoglycan layer retaining crystal violet
- B. A cellulose-based cell wall
- C. No peptidoglycan at all

D. A thin peptidoglycan layer surrounded by an outer membrane containing lipopolysaccharide ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Gram-negative bacteria have a thin peptidoglycan layer that does not retain crystal violet after alcohol wash, and an outer membrane with LPS gives the counterstain (safranin/pink) color.

21 In a dihybrid cross between two heterozygous pea plants ($RrYy \times RrYy$) for seed shape (R =round, dominant) and color (Y =yellow, dominant), what fraction of offspring is expected to be homozygous recessive for BOTH traits?

- A. $1/4$
- B. $3/16$
- C. $1/16$ ✓ Correct Answer
- D. $9/16$

Explanation: For independent assortment, probability of $rryy = (1/4 \text{ for } rr) \times (1/4 \text{ for } yy) = 1/16$.

22 A man with blood type AB marries a woman with blood type O. What blood types are possible in their children?

- A. Only AB
- B. Only A or B, never O or AB ✓ Correct Answer
- C. A, B, AB, and O equally likely
- D. Only O

Explanation: AB parent contributes either I^A or I^B ; O parent contributes only i . Possible genotypes: $I^A i$ (type A) or $I^B i$ (type B); neither AB nor O is possible since neither parent can contribute both required alleles simultaneously.

23 Hemophilia is an X-linked recessive disorder. A carrier woman (XHXh) marries an unaffected man (XHY). What proportion of their SONS will be affected?

A. 100% of sons

B. 25% of all children, 50% of sons ✓ Correct Answer

C. 50% of all children

D. 0%

Explanation: Sons receive Y from father and either XH or Xh from mother with equal probability, so half of sons (25% of total offspring) will be affected (XhY); daughters cannot be affected since father contributes XH.

24 In humans, a cross between two individuals heterozygous for a single autosomal recessive disorder (Aa × Aa) produces a child. Given the child is unaffected, what is the probability that this child is a carrier?

A. 1/2

B. 2/3 ✓ Correct Answer

C. 1/4

D. 1/3

Explanation: Among unaffected offspring (AA:Aa:Aa = 1:2, excluding aa), the conditional probability of being a carrier (Aa) is 2/3.

25 A segment of DNA is found to have 30% adenine. What percentage of the bases are guanine?

A. 40%

B. 70%

C. 30%

D. 20% ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: By Chargaff's rule, A=T=30% each, so A+T=60%, leaving G+C=40%, and since G=C, G=20%.

26 During DNA replication, the leading strand is synthesized continuously while the lagging strand is synthesized in Okazaki fragments. This is because:

A. DNA polymerase works only on the lagging strand

B. The leading strand template lacks a 3' end

C. DNA polymerase can only synthesize DNA in the 5'→3' direction, and the two template strands are antiparallel ✓ Correct Answer

D. Okazaki fragments form due to a lack of primase

Explanation: Since DNA polymerase adds nucleotides only 5'→3' and the two strands run antiparallel, one new strand is made continuously toward the fork while the other must be made discontinuously, away from the fork, in fragments.

27 A point mutation changes the codon AUG (start, Met) to AUA. This type of mutation is classified as:

A. Missense mutation ✓ Correct Answer

B. Nonsense mutation

C. Frameshift mutation

D. Silent mutation

Explanation: AUA codes for isoleucine instead of methionine — a different amino acid is incorporated, which is the definition of a missense mutation (and additionally disrupts translation initiation here).

28 A deletion of one nucleotide near the start of a gene's coding sequence is **LIKELY** to have the most severe effect on protein function because:

A. It shifts the reading frame for all downstream codons, often producing a nonfunctional protein ✓ Correct Answer

B. It increases the gene's transcription rate

C. It only changes one amino acid

D. It only affects intron splicing

Explanation: Single nucleotide insertions/deletions cause a frameshift, altering every codon downstream of the mutation and usually introducing premature stop codons or a completely different amino acid sequence.

29 In the lac operon of *E. coli*, in the presence of lactose and absence of glucose, which statement is correct?

A. CAP-cAMP complex binds the promoter region enhancing RNA polymerase binding, and the repressor is inactivated by allolactose, allowing high transcription ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Transcription occurs at a low basal rate regardless of CAP
- C. The repressor binds the operator, blocking transcription
- D. Both repressor and CAP block transcription

Explanation: Lactose (via allolactose) inactivates the repressor, removing the block; low glucose raises cAMP, activating CAP, which binds and enhances RNA polymerase binding for maximal operon transcription.

30 A recombinant DNA technologist wants to insert a human gene into a bacterial plasmid. Which enzyme combination is essential for this process?

A. DNA polymerase and helicase only

B. Restriction endonuclease to cut both DNA sources, and DNA ligase to join the fragments ✓ Correct Answer

- C. RNA polymerase and reverse transcriptase only
- D. Topoisomerase and primase only

Explanation: Restriction enzymes cut the plasmid and the gene of interest at specific (often complementary sticky-end) sites, and DNA ligase seals the phosphodiester backbone to form recombinant DNA.

31 PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) requires a heat-stable DNA polymerase. The enzyme commonly used, Taq polymerase, is derived from:

- A. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, a yeast
- B. *E. coli*, a mesophilic bacterium
- C. A human cell line

D. *Thermus aquaticus*, a thermophilic bacterium found in hot springs ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Taq polymerase is isolated from *Thermus aquaticus*, which thrives in hot springs, allowing the enzyme to survive the ~95°C denaturation step repeated in each PCR cycle.

32 Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium assumes no evolution is occurring. Which of the following would most directly violate this equilibrium in a real population?

- A. Extremely large population size
- B. Absence of mutation and migration
- C. **Non-random mating (e.g., assortative mating) and genetic drift in a small population** ✓ Correct Answer
- D. Random mating

Explanation: Non-random mating alters genotype frequencies without changing allele frequencies, while genetic drift in small populations randomly changes allele frequencies — both are evolutionary forces that violate H-W assumptions.

33 In a population, the frequency of a recessive allele (q) causing a disease is 0.1. According to Hardy-Weinberg, what percentage of the population is expected to be heterozygous carriers?

- A. 1%
- B. 9%
- C. 81%

D. 18% ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: $p = 0.9$, $q = 0.1$; heterozygote frequency = $2pq = 2(0.9)(0.1) = 0.18 = 18\%$.

34 Darwin's finches on the Galápagos Islands show variation in beak shape adapted to different food sources. This is best explained as an example of:

- A. Convergent evolution
- B. Lamarckian inheritance of acquired traits

C. Adaptive radiation via natural selection from a common ancestor ✓ Correct Answer

D. Genetic drift alone

Explanation: A single ancestral finch species diversified into many species occupying different niches, each with beak morphology shaped by natural selection for their specific food source — classic adaptive radiation.

35 Homologous structures (like the forelimbs of humans, whales, and bats) provide evidence for evolution because they show:

A. Convergent evolution from unrelated ancestors

B. Similar underlying bone structure inherited from a common ancestor, despite different functions ✓ Correct Answer

C. Similar function despite different underlying structure

D. No evolutionary relationship, only coincidental similarity

Explanation: Homologous structures share an underlying anatomical plan inherited from a common ancestor, even though they have been modified for different functions (grasping, swimming, flying) — evidence of divergent evolution.

36 Which scenario best illustrates the founder effect?

A. A large population's allele frequencies remain stable over generations

B. A population undergoes a bottleneck due to a natural disaster

C. Two species converge to occupy a similar niche

D. A small group of individuals colonizes a new island, and by chance carries a non-representative sample of alleles from the original population ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: The founder effect occurs when a small subset of a population establishes a new population, carrying only a fraction of the original genetic variation purely by chance.

37 Sickle cell allele persists at relatively high frequency in malaria-endemic regions despite being deleterious in the homozygous state. This is an example of:

A. Heterozygote advantage (balancing selection) ✓ Correct Answer

B. Directional selection

C. Genetic drift

D. Disruptive selection

Explanation: Heterozygotes (carriers) have increased resistance to malaria while avoiding the severe effects of sickle cell disease seen in homozygotes, so the allele is maintained by balancing/heterozygote advantage selection.

38 In the process of speciation, reproductive isolation can be classified as prezygotic or postzygotic. Hybrid sterility (e.g., in mules) is an example of:

A. Prezygotic isolation - mechanical

B. Geographic isolation

C. Prezygotic isolation - temporal

D. Postzygotic isolation ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Hybrid sterility occurs after fertilization has produced a viable hybrid, making it a postzygotic reproductive isolating mechanism.

39 An allosteric enzyme has a separate regulatory site distinct from its active site. When an inhibitor binds the allosteric site, it typically:

A. Has no effect on enzyme activity

B. Directly blocks the active site by physical occlusion

C. Changes the enzyme's conformation, reducing the active site's affinity for substrate (without directly blocking it) ✓ Correct Answer

D. Increases the enzyme's affinity for substrate

Explanation: Allosteric inhibitors bind a site separate from the active site and induce a conformational change that is transmitted to the active site, reducing its substrate affinity or catalytic efficiency — a key feature of feedback regulation in metabolic pathways.

40 In a DNA double helix, one strand has the sequence 5'-ATGCCGTA-3'. What is the sequence of the complementary strand, written in the 5' to 3' direction?

A. 5'-GCATACGT-3'

B. 5'-TACGGCAT-3' ✓ Correct Answer

C. 5'-AUGCCGUA-3'

D. 5'-ATGCCGTA-3' (identical to the original)

Explanation: Pairing each base (A-T, T-A, G-C, C-G) antiparallel to the original gives the complementary strand running 3'-TACGGCAT-5'; written conventionally from its own 5' end, this reads 5'-TACGGCAT-3'.

41 During spermatogenesis, a primary spermatocyte (2n) undergoes meiosis I and II. How many functional spermatids are produced from ONE primary spermatocyte, and what is their chromosome number?

A. 4 spermatids, each n ✓ Correct Answer

- B. 1 spermatid, n
- C. 2 spermatids, each 2n
- D. 4 spermatids, each 2n

Explanation: Meiosis I produces 2 secondary spermatocytes (n), each of which undergoes meiosis II to give 2 spermatids (n each), totaling 4 haploid spermatids per primary spermatocyte.

42 In oogenesis, unlike spermatogenesis, meiotic divisions are unequal, producing one large ovum and polar bodies. The biological significance of this is:

A. To produce four equally functional eggs

B. To concentrate cytoplasm, organelles, and nutrients into a single functional ovum to support early embryonic development ✓ Correct Answer

- C. To eliminate excess chromosomes
- D. To prevent fertilization

Explanation: Unequal cytokinesis conserves cytoplasmic resources (yolk, organelles, mRNA) in one large, viable ovum rather than dividing them among four cells, which is critical for nourishing the early embryo.

43 A surge in luteinizing hormone (LH) at mid-cycle directly triggers which event in the human menstrual cycle?

- A. Formation of the corpus albicans
- B. Implantation of the blastocyst

C. Ovulation - rupture of the mature Graafian follicle ✓ Correct Answer

D. Menstruation

Explanation: The LH surge induces final maturation and rupture of the dominant follicle, releasing the secondary oocyte — ovulation — typically about 24-36 hours after the surge begins.

