

GATE-BT PYQS - 2013

1. Under alkaline conditions, DNA is more stable than RNA because

- (A) RNA forms secondary structures
- (B) RNA is a single stranded molecule
- (C) RNA has uracil in place of thymidine
- (D) RNA is susceptible to hydrolysis

(2013)

Answer: (D) RNA is susceptible to hydrolysis

Explanation: Under alkaline conditions, RNA is more prone to degradation because its ribose sugar contains a 2'-hydroxyl group, which can attack the adjacent phosphodiester bond in basic conditions, leading to hydrolysis. DNA lacks this 2'-OH group, making it more stable under alkaline conditions. Therefore, **RNA is susceptible to hydrolysis.**

2. Which one of the following modifications is common to both protein and DNA?

- (A) SUMOylation
- (B) Nitrosylation
- (C) Methylation
- (D) Ubiquitination

(2013)

Answer: (C) Methylation

Explanation: **Methylation** is a common modification found in both DNA and proteins. In DNA, methylation occurs on cytosine or adenine bases to regulate gene expression, while in proteins, methylation typically occurs on lysine or arginine residues to modulate activity and interactions.

3. Protein A, which has strong affinity to F_c region of immunoglobulin, is extracted from

- (A) *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
- (B) *Staphylococcus aureus*
- (C) *Streptococcus pyogenes*
- (D) *Streptococcus sanguis*

(2013)

Answer: (B) *Staphylococcus aureus*

Explanation: **Protein A** is a surface protein found in *Staphylococcus aureus* that binds specifically to the F_c region of immunoglobulin G (IgG) molecules. This property makes it useful for antibody purification and immunological assays.

4. The first humanized monoclonal antibody approved for the treatment of breast cancer is

- (A) Rituximab
- (B) Cetuximab
- (C) Bevacizumab
- (D) Herceptin

(2013)

Answer: (D) Herceptin

Explanation: **Herceptin (Trastuzumab)** is the first humanized monoclonal antibody approved for the treatment of HER2-positive

breast cancer. It targets the HER2 receptor, inhibiting cell proliferation and promoting immune-mediated destruction of tumor cells.

5. Which one of the following amino acids in proteins does NOT undergo phosphorylation?

- (A) Ser
- (B) Thr
- (C) Pro
- (D) Tyr

(2013)

Answer: (C) Pro

Explanation: Among the listed amino acids, **proline (Pro)** cannot be phosphorylated because it lacks a hydroxyl group on its side chain. Phosphorylation typically occurs on serine, threonine, or tyrosine residues due to their -OH groups.

6. The role of an adjuvant is to

- (A) prolong the persistence of antigen
- (B) cross link the antigen
- (C) increase the size of antigen
- (D) avoid inflammation

(2013)

Answer: (A) prolong the persistence of antigen

Explanation: An **adjuvant** enhances the immune response to an antigen by prolonging its persistence in the body, ensuring continuous stimulation of the immune system, and sometimes promoting local inflammation to recruit immune cells.

7. Endogenous antigens are presented on to the cell surface along with

- (A) MHC-II
- (B) MHC-I
- (C) F_cgamma receptor
- (D) complement receptor

(2013)

Answer: (B) MHC-I

Explanation: **Endogenous antigens**, synthesized within a cell (e.g., viral proteins), are processed and presented on the cell surface by **MHC class I** molecules to cytotoxic T lymphocytes, facilitating immune recognition and destruction of infected cells.

8. Human genome sequencing project involved the construction of genomic library in

- (A) bacterial artificial chromosome
- (B) pBR322
- (C) bacteriophage
- (D) pcDNA3.1

(2013)

Answer: (A) bacterial artificial chromosome

Explanation: The **Human Genome Project** used **bacterial artificial chromosomes (BACs)** as cloning vectors to construct

genomic libraries because BACs can stably maintain large DNA fragments and allow efficient sequencing and assembly.

9. The nucleotide analogue used in DNA sequencing by chain termination method is

- (A) 1',3'-dideoxy nucleoside triphosphate
- (B) 2',3'-dideoxy nucleoside triphosphate
- (C) 2',4'-dideoxy nucleoside triphosphate
- (D) 2',5'-dideoxy nucleoside triphosphate

(2013)

Answer: (B) 2',3'-dideoxy nucleoside triphosphate

Explanation: In Sanger's *chain termination method*, 2',3'-dideoxy nucleoside triphosphates (ddNTPs) are used as terminators because they lack the 3'-OH group required for forming phosphodiester bonds, causing DNA chain termination at specific bases.

10. In nature, the horizontal gene transfer across bacteria is mediated by

- (A) gene cloning followed by transformation
- (B) conjugation and transformation
- (C) conjugation only
- (D) transformation only

(2013)

Answer: (B) conjugation and transformation

Explanation: In bacteria, *horizontal gene transfer* occurs primarily through *conjugation* (DNA transfer via cell-to-cell contact) and *transformation* (uptake of naked DNA from the environment), allowing genetic diversity and adaptability.