44 If the corpus luteum fails to form properly after ovulation, which immediate hormonal consequence would most likely occur?

- A. No change, since corpus luteum is not hormonally active
- B. Increased progesterone preventing menstruation
- C. Increased FSH suppression permanently

D. Decreased progesterone, leading to breakdown of the endometrium and menstruation/failure to maintain pregnancy ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: The corpus luteum is the main source of progesterone after ovulation; without it (or with hCG support failing in early pregnancy), progesterone falls and the endometrial lining cannot be maintained, triggering menstruation.

45 In human embryonic development, the process by which the blastocyst attaches to and embeds in the endometrium is called:

A. Implantation ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Cleavage
- C. Organogenesis
- D. Gastrulation

Explanation: Implantation is the specific term for the blastocyst burrowing into the uterine endometrial lining, typically about 6-10 days after fertilization.

46 A skeletal muscle fiber's sarcomere shortens during contraction. According to the sliding filament theory, which of the following zones/bands DOES NOT change in length during contraction?

- A. H zone
- B. I band
- C. Distance between Z lines

D. A band ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: The A band (length of the thick myosin filaments) remains constant in length during contraction; only the I band and H zone shorten as thin filaments slide further over thick filaments.

47 At the neuromuscular junction, the binding of acetylcholine to its receptor on the sarcolemma directly causes:

- A. Release of calcium from the synaptic vesicle
- B. Hyperpolarization due to Cl⁻ influx
- C. Direct contraction without an action potential

D. Depolarization due to Na⁺ influx, generating an end-plate potential ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: ACh binding opens ligand-gated cation channels, allowing Na⁺ influx that depolarizes the motor end plate, which if threshold is reached triggers an action potential that propagates along the sarcolemma.

48 Tropomyosin and troponin regulate muscle contraction. In a resting muscle (low Ca²⁺), tropomyosin:

- A. Has no role in regulation
- B. Binds directly to myosin heads to inhibit ATPase activity
- C. Is removed from the actin filament entirely

D. Blocks the myosin-binding sites on actin, preventing cross-bridge formation ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: At low intracellular Ca²⁺, tropomyosin physically covers the myosin-binding sites on actin; only when Ca²⁺ binds troponin does the troponin-tropomyosin complex shift to expose these sites.

49 A reflex arc for the knee-jerk (patellar) reflex is monosynaptic, involving a sensory neuron synapsing directly onto a motor neuron in the spinal cord. The primary advantage of this simple circuit is:

A. Extremely rapid response time since no interneuron delay is involved ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Greater conscious control
- C. Involvement of the cerebral cortex for precision
- D. Higher energy efficiency only

Explanation: Monosynaptic reflexes bypass interneurons and higher brain processing, minimizing synaptic delay and allowing the fastest possible protective/postural response.

50 During the generation of an action potential in a neuron, the rapid depolarization phase is caused by:

A. Opening of voltage-gated Na⁺ channels and rapid Na⁺ influx ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Active transport of Na⁺ out of the cell
- C. Closure of all ion channels
- D. Opening of voltage-gated K⁺ channels and K⁺ efflux

Explanation: Once threshold is reached, voltage-gated Na⁺ channels open rapidly, and the steep electrochemical gradient drives Na⁺ influx, causing the membrane potential to rapidly become more positive (depolarization).

51 The refractory period of a neuron ensures that:

A. Nerve impulses travel in one direction only and there is a limit on firing frequency ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Myelin sheath is regenerated
- C. The resting potential is permanently lost
- D. Action potentials can summate indefinitely at the same point

Explanation: During the refractory period, Na⁺ channels are inactivated and cannot reopen immediately, preventing the action potential from reversing direction and limiting maximum firing rate.

52 Saltatory conduction in myelinated neurons increases the speed of nerve impulse transmission because:

A. Unmyelinated axons always conduct faster

B. The impulse 'jumps' from one Node of Ranvier to the next, where ion channels are concentrated, skipping the insulated myelinated segments ✓ Correct Answer

- C. Myelin actively transports the impulse via ATP
- D. The action potential is regenerated continuously along the entire axon

Explanation: Myelin insulates the axon between nodes, forcing depolarization to occur only at the Nodes of Ranvier; the impulse effectively jumps node to node, dramatically speeding conduction compared to continuous propagation.

53 A patient has damage to the hypothalamus affecting ADH (vasopressin) production. Which condition would most likely result?

A. Diabetes mellitus due to insulin deficiency

B. Diabetes insipidus, characterized by excretion of large volumes of dilute urine ✓ Correct Answer

C. Hypertension due to excess water retention

D. Hypoglycemia

Explanation: ADH normally promotes water reabsorption in the collecting duct by increasing aquaporin insertion; without ADH, the kidney cannot concentrate urine, leading to excessive dilute urine output (diabetes insipidus).

54 Which hormone pair represents an example of antagonistic regulation of blood glucose level?

A. Estrogen and progesterone

B. Insulin and glucagon ✓ Correct Answer

C. ADH and aldosterone

D. Thyroxine and calcitonin

Explanation: Insulin lowers blood glucose (promoting uptake/storage as glycogen) while glucagon raises blood glucose (promoting glycogenolysis/gluconeogenesis); together they form a classic antagonistic homeostatic pair.

55 In the renal nephron, glucose is normally completely reabsorbed in the proximal convoluted tubule via sodium-glucose cotransporters. In uncontrolled diabetes mellitus, glucose appears in urine because:

A. Aldosterone secretion is suppressed

B. Blood glucose exceeds the renal threshold/transport maximum (T_m) of the cotransporters, so excess glucose is not reabsorbed ✓ Correct Answer

C. ADH secretion increases dramatically

D. The glomerulus stops filtering glucose

Explanation: When plasma glucose is very high, the filtered glucose load exceeds the maximum reabsorptive capacity (T_m) of the SGLT transporters in the PCT, so the unreabsorbed excess is excreted (glucosuria).

56 The countercurrent multiplier mechanism in the loop of Henle is essential for:

A. Filtering blood at the glomerulus

B. Reabsorbing all filtered amino acids

C. Establishing an osmotic gradient in the medulla that allows the kidney to produce concentrated urine ✓ Correct Answer

D. Secreting hydrogen ions in the distal tubule

Explanation: The countercurrent multiplier (descending limb permeable to water, ascending limb actively pumping NaCl out) builds an increasing osmotic gradient toward the medulla, enabling water reabsorption from the collecting duct and concentrated urine production.

57 A drop in blood pressure is detected by baroreceptors, ultimately triggering the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS). The end effect of aldosterone on the nephron is to:

A. Inhibit ADH release

B. Decrease Na⁺ reabsorption

C. Increase glucose excretion

D. Increase Na⁺ reabsorption (and water with it) in the distal tubule/collecting duct, raising blood volume and pressure ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Aldosterone stimulates Na⁺ reabsorption (with water following osmotically) and K⁺ secretion in the distal nephron, increasing blood volume and thus blood pressure — restoring homeostasis.

58 At high altitude, the partial pressure of oxygen is reduced. Which compensatory physiological response would be expected after acclimatization?

A. Decreased respiratory rate

B. Increased erythropoietin secretion leading to increased red blood cell production ✓ Correct Answer

C. Decreased hemoglobin affinity for oxygen permanently

D. Decreased erythropoietin and fewer red blood cells

Explanation: Lower PO₂ stimulates the kidneys to secrete more erythropoietin, which increases red blood cell production in bone marrow, improving the blood's oxygen-carrying capacity over days to weeks.

59 The oxygen-hemoglobin dissociation curve shifts to the RIGHT (Bohr effect) under conditions of:

A. Decreased 2,3-BPG

B. Increased temperature, increased CO₂, decreased pH (more acidic), as in exercising muscle ✓ Correct Answer

C. High altitude with no other changes

D. Decreased temperature, decreased CO₂, increased pH

Explanation: A rightward shift (decreased hemoglobin affinity, more O₂ unloading) occurs with increased CO₂, decreased pH, and increased temperature — exactly the conditions in actively metabolizing tissue, facilitating O₂ delivery where needed most.

60 During inspiration, contraction of the diaphragm and external intercostal muscles causes:

A. Thoracic volume to increase, decreasing intrapulmonary pressure below atmospheric, drawing air in ✓ Correct Answer

B. Thoracic volume to decrease, increasing intrapulmonary pressure

C. No change in thoracic volume

D. Direct active pumping of air into alveoli by muscle contraction

Explanation: Diaphragm contraction flattens it downward and intercostal contraction raises the ribcage, increasing thoracic volume; by Boyle's law this decreases intrapulmonary pressure below atmospheric, so air flows in passively.

61 A person with emphysema has reduced surface area for gas exchange due to alveolar wall breakdown. The most direct physiological consequence is:

A. Increased rate of diffusion of O₂ into blood

B. No change since alveolar number doesn't affect diffusion

C. Increased lung compliance with no gas exchange impact

D. Decreased rate of diffusion of O₂ and CO₂ due to reduced diffusion surface area, per Fick's law ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Fick's law states diffusion rate is proportional to surface area; destruction of alveolar walls drastically reduces this area, impairing gas exchange efficiency for both O₂ uptake and CO₂ removal.

62 In the cardiac cycle, the QRS complex on an ECG corresponds to:

A. Atrial repolarization (which is normally masked)

B. Ventricular repolarization

C. Ventricular depolarization, immediately preceding ventricular systole ✓ Correct Answer

D. Atrial depolarization

Explanation: The QRS complex represents rapid depolarization of the ventricles, which triggers ventricular contraction (systole) shortly after.

63 The sinoatrial (SA) node is termed the 'pacemaker' of the heart because:

A. It is located in the ventricle

B. It has the fastest intrinsic rate of spontaneous depolarization, setting the pace for the rest of the conducting system ✓ Correct Answer

C. It is the only tissue capable of any electrical activity

D. It receives no autonomic innervation

Explanation: Although other cardiac tissues (AV node, Purkinje fibers) can generate spontaneous impulses, the SA node has the highest intrinsic firing rate and thus normally dictates heart rate.

64 During exercise, cardiac output increases substantially. Cardiac output is calculated as:

A. Heart rate ÷ stroke volume

B. Stroke volume – heart rate

C. Blood pressure × heart rate

D. Heart rate × stroke volume ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Cardiac output (CO) = heart rate (HR) × stroke volume (SV); during exercise, both HR and SV typically increase, raising CO to meet the body's increased oxygen demand.

65 A person has a genetic defect causing absence of the AV valves' chordae tendineae function. The most likely consequence during ventricular systole is:

- A. Increased efficiency of the heart
- B. Improved one-way blood flow
- C. Backflow (regurgitation) of blood from ventricles into atria due to valve prolapse ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Complete blockage of blood flow into the ventricles

Explanation: Chordae tendineae anchor the AV valve cusps to papillary muscles, preventing valve inversion during systole; without this support, valves prolapse and blood regurgitates backward into the atria.

66 Antibodies are produced by which type of cell during the humoral immune response?

- A. Macrophages directly
- B. Cytotoxic T cells
- C. Plasma cells, differentiated from activated B lymphocytes ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Natural killer cells

Explanation: Upon activation (often with helper T cell assistance), B lymphocytes proliferate and differentiate into plasma cells, which are specialized antibody factories secreting large quantities of specific immunoglobulins.

67 In the secondary immune response, antibody production is faster and of greater magnitude than the primary response. This is primarily due to the presence of:

- A. Memory B and T cells generated during the primary exposure ✓ Correct Answer**
- B. Higher antigen concentration always
- C. Increased innate immune activity only
- D. Loss of immunological tolerance

Explanation: Memory lymphocytes formed after first antigen exposure persist long-term and can be rapidly activated and expanded upon re-exposure, producing a faster, stronger secondary response.

68 HIV primarily infects and destroys which cell type, leading to progressive immunodeficiency?

- A. Neutrophils exclusively
- B. B lymphocytes only
- C. Red blood cells
- D. CD4+ helper T lymphocytes ✓ Correct Answer**

Explanation: HIV uses the CD4 receptor (plus a co-receptor) to enter and ultimately destroy helper T cells, which are central coordinators of both humoral and cell-mediated immunity, leading to AIDS.

69 Active immunity acquired through vaccination differs from passive immunity (e.g., antibody injection) in that active immunity:

- A. Provides immediate but short-term protection
- B. Cannot generate memory cells
- C. Involves the recipient's own immune system producing antibodies and memory cells, giving long-lasting protection ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Always requires injection of preformed antibodies

Explanation: Vaccination stimulates the individual's own adaptive immune system to produce antibodies and, crucially, memory cells, providing durable protection — unlike passive immunity which gives only temporary, borrowed protection.

70 In ABO blood typing, a person with genotype IAi has type A blood, but their RBCs do not express the B antigen. This is because:

- A. i actively suppresses A antigen expression
- B. The i allele is dominant over IA
- C. IA and IB alleles are codominant, but i is recessive to both, so only the A antigen (from IA) is expressed when i is the other allele ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Type A blood always has both antigens

Explanation: IA and IB are codominant to each other and both dominant over i; in genotype IAi, only the A antigen is produced since i does not code for a functional antigen.

71 Bile produced by the liver aids in fat digestion primarily by:

- A. Directly absorbing fats into the bloodstream
- B. Neutralizing stomach acid only
- C. Emulsifying large fat globules into smaller droplets, increasing surface area for lipase action ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Chemically hydrolyzing triglycerides into fatty acids

Explanation: Bile salts are amphipathic and emulsify fats into micelles/smaller droplets, vastly increasing the surface area accessible to pancreatic lipase, since bile itself contains no digestive enzymes.

72 Pepsinogen, secreted by chief cells in the stomach, is converted to active pepsin by:

- A. Salivary amylase
- B. HCl (and autocatalytically by pepsin itself) in the acidic gastric environment ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. Bile salts
- D. Pancreatic trypsin

Explanation: HCl from parietal cells lowers gastric pH, cleaving pepsinogen to expose the active site of pepsin; once some active pepsin is formed, it autocatalytically activates more pepsinogen.

73 Villi and microvilli in the small intestine increase the surface area for absorption. A condition like celiac disease, which damages villi, would most directly cause:

- A. Malabsorption of nutrients due to reduced absorptive surface area ✓ Correct Answer**
- B. No physiological consequence
- C. Increased nutrient absorption
- D. Improved digestion of starch only

Explanation: Villous atrophy (as in celiac disease) drastically reduces the absorptive surface area of the small intestine, impairing the uptake of nutrients including fats, vitamins, and minerals — causing malabsorption.

74 Which statement about the role of the hypothalamo-hypophyseal portal system is correct?

- A. It allows hypothalamic releasing/inhibiting hormones to travel directly to the anterior pituitary at high concentration, regulating anterior pituitary hormone secretion ✓ Correct Answer**
- B. It carries hormones from the posterior pituitary to the hypothalamus
- C. It is involved in thermoregulation only
- D. It transports oxytocin to the uterus

Explanation: This specialized portal blood system carries hypothalamic neurohormones (like GnRH, TRH, CRH) directly to the anterior pituitary, allowing precise local regulation of anterior pituitary hormone release without dilution in general circulation.

75 Growth hormone (GH) exerts many of its growth-promoting effects indirectly through:

- A. Acting only on the kidney
- B. Stimulating the liver to produce insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1), which acts on target tissues ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. Direct stimulation of bone cells without any mediator
- D. Inhibiting thyroid hormone

Explanation: GH stimulates hepatic (and other tissue) production of IGF-1, which mediates most of GH's anabolic and growth-promoting effects on bone and other tissues.

76 A negative feedback loop regulates thyroid hormone (T3/T4) secretion. If T4 levels rise abnormally high (e.g., hyperthyroidism), what would be expected for TSH levels?

- A. TSH would remain completely unchanged
- B. TSH secretion would stop being regulated by feedback
- C. TSH would decrease due to negative feedback inhibition on the pituitary and hypothalamus ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. TSH would increase proportionally

Explanation: Elevated T3/T4 feeds back negatively on the hypothalamus (reducing TRH) and anterior pituitary (reducing TSH), so in primary hyperthyroidism TSH is typically suppressed (low).

77 In plants, auxin promotes cell elongation on the shaded side of a stem during phototropism. This differential growth causing bending toward light is best explained by:

A. Lateral redistribution of auxin toward the shaded side, causing greater cell elongation there and bending toward the light source ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Equal auxin distribution causing straight growth
- C. Auxin only acting on roots
- D. Auxin being destroyed by light on the illuminated side

Explanation: Light causes lateral auxin transport away from the illuminated side toward the shaded side; higher auxin concentration there promotes greater cell elongation, bending the shoot toward the light (positive phototropism).

78 Gibberellins are known to break seed dormancy and promote stem elongation. In barley seed germination, gibberellin specifically induces the aleurone layer to produce:

A. Cellulose for new cell walls only

B. α -amylase, which hydrolyzes stored starch in the endosperm into sugars for the embryo ✓ Correct Answer

- C. Auxin
- D. Chlorophyll

Explanation: GA from the germinating embryo diffuses to the aleurone layer, inducing synthesis and secretion of α -amylase, which breaks down starch reserves in the endosperm to nourish the growing embryo.

79 A plant exposed to a brief flash of red light during the dark period fails to flower (if it is a short-day/long-night plant). This is because red light:

- A. Destroys all phytochrome permanently
- B. Always promotes flowering in short-day plants
- C. Has no effect on phytochrome

D. Converts phytochrome Pr to Pfr, which interrupts the required continuous dark period, inhibiting flowering ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Red light converts the inactive Pr form of phytochrome to the active Pfr form; in short-day plants, Pfr presence during the critical dark period inhibits flowering, since these plants actually respond to night length.

80 A population of bacteria grows according to the logistic growth model, initially increasing exponentially but eventually leveling off. The population size at which growth rate becomes zero is called the:

- A. Limiting factor
- B. Biotic potential

C. Carrying capacity (K) ✓ Correct Answer

D. Founder population

Explanation: In the logistic growth model, as population size (N) approaches the carrying capacity (K) of the environment, resources become limiting and the growth rate slows, reaching zero when $N=K$ — the maximum population size the environment can sustainably support.

SECTION

Chemistry

60 Questions (Q81–Q140)

81 An electron in a hydrogen atom transitions from $n=4$ to $n=2$. According to the Rydberg formula, this emission lies in which spectral series?

- A. Paschen series (IR)
- B. Lyman series (UV)
- C. Brackett series (IR)

D. Balmer series (visible) ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Transitions ending at $n=2$ constitute the Balmer series, which falls in the visible region of the electromagnetic spectrum.

82 According to Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, if the position of an electron is determined with very high precision, then:

- A. Its momentum can also be determined with equal precision
- B. Its energy becomes exactly zero
- C. Its charge becomes uncertain

D. Its momentum becomes increasingly uncertain ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: $\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq h/4\pi$; precisely fixing position (small Δx) necessitates a large uncertainty in momentum (Δp), as the product has a fixed minimum.

83 The electronic configuration of Cr ($Z=24$) is $[\text{Ar}] 3d^5 4s^1$ rather than the expected $[\text{Ar}] 3d^4 4s^2$. This is best explained by:

A. Cr does not follow the Aufbau principle at all

B. Extra stability associated with a half-filled 3d subshell (symmetrical distribution and exchange energy) ✓ Correct Answer

- C. A typographical convention with no physical basis
- D. 4s orbital being higher in energy than 3d always

Explanation: A half-filled d^5 configuration has extra stability due to symmetrical electron distribution and maximized exchange energy, favoring one electron shifting from 4s to 3d.

84 Which set of quantum numbers is NOT permissible for an electron in an atom?

- A. $n=4, l=0, m_l=0, m_s=+1/2$
- B. $n=3, l=1, m_l=1, m_s=-1/2$
- C. $n=3, l=2, m_l=-2, m_s=+1/2$

D. $n=2, l=2, m_l=0, m_s=-1/2$ ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: For $n=2$, l can only range from 0 to $n-1$, i.e., $l=0$ or 1 ; $l=2$ is not allowed when $n=2$.

85 The first ionization energy of nitrogen (N) is higher than that of oxygen (O), despite oxygen having a higher nuclear charge. This anomaly is explained by:

A. Nitrogen has a stable half-filled 2p³ configuration, requiring extra energy to remove an electron, while oxygen's 4th 2p electron experiences extra electron-electron repulsion ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Oxygen has a fully filled 2p subshell
- C. Nitrogen has a smaller atomic radius than oxygen
- D. Nitrogen is a noble gas

Explanation: N's exactly half-filled 2p³ configuration is extra stable; removing an electron disrupts this stability. In O (2p⁴), one orbital has paired electrons, and the repulsion between paired electrons makes removal easier than expected, lowering its IE relative to N.

86 Which of the following correctly ranks species by increasing ionic radius: Na⁺, Mg²⁺, Al³⁺, F⁻, O²⁻ (all isoelectronic with Ne)?

- A. O²⁻ < F⁻ < Na⁺ < Mg²⁺ < Al³⁺
- B. All have equal radius since isoelectronic

C. Al³⁺ < Mg²⁺ < Na⁺ < F⁻ < O²⁻ ✓ Correct Answer

- D. Na⁺ < Mg²⁺ < Al³⁺ < F⁻ < O²⁻

Explanation: For isoelectronic species, radius decreases as nuclear charge (Z) increases, since more protons pull the same number of electrons in tighter; order of increasing Z: O²⁻(8) < F⁻(9) < Na⁺(11) < Mg²⁺(12) < Al³⁺(13), so radius decreases in that order, meaning radius increases as: Al³⁺ < Mg²⁺ < Na⁺ < F⁻ < O²⁻.

87 The bond angle in NH₃ (107°) is slightly less than the ideal tetrahedral angle (109.5°). This is due to:

- A. sp³d hybridization in NH₃
- B. NH₃ having no lone pairs

C. Greater repulsion exerted by the lone pair on nitrogen compared to bonding pairs, compressing the H-N-H angle ✓ Correct Answer

- D. The presence of a triple bond

Explanation: VSEPR theory: lone pair-bond pair repulsion is greater than bond pair-bond pair repulsion; the lone pair on N pushes the three N-H bonds slightly closer together, reducing the angle below 109.5°.

88 Which molecule is expected to be polar despite having polar bonds arranged symmetrically being absent — i.e., has a net dipole moment due to molecular geometry?

- A. CCl₄ (tetrahedral)
- B. SF₆ (octahedral)

C. SO₂ (bent) ✓ Correct Answer

- D. CO₂ (linear)

Explanation: SO₂ has a bent (angular) geometry due to a lone pair on sulfur, so the bond dipoles do not cancel, giving a net dipole moment; CO₂, CCl₄, and SF₆ are all symmetric with canceling dipoles.

89 In the molecular orbital theory, the bond order of the O₂ molecule is 2, and it is known to be paramagnetic. This paramagnetism arises because:

- A. O₂ is an ionic compound
- B. O₂ has no antibonding electrons

C. O₂ has two unpaired electrons in degenerate π* antibonding orbitals (Hund's rule) ✓ Correct Answer

- D. O₂ has all electrons paired in bonding orbitals

Explanation: MO theory correctly predicts that the last two electrons in O₂ occupy the two degenerate π*2p orbitals singly (per Hund's rule), giving two unpaired electrons and explaining its observed paramagnetism — something Lewis structures fail to predict.

90 Which of the following has the shortest bond length: N₂, O₂, or F₂ (all diatomic, same period)?

- A. O₂ (bond order 2)
- B. F₂ (bond order 1)
- C. All have equal bond length

D. N₂ (bond order 3) ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Higher bond order corresponds to shorter, stronger bonds. N₂ has a triple bond (bond order 3), giving it the shortest bond length among the three, followed by O₂ (double bond) and F₂ (single bond).

91 A gas occupies 500 mL at 27°C and 1 atm. What volume will it occupy at 127°C at the same pressure (assuming ideal gas behavior)?

A. 667 mL ✓ Correct Answer

- B. 500 mL
- C. 750 mL
- D. 1000 mL

Explanation: Using $V_1/T_1 = V_2/T_2$ (Charles's Law, T in Kelvin): $500/300 = V_2/400$, so $V_2 = 500 \times 400/300 \approx 667$ mL.

92 At STP, 11.2 L of an ideal gas contains how many molecules?

A. 3.011×10^{23} ✓ Correct Answer

- B. 1.505×10^{23}
- C. 12.044×10^{23}
- D. 6.022×10^{23}

Explanation: 11.2 L is half of the molar volume at STP (22.4 L/mol), so moles = 0.5, and molecules = $0.5 \times 6.022 \times 10^{23} = 3.011 \times 10^{23}$.

93 According to the Kinetic Molecular Theory, at the same temperature, which gas molecule has the highest average kinetic energy?

- A. CO₂
- B. O₂
- C. H₂ (lightest)

D. All gases have the same average kinetic energy at a given temperature ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Average kinetic energy of an ideal gas depends only on absolute temperature ($KE = \frac{3}{2} RT$ per mole), independent of molar mass; lighter gases simply move faster to have the same KE.

94 A mixture of gases contains N₂ (2 mol), O₂ (3 mol), and CO₂ (1 mol) at a total pressure of 6 atm. What is the partial pressure of O₂?

A. 3 atm ✓ Correct Answer

- B. 1 atm
- C. 6 atm
- D. 2 atm

Explanation: Mole fraction of O₂ = $3/6 = 0.5$; partial pressure = mole fraction \times total pressure = $0.5 \times 6 = 3$ atm (Dalton's Law).

95 Real gases deviate most from ideal behavior under conditions of:

A. Low temperature and high pressure ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Standard temperature and pressure only
- C. High temperature and high pressure
- D. High temperature and low pressure

Explanation: At low temperature, molecules move slowly so intermolecular attractions become significant; at high pressure, molecular volume becomes significant relative to container volume — both factors invalidated by the ideal gas assumptions, causing maximum deviation.

96 In van der Waals equation $(P + an^2/V^2)(V - nb) = nRT$, the constant 'b' physically represents:

A. The compressibility factor

B. The excluded volume due to the finite size of gas molecules ✓ Correct Answer

- C. The strength of intermolecular attraction
- D. The critical temperature

Explanation: 'b' corrects for the actual volume occupied by gas molecules themselves (excluded volume), accounting for the fact that real molecules have finite size unlike ideal point masses.

97 Graham's law of effusion states that the rate of effusion is inversely proportional to the square root of molar mass. If gas A effuses 2 times faster than gas B, and the molar mass of B is 64 g/mol, what is the molar mass of A?

- A. 32 g/mol
- B. 128 g/mol
- C. 16 g/mol ✓ Correct Answer
- D. 8 g/mol

Explanation: $r_A/r_B = \sqrt{(M_B/M_A)}$; $2 = \sqrt{(64/M_A)}$, so $4 = 64/M_A$, giving $M_A = 16$ g/mol.

98 Which statement correctly describes the relationship between vapor pressure and boiling point for a liquid?

- A. Boiling point decreases as atmospheric pressure increases
- B. A liquid boils when its vapor pressure equals the external (atmospheric) pressure ✓ Correct Answer
- C. Vapor pressure is independent of temperature
- D. A liquid boils when its vapor pressure equals zero

Explanation: Boiling occurs when the vapor pressure of the liquid equals the surrounding atmospheric pressure, allowing bubbles of vapor to form throughout the liquid, not just at the surface.

99 On a phase diagram, the triple point represents the unique condition where:

- A. The substance has zero entropy
- B. Solid, liquid, and gas phases all coexist in equilibrium simultaneously ✓ Correct Answer
- C. Only solid and liquid phases coexist
- D. The substance is in its critical state

Explanation: The triple point is the specific temperature and pressure at which all three phases (solid, liquid, gas) of a substance coexist in thermodynamic equilibrium simultaneously.

100 Why does ice float on liquid water, an unusual property for a solid compared to its liquid form?

- A. Ice has fewer hydrogen bonds than liquid water
- B. Ice has stronger covalent bonds than liquid water
- C. Ice molecules are smaller than liquid water molecules
- D. The open hexagonal hydrogen-bonded lattice structure of ice gives it a lower density than liquid water ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: In ice, water molecules form a rigid, open hexagonal hydrogen-bonded lattice with more empty space than in liquid water, where molecules can pack more closely, giving ice a lower density and allowing it to float.

101 For an exothermic reaction at equilibrium, increasing the temperature will:

- A. Shift equilibrium toward reactants, decreasing K_c ✓ Correct Answer
- B. Shift equilibrium toward products but decrease K_c
- C. Shift equilibrium toward products, increasing K_c
- D. Have no effect on equilibrium position

Explanation: By Le Chatelier's principle, for an exothermic reaction, heat is a product; increasing temperature shifts equilibrium backward (toward reactants) to absorb the added heat, decreasing K_c .

102 A reaction $A(g) + B(g) \rightleftharpoons 2C(g)$ is at equilibrium in a rigid container. If the volume of the container is suddenly decreased (pressure increased), the equilibrium will shift:

- A. Toward reactants, since there are fewer total moles of gas on the reactant side (2 mol) vs product side (2 mol) — no shift ✓ Correct Answer
- B. Toward products, since there are fewer moles of gas
- C. Cannot be determined without K_c value
- D. Toward reactants, but only if temperature also increases

Explanation: Total moles: reactant side = $1+1 = 2$, product side = 2 ; since moles are EQUAL on both sides, changing pressure/volume causes NO shift in equilibrium position.

103 For the reaction $\text{N}_2(\text{g}) + 3\text{H}_2(\text{g}) \rightleftharpoons 2\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$, $\Delta H = -92 \text{ kJ/mol}$. Which condition would maximize the equilibrium yield of NH_3 ?

A. Low temperature and high pressure ✓ Correct Answer

- B. High temperature and low pressure
- C. Temperature and pressure have no effect on yield
- D. High temperature and high pressure

Explanation: Since the forward reaction is exothermic, low temperature favors product formation; since moles decrease from 4 to 2 in the forward direction, high pressure also favors products (Le Chatelier's principle).

104 The equilibrium constant K_c for a reaction at 25°C is 4×10^{-3} . This indicates that at equilibrium:

A. The reaction is exactly at the midpoint

B. The reaction strongly favors reactants (very little product formed) ✓ Correct Answer

- C. K_c has no relation to the extent of reaction
- D. The reaction strongly favors products

Explanation: A small K_c ($\ll 1$) indicates that at equilibrium, the concentration of reactants greatly exceeds that of products, meaning the reaction does not proceed very far forward.

105 For a first-order reaction, the rate constant $k = 0.0231 \text{ min}^{-1}$. What is the half-life of the reaction?

- A. 20 min
- B. 45 min

C. 30 min ✓ Correct Answer

D. 15 min

Explanation: For first order, $t_{1/2} = 0.693/k = 0.693/0.0231 \approx 30$ minutes.

106 In a reaction, doubling the concentration of reactant A causes the rate to increase by a factor of 4, while doubling reactant B has no effect on rate. The overall order of the reaction is:

A. Second order overall (order 2 in A, 0 in B) ✓ Correct Answer

- B. First order overall (order 1 in A, 0 in B)
- C. Zero order overall
- D. Third order overall

Explanation: Rate $\propto [\text{A}]^2[\text{B}]^0$ since doubling A quadruples rate ($2^2=4$, so order in A = 2), and B has no kinetic effect (order 0); total order = $2+0 = 2$.

107 According to collision theory, increasing temperature increases reaction rate primarily because:

- A. It changes the reaction mechanism completely in all cases
- B. It increases the activation energy of the reaction

C. It increases the fraction of molecules possessing energy equal to or greater than the activation energy, and increases collision frequency ✓ Correct Answer

D. It decreases the number of effective collisions

Explanation: Higher temperature shifts the Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution, exponentially increasing the fraction of molecules with sufficient kinetic energy to overcome the activation energy barrier, alongside a modest increase in collision frequency.

108 A catalyst increases the rate of a reaction by:

- A. Shifting the equilibrium position toward products
- B. Increasing the enthalpy change (ΔH) of the reaction
- C. Increasing the temperature of the reaction mixture

D. Providing an alternative reaction pathway with lower activation energy, without being consumed ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Catalysts lower the activation energy by providing an alternate mechanism/pathway; they speed up both forward and reverse reactions equally and are regenerated at the end, so they do NOT shift equilibrium position or affect ΔH .

109 Given: $\text{C(s)} + \text{O}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{CO}_2(\text{g})$, $\Delta H_1 = -393 \text{ kJ/mol}$; $\text{CO(g)} + 1/2 \text{O}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{CO}_2(\text{g})$, $\Delta H_2 = -283 \text{ kJ/mol}$. Using Hess's Law, calculate ΔH for: $\text{C(s)} + 1/2 \text{O}_2(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{CO(g)}$.

A. -393 kJ/mol

B. -110 kJ/mol ✓ Correct Answer

C. +110 kJ/mol

D. -676 kJ/mol

Explanation: Target = Reaction 1 – Reaction 2: $\Delta H = \Delta H_1 - \Delta H_2 = -393 - (-283) = -110 \text{ kJ/mol}$.

110 For a reaction to be spontaneous at all temperatures, which combination of ΔH and ΔS is required?

A. ΔH positive, ΔS positive

B. ΔH positive, ΔS negative

C. ΔH negative, ΔS negative

D. ΔH negative, ΔS positive ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$. If ΔH is negative and ΔS is positive, ΔG is negative at all temperatures, making the reaction spontaneous regardless of temperature.

111 A reaction has $\Delta H = +50 \text{ kJ/mol}$ and $\Delta S = +120 \text{ J/(mol}\cdot\text{K)}$. Above what temperature will this reaction become spontaneous?

A. It is never spontaneous

B. About 250 K

C. About 600 K

D. About 417 K ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: At equilibrium, $\Delta G=0$, so $T = \Delta H/\Delta S = 50000 \text{ J} / 120 \text{ J/K} \approx 417 \text{ K}$; above this temperature, ΔG becomes negative (spontaneous) since the entropy term dominates.

112 In an electrolytic cell, which electrode is the site of oxidation, and what is the sign of that electrode?

A. Anode, positive (connected to the positive terminal of external battery) ✓ Correct Answer

B. Anode, negative

C. Cathode, positive

D. Cathode, negative

Explanation: In electrolysis, oxidation always occurs at the anode; since the external power source drives the reaction, the anode is connected to the positive terminal of the battery, making it positively charged (opposite convention from galvanic cells).

113 Given standard reduction potentials: $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Zn} = -0.76 \text{ V}$, $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Cu} = +0.34 \text{ V}$. What is the standard EMF of a galvanic cell constructed from these half-cells (Zn anode, Cu cathode)?

A. +0.42 V

B. +1.10 V ✓ Correct Answer

C. -1.10 V

D. -0.42 V

Explanation: $E^\circ_{\text{cell}} = E^\circ_{\text{cathode}} - E^\circ_{\text{anode}} = 0.34 - (-0.76) = +1.10 \text{ V}$; positive EMF confirms spontaneity with Zn oxidized (anode) and Cu^{2+} reduced (cathode).

114 During the electrolysis of molten NaCl, what products form at the cathode and anode respectively?

A. O_2 at cathode, H_2 at anode

B. Cl_2 at cathode, Na at anode

C. H_2 at cathode, O_2 at anode

D. Na metal at cathode, Cl_2 gas at anode ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: In molten (no water) NaCl electrolysis, Na^+ ions are reduced to Na metal at the cathode, while Cl^- ions are oxidized to Cl_2 gas at the anode.

115 How many grams of copper will be deposited at the cathode when a current of 2 amperes is passed through CuSO₄ solution for 1 hour (Faraday's constant = 96500 C/mol, Cu = 63.5 g/mol)?

- A. 4.74 g
- B. 9.48 g
- C. 2.37 g ✓ Correct Answer
- D. 1.18 g

Explanation: $Q = It = 2 \times 3600 = 7200$ C. Moles of electrons = $7200/96500 = 0.0746$ mol. $\text{Cu}^{2+} + 2e^- \rightarrow \text{Cu}$, so moles Cu = $0.0746/2 = 0.0373$ mol. Mass = $0.0373 \times 63.5 \approx 2.37$ g.

116 A solution has a pH of 3. What is the hydrogen ion concentration, and how does it compare to a solution of pH 5?

- A. $[\text{H}^+] = 10^{-3}$ M; 2 times more acidic than pH 5
- B. $[\text{H}^+] = 3$ M; 1000 times more acidic
- C. $[\text{H}^+] = 10^{-3}$ M; 100 times more acidic than pH 5 ✓ Correct Answer
- D. $[\text{H}^+] = 10^{-3}$ M; 10 times more acidic than pH 5

Explanation: $[\text{H}^+] = 10^{-\text{pH}} = 10^{-3}$ M. Since pH is logarithmic, a difference of 2 pH units corresponds to a $10^2 = 100$ -fold difference in $[\text{H}^+]$ concentration.

117 A buffer solution is prepared by mixing equal moles of CH₃COOH ($K_a = 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$) and CH₃COONa. What is the approximate pH of this buffer?

- A. 7.00
- B. 3.74
- C. 4.74 ✓ Correct Answer
- D. 5.74

Explanation: Using Henderson-Hasselbalch: $\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log\left(\frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}\right)$. Since moles are equal, $\log(1) = 0$, so $\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a = -\log(1.8 \times 10^{-5}) \approx 4.74$.

118 Which of the following pairs would NOT function as an effective buffer solution?

- A. HCl and NaCl ✓ Correct Answer
- B. H₂CO₃ and NaHCO₃
- C. CH₃COOH and CH₃COONa
- D. NH₄OH and NH₄Cl

Explanation: HCl is a strong acid, fully ionized, and NaCl is a neutral salt of a strong acid/strong base — this combination cannot resist pH changes since there's no weak acid/conjugate base or weak base/conjugate acid equilibrium pair.

119 During acid-base titration of a weak acid with a strong base, at the equivalence point, the pH of the solution will be:

- A. Greater than 7 (basic), due to hydrolysis of the conjugate base ✓ Correct Answer
- B. Less than 7 (acidic)
- C. Undefined
- D. Exactly 7 (neutral)

Explanation: At the equivalence point, the weak acid has been fully converted to its conjugate base (a salt), which hydrolyzes water to produce OH⁻, making the solution basic (pH > 7).

120 Which species acts as both a Bronsted-Lowry acid and base (amphiprotic) in aqueous solution?

- A. NH₄⁺ only
- B. Na⁺
- C. Cl⁻
- D. HCO₃⁻ (bicarbonate ion) ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: HCO₃⁻ can donate a proton to form CO₃²⁻ (acting as an acid) or accept a proton to form H₂CO₃ (acting as a base), making it amphiprotic.

121 In the reaction of 2-bromobutane with a strong base like KOH in ethanol (alcoholic KOH), the major product is determined by Zaitsev's rule. What is the major product?

- A. 2-butanol via substitution
- B. 1-butene (less substituted alkene)
- C. Butane via reduction

D. 2-butene (more substituted alkene, major product) ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Alcoholic KOH favors E2 elimination; Zaitsev's rule predicts the more substituted (more stable) alkene, 2-butene, as the major product over the less substituted 1-butene.

122 Which mechanism (SN1 or SN2) would a tertiary alkyl halide most likely undergo when reacting with a weak nucleophile in a polar protic solvent, and why?

A. SN1, because the bulky tertiary carbocation intermediate is stabilized by hyperconjugation/inductive effects and steric hindrance disfavors backside attack ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Neither mechanism is possible for tertiary halides
- C. SN2, because tertiary carbocations are never stable
- D. SN2, because tertiary carbons are sterically accessible

Explanation: Tertiary carbons are too sterically hindered for SN2 backside attack; instead, they readily ionize to form a relatively stable tertiary carbocation (stabilized by +I and hyperconjugation effects), favoring the SN1 pathway, especially in polar protic solvents.

123 Markovnikov's rule predicts that in the addition of HBr to propene (CH₃-CH=CH₂), the major product is:

- A. Propane
- B. 1-bromopropane (Br on terminal carbon)
- C. 1,2-dibromopropane

D. 2-bromopropane (Br on the more substituted carbon, via the more stable secondary carbocation) ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Markovnikov's rule: H adds to the carbon already bearing more hydrogens, and Br adds to the carbon that gives the more stable carbocation intermediate — here, the secondary carbocation, yielding 2-bromopropane.

124 In anti-Markovnikov addition of HBr to propene in the presence of peroxides, the reaction proceeds via a free radical mechanism. The major product differs from Markovnikov addition because:

- A. The mechanism is identical to ionic addition
- B. The bromine radical adds first to the terminal carbon, generating the more stable secondary radical, ultimately giving 1-bromopropane ✓ Correct Answer
- C. The product is always the same as Markovnikov addition
- D. Peroxides have no effect on regiochemistry

Explanation: In the radical (peroxide) mechanism, Br• adds first to the less hindered terminal carbon, generating the more stable secondary free radical; subsequent H abstraction gives 1-bromopropane — the reverse regiochemistry compared to ionic Markovnikov addition.

125 Benzene undergoes electrophilic aromatic substitution rather than addition reactions (unlike alkenes) primarily because:

- A. Benzene is less reactive than alkanes
- B. Addition reactions are thermodynamically impossible for any cyclic compound
- C. Benzene has no pi electrons

D. Substitution preserves the aromatic stability (delocalized pi system) of the ring, whereas addition would destroy this resonance stabilization ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Benzene's aromatic ring gains substantial resonance/delocalization stabilization energy; substitution reactions allow the ring to regenerate full aromaticity after the reaction, while addition would permanently disrupt this highly stable conjugated system.

126 In nitration of benzene, the electrophile generated from concentrated HNO₃ and H₂SO₄ is:

- A. NO₃⁻ (nitrate ion)
- B. HNO₂ (nitrous acid)
- C. **NO₂⁺ (nitronium ion) ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. NO₂⁻ (nitrite ion)

Explanation: H₂SO₄ protonates HNO₃, which then loses water to generate the nitronium ion (NO₂⁺), the actual electrophile that attacks the benzene ring in nitration.

127 A methyl group (-CH₃) on a benzene ring is an ortho/para director and activates the ring toward further electrophilic substitution. This is because the methyl group:

- A. **Donates electron density into the ring via hyperconjugation/inductive effect, increasing electron density most at ortho and para positions ✓ Correct Answer**
- B. Withdraws electron density from the ring through induction, deactivating it
- C. Is a meta director due to resonance withdrawal
- D. Has no electronic effect on the ring

Explanation: Alkyl groups like -CH₃ are weak electron donors via hyperconjugation and the inductive effect, increasing electron density in the ring (activating it) and directing incoming electrophiles preferentially to ortho and para positions through resonance structures.

128 Which functional group test distinguishes aldehydes from ketones based on the ability to be oxidized?

- A. Bromine water test
- B. **Tollens' test (silver mirror) - aldehydes give a positive result, ketones do not ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. Lucas test - distinguishes aldehydes from ketones
- D. Iodoform test - only ketones give positive results

Explanation: Aldehydes are easily oxidized (have an available H on the carbonyl carbon) and give a positive Tollens' test (silver mirror), reducing Ag⁺ to metallic Ag; ketones lack this H and generally do not give a positive Tollens' test.

129 In a nucleophilic addition reaction of a Grignard reagent (RMgX) with formaldehyde (HCHO), followed by acidic workup, the product is:

- A. A secondary alcohol
- B. A carboxylic acid
- C. **A primary alcohol (one carbon longer than R) ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. A ketone

Explanation: Grignard addition to formaldehyde (the simplest aldehyde, with two H's on the carbonyl carbon) followed by protonation always yields a primary alcohol, since the carbonyl carbon retains two hydrogens.

130 Esterification of a carboxylic acid with an alcohol (Fischer esterification) is an acid-catalyzed equilibrium reaction. To shift equilibrium toward the ester product, which strategy is commonly used?

- A. **Removing water as it forms (e.g., using a Dean-Stark trap) or using excess alcohol, per Le Chatelier's principle ✓ Correct Answer**
- B. Decreasing the concentration of the acid catalyst
- C. Lowering the temperature to absolute zero
- D. Adding more water to the reaction mixture

Explanation: Since esterification produces water as a byproduct in an equilibrium reaction, continuously removing water (or using excess alcohol reactant) shifts the equilibrium toward greater ester formation, per Le Chatelier's principle.

131 Carboxylic acids are more acidic than alcohols and phenols because:

- A. Carboxylic acids have a higher molecular weight
- B. **The carboxylate anion formed after deprotonation is stabilized by resonance delocalization of the negative charge over two equivalent oxygen atoms ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. Alcohols have no oxygen atoms
- D. Carboxylic acid O-H bonds are covalent while alcohol bonds are ionic

Explanation: Loss of a proton from -COOH gives a carboxylate ion (-COO⁻) where the negative charge is delocalized equally over both oxygen atoms via resonance, providing significant stabilization not available to alkoxide (alcohol) or even phenoxide ions to the same degree.

132 Why is phenol more acidic than a typical aliphatic alcohol like ethanol, but less acidic than a carboxylic acid?

A. Ethanol is more acidic than phenol

B. Phenol's negative charge after deprotonation is delocalized into the aromatic ring via resonance, providing some stabilization, but less than the equivalent resonance in carboxylate ions ✓ Correct Answer

C. Phenol and carboxylic acids have identical acidity

D. Phenol has no resonance stabilization

Explanation: The phenoxide ion delocalizes negative charge into the ring (resonance stabilization, increasing acidity over simple alcohols), but this delocalization onto carbon is less effective than the symmetric, equivalent oxygen-oxygen resonance in carboxylate ions, so phenol is intermediate in acidity.

133 Amines act as bases due to the lone pair on nitrogen. Which of the following amines would be expected to be the WEAKEST base in aqueous solution: methylamine, aniline, or ammonia?

A. Aniline (C₆H₅NH₂), because the nitrogen lone pair is delocalized into the aromatic ring, reducing its availability to accept a proton ✓ Correct Answer

B. All have equal basicity

C. Methylamine (CH₃NH₂)

D. Ammonia (NH₃)

Explanation: In aniline, the nitrogen lone pair participates in resonance with the benzene ring, making it less available to bond with H⁺, significantly reducing basicity compared to ammonia or alkyl amines like methylamine (which is enhanced by the +I effect of the methyl group).

134 In protein structure, the alpha-helix secondary structure is stabilized primarily by:

A. Hydrogen bonds between the C=O of one amino acid and the N-H of an amino acid four residues ahead in the same chain ✓ Correct Answer

B. Ionic bonds between charged side chains

C. Hydrophobic interactions in the core only

D. Disulfide bonds between cysteine residues

Explanation: The α -helix is held together by a regular, repeating pattern of intrachain hydrogen bonds between backbone carbonyl oxygens and amide hydrogens spaced four residues apart, creating the characteristic coiled structure.

135 During the Benedict's test, a reducing sugar produces a brick-red precipitate. This occurs because the sugar:

A. Has no carbonyl group

B. Oxidizes Cu⁺ to Cu²⁺

C. Forms a complex with sodium citrate only, with no redox reaction

D. Reduces Cu²⁺ (blue) to Cu₂O (brick-red precipitate) via its free aldehyde or ketone group under alkaline conditions ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Reducing sugars have a free aldehyde or alpha-hydroxy ketone group that can reduce Cu²⁺ ions (deep blue, in Benedict's reagent) to Cu₂O, an insoluble brick-red precipitate, under alkaline heating conditions.

136 Glucose and fructose are both reducing sugars and structural isomers (C₆H₁₂O₆), but they differ in:

A. Fructose is not a reducing sugar

B. Molecular formula

C. The position of the carbonyl group: glucose has an aldehyde (aldose) while fructose has a ketone (ketose) ✓ Correct Answer

D. Glucose has a different molecular formula from fructose

Explanation: Glucose and fructose share the formula C₆H₁₂O₆ but are functional isomers: glucose is an aldohexose (aldehyde at C1), while fructose is a ketohexose (ketone at C2).

137 In the formation of a glycosidic bond between two glucose molecules to form maltose, which type of reaction occurs?

A. Hydrolysis, releasing one water molecule

B. Condensation (dehydration synthesis), releasing one water molecule and forming an α -1,4 glycosidic bond ✓ Correct Answer

C. Oxidation-reduction with no water involved

D. Addition reaction without loss of water

Explanation: Maltose forms via a condensation/dehydration synthesis reaction between two glucose units, where an -OH from one and -H from the other combine to release H₂O and form the glycosidic linkage.

138 DNA has a higher melting temperature (T_m) when it has a higher percentage of G-C base pairs compared to A-T base pairs. This is because:

A. G-C content has no effect on DNA stability

B. G-C pairs have no hydrogen bonds

C. G-C pairs are held by 3 hydrogen bonds, while A-T pairs are held by only 2, making G-C rich DNA require more energy to separate strands ✓ Correct Answer

D. A-T pairs are covalently linked

Explanation: Guanine-cytosine pairs form 3 hydrogen bonds versus 2 for adenine-thymine pairs; more hydrogen bonds per base pair means more energy (higher temperature) is needed to denature/melt G-C rich DNA regions.

139 Which type of isomerism is exhibited by cis-2-butene and trans-2-butene?

A. Optical isomerism

B. Functional group isomerism

C. Geometric (cis-trans) isomerism, due to restricted rotation around the C=C double bond ✓ Correct Answer

D. Chain isomerism

Explanation: The C=C double bond prevents free rotation, so the two different groups on each carbon can be arranged on the same side (cis) or opposite sides (trans) of the double bond, giving rise to geometric isomers with distinct physical properties.

140 Lactic acid (CH₃-CHOH-COOH) has a chiral carbon and exhibits optical isomerism. A racemic mixture of lactic acid:

A. Cannot exist because chiral molecules are always pure

B. Rotates plane-polarized light strongly to the right

C. Contains equal amounts of both enantiomers and shows NO net optical rotation ✓ Correct Answer

D. Is optically active because both isomers rotate light in the same direction

Explanation: A racemic mixture contains equal amounts of the (+) and (-) enantiomers; their optical rotations are equal in magnitude but opposite in direction, so they cancel out, giving zero net optical rotation.

SECTION

Physics

50 Questions (Q141-Q190)

141 A ball is thrown vertically upward with initial velocity 20 m/s. Taking $g=10 \text{ m/s}^2$, what is the total time of flight before it returns to the launch point?

- A. 1 s
- B. 2 s
- C. 4 s ✓ Correct Answer
- D. 8 s

Explanation: Time to reach max height = $u/g = 20/10 = 2\text{s}$; total time of flight (up and down, same launch/landing height) = $2 \times 2\text{s} = 4\text{s}$.

142 A projectile is launched at an angle of 45° to maximize its range on level ground. If the launch speed is u , the maximum range R is given by:

- A. $R = u^2g$
- B. $R = u^2/g$ ✓ Correct Answer
- C. $R = 2u^2/g$
- D. $R = u^2/(2g)$

Explanation: Range formula: $R = u^2\sin(2\theta)/g$; at $\theta=45^\circ$, $\sin(90^\circ)=1$, so $R = u^2/g$, which is the maximum possible range for a given launch speed.

143 A car moving at 20 m/s decelerates uniformly and comes to rest after traveling 100 m. What is the deceleration?

- A. 2 m/s^2 ✓ Correct Answer
- B. 1 m/s^2
- C. 5 m/s^2
- D. 4 m/s^2

Explanation: Using $v^2=u^2+2as$ with $v=0$: $0 = 400 + 2a(100)$, so $a = -400/200 = -2 \text{ m/s}^2$, i.e., deceleration of 2 m/s^2 .

144 Two blocks of mass 2 kg and 3 kg are connected by a string over a frictionless pulley (Atwood machine). What is the acceleration of the system ($g=10 \text{ m/s}^2$)?

- A. 1 m/s^2
- B. 2 m/s^2 ✓ Correct Answer
- C. 10 m/s^2
- D. 5 m/s^2

Explanation: $a = (m_2-m_1)g/(m_1+m_2) = (3-2)(10)/(3+2) = 10/5 = 2 \text{ m/s}^2$.

145 A block of mass 5 kg rests on a rough horizontal surface (coefficient of static friction $\mu_s=0.4$). What is the minimum horizontal force needed to just start moving the block ($g=10 \text{ m/s}^2$)?

- A. 30 N
- B. 50 N
- C. 10 N

D. 20 N ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Maximum static friction = $\mu_s \times N = 0.4 \times (5 \times 10) = 0.4 \times 50 = 20 \text{ N}$; the applied force must just exceed this to initiate motion.

146 A satellite orbits Earth in a circular orbit at a radius where its orbital period equals Earth's rotational period (24 hours). This satellite is best described as being in a:

- A. Polar orbit

B. Geostationary orbit ✓ Correct Answer

- C. Low Earth orbit (LEO)
- D. Elliptical orbit

Explanation: A satellite whose orbital period matches Earth's rotation (and is positioned over the equator moving in the same direction) appears stationary relative to a point on Earth — this defines a geostationary orbit.

147 According to Kepler's third law, if planet A is 4 times farther from the Sun than planet B, how does the orbital period of A compare to B?

- A. $T_A = 16T_B$
- B. $T_A = 2T_B$

C. $T_A = 8T_B$ ✓ Correct Answer

- D. $T_A = 4T_B$

Explanation: $T^2 \propto r^3$, so $T_A/T_B = (r_A/r_B)^{3/2} = 4^{1.5} = 8$; $T_A = 8T_B$.

148 At what height above Earth's surface would the acceleration due to gravity be reduced to 1/4 of its surface value ($R = \text{Earth's radius}$)?

- A. $h = 4R$
- B. $h = R/2$
- C. $h = 2R$

D. $h = R$ ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: $g_h = gR^2/(R+h)^2$. Setting $g_h = g/4$ requires $(R+h)^2 = 4R^2$, so $R+h = 2R$, giving $h = R$.

149 A 2 kg object moving at 3 m/s collides perfectly inelastically with a stationary 1 kg object. What is their common velocity after collision?

A. 2 m/s ✓ Correct Answer

- B. 1 m/s
- C. 3 m/s
- D. 6 m/s

Explanation: Momentum conservation: $m_1u_1 = (m_1+m_2)v \rightarrow 2 \times 3 = 3 \times v \rightarrow v = 2 \text{ m/s}$.

150 In an elastic collision between two objects of equal mass, where one is initially at rest, what happens after the collision?

- A. Both objects move together with half the initial velocity
- B. Both objects bounce back

C. The moving object stops, and the stationary object moves off with the initial velocity of the first object ✓ Correct Answer

- D. No transfer of momentum occurs

Explanation: For a 1D elastic collision between equal masses with one initially at rest, velocities are exactly exchanged: the incoming object stops completely, and the target moves off with the original velocity.

151 A solid sphere and a hollow sphere of the same mass and radius roll down an incline without slipping, starting from rest. Which reaches the bottom first?

A. Hollow sphere, because it has greater moment of inertia

B. Solid sphere, because it has a smaller moment of inertia ($I=2/5 MR^2$) and converts more energy into translational KE ✓ Correct Answer

C. They arrive at the same time regardless of mass distribution

D. Cannot be determined without friction coefficient

Explanation: The solid sphere has a smaller moment of inertia relative to its mass ($2/5 MR^2$ vs $2/3 MR^2$ for hollow sphere), so a smaller fraction of its gravitational PE converts to rotational KE, leaving more for translational KE/speed, so it accelerates faster down the incline.

152 A torque of 10 N·m is applied to a wheel with moment of inertia 2 kg·m². What is the resulting angular acceleration?

A. 20 rad/s²

B. 2 rad/s²

C. 5 rad/s² ✓ Correct Answer

D. 10 rad/s²

Explanation: $\tau = I\alpha$, so $\alpha = \tau/I = 10/2 = 5 \text{ rad/s}^2$.

153 A figure skater spinning with arms extended pulls her arms in close to her body. According to conservation of angular momentum, her angular velocity will:

A. Decrease, since moment of inertia decreases

B. Become zero

C. Increase, since moment of inertia decreases and $L=I\omega$ is conserved ✓ Correct Answer

D. Remain unchanged

Explanation: With no external torque, angular momentum $L=I\omega$ is conserved; pulling arms in reduces moment of inertia I , so angular velocity ω must increase proportionally to keep L constant.

154 A 10 kg mass is raised vertically by 5 m in 2 seconds at constant velocity. What is the average power developed ($g=10 \text{ m/s}^2$)?

A. 500 W

B. 100 W

C. 1000 W

D. 250 W ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Work done = $mgh = 10 \times 10 \times 5 = 500 \text{ J}$; Power = Work/time = $500/2 = 250 \text{ W}$.

155 A spring with spring constant $k=200 \text{ N/m}$ is compressed by 0.1 m. What is the elastic potential energy stored?

A. 20 J

B. 10 J

C. 2 J

D. 1 J ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: PE = $\frac{1}{2}kx^2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 200 \times (0.1)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 200 \times 0.01 = 1 \text{ J}$.

156 A 1000 kg car traveling at 20 m/s applies brakes and stops over a distance of 50 m due to friction. What is the average frictional force?

A. 4000 N ✓ Correct Answer

B. 8000 N

C. 10000 N

D. 2000 N

Explanation: KE = $\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 400 = 200000 \text{ J}$. Work-energy theorem: $F \times d = KE$, so $F = 200000/50 = 4000 \text{ N}$.

157 Two identical springs, each with spring constant k , are connected in series. What is the effective spring constant of the combination?

- A. k
- B. $k/2$ ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. $2k$
- D. k^2

Explanation: For springs in series, $1/k_{\text{eff}} = 1/k + 1/k = 2/k$, so $k_{\text{eff}} = k/2$ (analogous to resistors in parallel, weaker than either spring alone).

158 A simple pendulum has a period of 2 s on Earth. If taken to a planet where g is 4 times Earth's gravity, what would its new period be?

- A. 2 s
- B. 0.5 s
- C. 1 s ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. 4 s

Explanation: $T = 2\pi\sqrt{L/g}$; $T \propto 1/\sqrt{g}$. If g increases 4 \times , T decreases by factor $\sqrt{4}=2$, so new period = $2/2 = 1$ s.

159 In simple harmonic motion, at the maximum displacement (amplitude) from equilibrium, the velocity and acceleration of the particle are respectively:

- A. Maximum velocity, maximum acceleration
- B. Maximum velocity, zero acceleration
- C. Zero velocity, maximum acceleration (directed toward equilibrium) ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Zero velocity, zero acceleration

Explanation: At maximum displacement, all kinetic energy has converted to potential energy ($v=0$), while the restoring force (and thus acceleration) is maximum, directed back toward the equilibrium position.

160 A wave has a frequency of 500 Hz and travels at 340 m/s in air. What is its wavelength?

- A. 17 m
- B. 0.68 m ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. 0.34 m
- D. 1.7 m

Explanation: $\lambda = v/f = 340/500 = 0.68$ m.

161 Two coherent sound waves of equal amplitude meet and undergo destructive interference at a point. This occurs when the path difference between them is:

- A. Zero only
- B. Always equal to the wavelength regardless of value
- C. An odd multiple of half wavelength ($(2n+1)\lambda/2$) ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. An integral multiple of wavelength ($n\lambda$)

Explanation: Destructive interference occurs when waves arrive exactly out of phase, which happens when the path difference is an odd multiple of half the wavelength, causing crest to meet trough.

162 A police car siren emits sound at 1000 Hz while approaching a stationary observer at 34 m/s (speed of sound = 340 m/s). What frequency does the observer hear?

- A. 900 Hz
- B. 1200 Hz
- C. 1111 Hz ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. 1000 Hz

Explanation: Doppler effect (source approaching, observer stationary): $f' = f \times v/(v-v_s) = 1000 \times 340/(340-34) = 1000 \times 340/306 \approx 1111$ Hz.

163 A stretched string fixed at both ends vibrates in its third harmonic (third overtone counting includes fundamental as first). How many nodes (excluding the two fixed ends) are present?

- A. 1 node
- B. 4 nodes
- C. 3 nodes

D. 2 nodes ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: In the third harmonic, the string forms 3 half-wavelength segments; total nodes including the two ends = 4, so excluding the fixed ends, there are 2 internal nodes.

164 According to the first law of thermodynamics, if a gas absorbs 500 J of heat and does 200 J of work on the surroundings, what is the change in internal energy?

- A. 500 J
- B. 700 J
- C. 200 J

D. 300 J ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: $\Delta U = Q - W = 500 - 200 = 300$ J (using the convention $W =$ work done BY the gas).

165 In an isothermal process for an ideal gas, the internal energy change ΔU is:

- A. Always positive
- B. Always negative
- C. Equal to the heat absorbed

D. Zero, since internal energy of an ideal gas depends only on temperature ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: For an ideal gas, internal energy depends only on temperature (not volume/pressure); in an isothermal process, T is constant, so $\Delta U = 0$, meaning all heat absorbed equals work done by the gas.

166 A Carnot engine operates between a hot reservoir at 600 K and a cold reservoir at 300 K. What is its maximum theoretical efficiency?

A. 50% ✓ Correct Answer

- B. 25%
- C. 75%
- D. 100%

Explanation: Carnot efficiency = $1 - T_c/T_h = 1 - 300/600 = 1 - 0.5 = 0.5 = 50\%$.

167 According to the second law of thermodynamics, which statement is correct regarding entropy in an isolated system?

A. Entropy of an isolated system never decreases; it increases for irreversible (spontaneous) processes ✓ Correct Answer

- B. Entropy always remains constant
- C. Entropy always decreases
- D. Entropy has no relevance to spontaneity

Explanation: The second law states that the total entropy of an isolated system can never decrease over time; for any spontaneous (irreversible) process, total entropy strictly increases, reaching a maximum at equilibrium.

168 Two point charges of $+4 \mu\text{C}$ and $+9 \mu\text{C}$ are placed 1 m apart. At what distance from the $+4 \mu\text{C}$ charge (along the line joining them) will the net electric field be zero?

- A. 0.6 m
- B. 0.8 m
- C. 0.5 m

D. 0.4 m ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Set fields equal: $k(4)/x^2 = k(9)/(1-x)^2$. Taking square roots: $2/x = 3/(1-x)$, so $2(1-x) = 3x$, $2 = 5x$, $x = 0.4$ m from the $+4 \mu\text{C}$ charge (the point lies between the charges, closer to the smaller charge).

169 A parallel plate capacitor has capacitance C . If the distance between the plates is doubled while a dielectric of constant $K=2$ is inserted to fill the gap, what is the new capacitance?

A. $C/2$

B. C ✓ Correct Answer

C. $4C$

D. $2C$

Explanation: $C = K\epsilon_0 A/d$. New capacitance = $(2)\epsilon_0 A/(2d) = \epsilon_0 A/d = C$ (the doubling of d and the dielectric constant $K=2$ exactly cancel).

170 Three capacitors of $2\ \mu\text{F}$, $3\ \mu\text{F}$, and $6\ \mu\text{F}$ are connected in series. What is the equivalent capacitance?

A. $1\ \mu\text{F}$ ✓ Correct Answer

B. $11\ \mu\text{F}$

C. $6\ \mu\text{F}$

D. $2\ \mu\text{F}$

Explanation: $1/C_{\text{eq}} = 1/2 + 1/3 + 1/6 = 3/6 + 2/6 + 1/6 = 6/6 = 1$, so $C_{\text{eq}} = 1\ \mu\text{F}$.

171 A wire of resistance R is stretched uniformly so its length doubles (and its volume remains constant, so cross-sectional area halves). What is the new resistance?

A. R

B. $4R$ ✓ Correct Answer

C. $2R$

D. $R/2$

Explanation: $R = \rho L/A$. If L doubles and volume ($A \times L$) is constant, A halves. New $R' = \rho(2L)/(A/2) = 4\rho L/A = 4R$.

172 In a circuit, a $12\ \text{V}$ battery with internal resistance $1\ \Omega$ is connected to an external resistor of $5\ \Omega$. What is the current flowing in the circuit?

A. $1\ \text{A}$

B. $2\ \text{A}$ ✓ Correct Answer

C. $12\ \text{A}$

D. $3\ \text{A}$

Explanation: $I = \text{EMF}/(R+r) = 12/(5+1) = 12/6 = 2\ \text{A}$.

173 Three resistors of $2\ \Omega$, $3\ \Omega$, and $6\ \Omega$ are connected in parallel. What is the equivalent resistance?

A. $1\ \Omega$ ✓ Correct Answer

B. $2\ \Omega$

C. $6\ \Omega$

D. $11\ \Omega$

Explanation: $1/R_{\text{eq}} = 1/2 + 1/3 + 1/6 = 3/6 + 2/6 + 1/6 = 6/6 = 1$, so $R_{\text{eq}} = 1\ \Omega$.

174 A Wheatstone bridge is balanced when the galvanometer shows zero deflection. This condition is satisfied when:

A. The galvanometer has infinite resistance

B. The ratio of resistances in one pair of arms equals the ratio in the other pair ($P/Q = R/S$) ✓ Correct Answer

C. The battery EMF is zero

D. All four resistances are exactly equal

Explanation: A Wheatstone bridge is balanced (no current through the galvanometer) when the ratio of resistances on one side equals the ratio on the other side: $P/Q = R/S$, making the bridge points equipotential.

175 A straight current-carrying conductor is placed in a uniform magnetic field perpendicular to it. The force on the conductor is maximum when the angle between current direction and field is:

- A. 45°
- B. 0°
- C. 90° ✓ Correct Answer
- D. 180°

Explanation: $F = BIL \sin\theta$; force is maximum when $\sin\theta=1$, i.e., $\theta=90^\circ$, when the current is perpendicular to the magnetic field.

176 A circular loop carrying current I produces a magnetic field at its center. If the radius of the loop is doubled while current is kept constant, the magnetic field at the center becomes:

- A. Double the original
- B. Quarter of the original
- C. Half of the original ✓ Correct Answer
- D. Same as original

Explanation: B at the center of a circular loop $= \mu_0 I / (2r)$, which is inversely proportional to r ; doubling the radius r therefore halves the magnetic field at the center.

177 According to Faraday's law of electromagnetic induction, the EMF induced in a coil is proportional to:

- A. The magnetic flux through the coil
- B. The resistance of the coil
- C. The square of the number of turns only
- D. The rate of change of magnetic flux through the coil ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: Faraday's law: $EMF = -N(d\Phi/dt)$; the induced EMF depends on how rapidly the magnetic flux changes, not on the absolute flux value itself.

178 Lenz's law, which determines the direction of induced current, is fundamentally a consequence of which conservation principle?

- A. Conservation of momentum
- B. Conservation of energy ✓ Correct Answer
- C. Conservation of charge
- D. Conservation of mass

Explanation: Lenz's law states the induced current opposes the change that produced it; this opposition (requiring work to be done against the induced effect) ensures energy is conserved, preventing the creation of energy from nothing.

179 A transformer has a primary coil with 100 turns and a secondary coil with 500 turns. If the primary voltage is 20 V, what is the secondary voltage (assuming an ideal transformer)?

- A. 4 V
- B. 100 V ✓ Correct Answer
- C. 20 V
- D. 500 V

Explanation: $V_s/V_p = N_s/N_p$, so $V_s = 20 \times (500/100) = 20 \times 5 = 100$ V (a step-up transformer).

180 In the photoelectric effect, increasing the intensity of incident light (while keeping frequency constant, above threshold) results in:

- A. Increased number of photoelectrons emitted per second, with KE_{max} unchanged ✓ Correct Answer
- B. Increased maximum kinetic energy of emitted photoelectrons
- C. No photoelectrons emitted at all
- D. Decreased number of photoelectrons

Explanation: Intensity relates to the number of photons per second, not their individual energy; more photons eject more electrons (more current), but each photon's energy (hf) determines KE_{max} , which is unaffected by intensity alone.

181 The threshold frequency for a metal is f_0 . If light of frequency $f_0/2$ is incident on the metal, what will be observed?

A. No photoelectrons are emitted, regardless of intensity, since the photon energy is below the work function ✓ **Correct Answer**

- B. Photoelectrons are emitted only if intensity is very high
- C. Photoelectrons are emitted with high kinetic energy
- D. Photoelectrons are emitted with low kinetic energy

Explanation: Below the threshold frequency, individual photons do not carry enough energy ($hf < \text{work function}$) to eject electrons, regardless of how many photons (intensity) arrive — a key feature explained only by the particle (quantum) nature of light.

182 According to Bohr's model of the hydrogen atom, the radius of the n th orbit is proportional to:

A. n

B. n^2 ✓ **Correct Answer**

- C. $1/n$
- D. $1/n^2$

Explanation: Bohr's model gives $r_n = n^2(h^2\epsilon_0)/(\pi m e^2)$ for hydrogen, i.e., $r_n \propto n^2$, so orbital radius increases with the square of the principal quantum number.

183 In radioactive decay, a nucleus undergoes alpha decay. Compared to the parent nucleus, the daughter nucleus has:

A. Mass number decreased by 4, atomic number decreased by 2 ✓ **Correct Answer**

- B. Mass number decreased by 2, atomic number decreased by 4
- C. Mass number unchanged, atomic number decreased by 2
- D. Mass number decreased by 4, atomic number unchanged

Explanation: An alpha particle is a helium nucleus (2 protons, 2 neutrons); its emission reduces the parent's mass number by 4 and atomic number by 2.

184 A radioactive sample has a half-life of 10 days. After 30 days, what fraction of the original sample remains?

A. $1/2$

B. $1/8$ ✓ **Correct Answer**

- C. $1/4$
- D. $1/16$

Explanation: 30 days = 3 half-lives; remaining fraction = $(1/2)^3 = 1/8$.

185 In a nuclear fission reaction, the mass of the products is slightly less than the mass of the reactants. According to Einstein's mass-energy equivalence, this 'missing mass' is converted into:

A. Energy released, $E = \Delta mc^2$ ✓ **Correct Answer**

- B. New protons
- C. Additional neutrons only
- D. Antimatter exclusively

Explanation: The mass defect (Δm) between reactants and products is converted into the enormous energy released in fission, according to $E = \Delta mc^2$, where c^2 is a very large conversion factor.

186 In a p-n junction diode under forward bias, the width of the depletion region:

A. Remains unchanged

B. Increases

C. Decreases, allowing majority carriers to flow more easily across the junction ✓ **Correct Answer**

- D. Becomes infinite

Explanation: Forward bias opposes the internal electric field of the depletion region, narrowing it and lowering the barrier potential, allowing majority charge carriers to flow and current to increase.

187 A common-emitter NPN transistor amplifier circuit has a current gain (β) of 100. If the base current is $20 \mu\text{A}$, what is the collector current?

A. 20 mA

B. 2 mA ✓ Correct Answer

C. 200 mA

D. 0.2 mA

Explanation: $\beta = I_c/I_b$, so $I_c = \beta \times I_b = 100 \times 20 \mu\text{A} = 2000 \mu\text{A} = 2 \text{ mA}$.

188 In a half-wave rectifier circuit using a single diode, what fraction of the AC input cycle does the output current flow?

A. 50% of the cycle (only during one half-cycle when the diode is forward biased) ✓ Correct Answer

B. 0%, no current ever flows

C. 25% of the cycle

D. 100% of the cycle

Explanation: A single diode in a half-wave rectifier conducts only during the half-cycle when it is forward biased, blocking current during the other half-cycle, so output current flows for only 50% of the input cycle.

189 A converging (convex) lens forms a real, inverted, and magnified image. The object must be placed:

A. Between the lens and F (within the focal length)

B. Beyond 2F (further than twice the focal length)

C. Between F and 2F ✓ Correct Answer

D. Exactly at the focal point F

Explanation: For a converging lens, placing the object between F and 2F produces a real, inverted, magnified image beyond 2F on the other side, as can be confirmed via ray diagrams or the lens equation.

190 Using the lens formula $1/f = 1/v - 1/u$, if an object is placed at $u = -30 \text{ cm}$ from a converging lens of focal length $f = +10 \text{ cm}$, what is the image distance v ?

A. $v = -7.5 \text{ cm}$

B. $v = 7.5 \text{ cm}$

C. $v = -15 \text{ cm}$

D. $v = 15 \text{ cm}$ ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: $1/f = 1/v - 1/u \rightarrow 1/10 = 1/v - 1/(-30) = 1/v + 1/30$. So $1/v = 1/10 - 1/30 = 3/30 - 1/30 = 2/30 = 1/15$, giving $v = 15 \text{ cm}$ (a real image on the opposite side of the lens).

SECTION

English

10 Questions (Q191-Q200)

191 Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to '**PERSPICACIOUS**':

- A. Discerning
- B. Astute
- C. Obtuse ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Lucid

Explanation: 'Perspicacious' means having keen mental perception and understanding. 'Obtuse' (slow to understand, dull) is its direct antonym; the other three options are synonyms of perspicacious.

192 Select the option that best completes the analogy: **DOCTOR : STETHOSCOPE :: ASTRONOMER : ?**

- A. Star
- B. Laboratory
- C. Microscope

D. Telescope ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: A doctor's primary tool of observation is a stethoscope; an astronomer's primary tool of observation is a telescope — both relate a professional to their characteristic instrument.

193 Identify the grammatically correct sentence:

- A. Neither of the students have submitted their assignment.
- B. Neither of the students has submitted his or her assignment. ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. Neither of students has submit their assignment.
- D. Neither of the student have submitted their assignment.

Explanation: 'Neither' is singular and takes a singular verb ('has'); since the subject (neither/each student individually) is singular, the pronoun should agree in number too, so 'his or her' is correct rather than 'their'.

194 Choose the correctly punctuated sentence:

- A. The professor who is renowned for his research published, a new paper.
- B. The professor, who is renowned for his research, published a new paper. ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. The professor who is renowned for his research, published a new paper.
- D. The professor, who is renowned for his research published a new paper.

Explanation: The non-restrictive (non-essential) relative clause 'who is renowned for his research' must be set off by a pair of commas on both sides since it adds extra, non-essential information about the professor.

195 Choose the word closest in meaning to 'EPHEMERAL':

- A. Permanent
- B. Robust
- C. Transient ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Eternal

Explanation: 'Ephemeral' means lasting for a very short time; 'transient' is its closest synonym, while the other options describe long-lasting or enduring qualities — the opposite meaning.

196 In the sentence 'Despite of the heavy rain, the match continued', identify the error:

- A. 'heavy rain' should be 'heavily rain'
- B. 'Despite of' is incorrect; it should be either 'despite' or 'in spite of' ✓ Correct Answer**
- C. 'the match continued' should be 'the match continues'
- D. There is no error

Explanation: 'Despite' is never followed by 'of'; the correct forms are 'despite the heavy rain' or 'in spite of the heavy rain', not the hybrid 'despite of'.

197 Choose the option that best fills the blank: 'The committee's decision was final and ____; no further appeals would be entertained.'

- A. negotiable
- B. tentative
- C. ambiguous

D. irrevocable ✓ Correct Answer

Explanation: 'Irrevocable' (not able to be changed/reversed) logically fits with 'final' and the statement that no appeals would be allowed; the other options contradict this finality.

198 Select the sentence with correct subject-verb agreement:

A. The number of students who failed the exam is increasing every year. ✓ Correct Answer

- B. The number of students who failed the exam were increasing every year.
- C. A number of students is failing the exam every year.
- D. The number of students who failed the exam are increasing every year.

Explanation: 'The number of...' takes a singular verb ('is'), since 'the number' itself is the subject (singular); contrast with 'A number of students ARE failing', where 'a number of' functions as a plural quantifier.

199 Identify the correctly formed passive voice sentence for: 'The scientist had completed the experiment before the deadline.'

A. The experiment has been completed by the scientist before the deadline.

B. The experiment had been completed by the scientist before the deadline. ✓ Correct Answer

- C. The experiment was completed by the scientist before the deadline.
- D. The experiment is completed by the scientist before the deadline.

Explanation: The active sentence is in past perfect tense ('had completed'); the passive voice must preserve this tense, giving 'had been completed by the scientist before the deadline.'

200 Choose the word that best completes the analogy: **PRODIGAL : THRIFTY :: GREGARIOUS : ?**

- A. Friendly
- B. Outgoing
- C. Reclusive ✓ Correct Answer**
- D. Sociable

Explanation: 'Prodigal' (wastefully extravagant) is the opposite of 'thrifty' (economical); similarly, 'gregarious' (sociable, fond of company) is opposite to 'reclusive' (withdrawn, avoiding others) — the analogy is one of antonym pairs.

Master Answer Key

Biology — Answer Key

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	D	D	D	B	B	D	C	D	A
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	D	D	A	C	C	A	D	A	D
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
C	B	B	B	D	C	A	A	A	B
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
D	C	D	C	B	D	A	D	C	B
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
A	B	C	D	A	D	D	D	A	A
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
A	B	B	B	B	C	D	B	B	A
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
D	C	B	D	C	C	A	D	C	C
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
C	B	A	A	B	C	A	B	D	C

Chemistry — Answer Key

81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
D	D	B	D	A	C	C	C	C	D
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
A	A	D	A	A	B	C	B	B	D
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
A	A	A	B	C	A	C	D	B	D
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
D	A	B	D	C	C	C	A	A	D
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
D	A	D	B	D	C	A	B	C	A
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
B	B	A	A	D	C	B	C	C	C

Physics — Answer Key

141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
C	B	A	B	D	B	C	D	A	C
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
B	C	C	D	D	A	B	C	C	B
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170
C	C	D	D	D	A	A	D	B	A
171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
B	B	A	B	C	C	D	B	B	A
181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190
A	B	A	B	A	C	B	A	C	D

English — Answer Key

191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
C	D	B	B	C	B	D	A	B	C