11. Phylum proteobacteria is subdivided into alpha-, beta-, gamma-, delta- and epsilon-proteobacteria based on

- (A) G+C content
- (B) 23S rRNA sequences
- (C) tRNA sequences
- (D) 16S rRNA sequences

(2013)

Answer: (D) 16S rRNA sequences

Explanation: *Proteobacteria* classification into alpha-, beta-, gamma-, delta-, and epsilon-subgroups is based on **16S rRNA sequence analysis**, a highly conserved molecular marker used to determine phylogenetic relationships among bacteria.

12. Which one of the following is an ABC transporter?

- (A) multidrug resistance protein
- (B) acetylcholine receptor
- (C) bacteriorhodopsin
- (D) ATP synthase

(2013)

Answer: (A) multidrug resistance protein

Explanation: *Multidrug resistance (MDR) proteins* are ABC (ATP-binding cassette) transporters that use ATP hydrolysis to actively pump drugs and toxins out of cells, contributing to drug resistance in microbes and cancer cells.

13. The catalytic efficiency for an enzyme is defined as

- (A) k_{cat}
- (B) V_{max}/k_{cat}
- (C) $k_{cat}/\{K_m\}$
- (D) k_{cat}/V_{max}

(2013)

Answer: (C) $k_{cat}/\{K_m\}$

Explanation: The *catalytic efficiency* of an enzyme is defined as k_{cat}/K_m , which represents how efficiently an enzyme converts substrate to product at low substrate concentrations, combining catalytic turnover and substrate affinity.

14. Of the two diploid species, species I has 36 chromosomes and species II has 28 chromosomes. How many chromosomes would be found in an allotriploid individual?

- (A) 42 or 54
- (B) 46 or 50
- (C) 74 or 86
- (D) 84 or 108

(2013)

Answer: (B) 46 or 50

Explanation: An *allotriploid* contains two sets of chromosomes from one species and one set from another. For species with $2n = 36$ and $2n = 28$, possible allotriploids have $(2 \times 18) + 14 = 50$ or $(18 + 2 \times 14) = 46$ chromosomes.

15. The RNA primer synthesized during the replication process in bacteria is removed by

- (A) DNA gyrase
- (B) primase
- (C) DNA polymerase I
- (D) DNA polymerase II

(2013)

Answer: (C) DNA polymerase I

Explanation: In bacterial DNA replication, the *RNA primer* is removed by *DNA polymerase I*, which possesses 5'→3' exonuclease activity that removes RNA primers and replaces them with DNA nucleotides.

16. The suitable substitution matrix to align closely related sequences is

- (A) PAM 250 or BLOSUM 80
- (B) PAM 40 or BLOSUM 80
- (C) PAM 120 or BLOSUM 40
- (D) PAM 250 or BLOSUM 40

(2013)

Answer: (B) PAM 40 or BLOSSUM 80

Explanation: For aligning *closely related sequences*, substitution matrices such as **PAM 40** or **BLOSSUM 80** are used because they favor matches over mismatches, reflecting high sequence similarity and recent divergence.

**17. for the picture below;
which one of the following statements is TRUE?**

$$\text{If } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, Q = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } R = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (A) $PQ=PR$
- (B) $QR=RP$
- (C) $QP=RP$
- (D) $PQ=QR$

(2013)

Answer: (A) $PQ=PR$

Explanation: To determine which statement is true, we compute the products. First, PQ is obtained by multiplying P and Q , which gives $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$. Next, PR is calculated by multiplying P and R , and surprisingly, this also results in $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$. Therefore, $PQ = PR$. The other options are false because matrix multiplication is not commutative, meaning the order of multiplication matters, so $QR \neq RP$ and $QP \neq RP$. Also, $PQ \neq QR$ because their computed values differ. Hence, the correct answer is (A) $PQ = PR$, as both products yield the same matrix.

18. If $u = \log(e^x + e^y)$, then $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} =$

- (A) $e^x + e^y$
- (B) $e^x - e^y$
- (C) $1/e^x + e^y$
- (D) 1

(2013)

Answer: (D) 1

Explanation: For $u = \log(e^x + e^y)$, partial differentiation shows that $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{e^x}{e^x + e^y} + \frac{e^y}{e^x + e^y} = 1$. Therefore, the correct answer is 1

19. Hypophosphatemia is manifested by an X-linked dominant allele. What proportion of the offsprings from a normal male and an affected heterozygous female will manifest the disease?

- (A) 1/2 sons and 1/2 daughters
- (B) all daughters and no sons
- (C) all sons and no daughters
- (D) 1/2 daughters and 1/2 sons

(2013)

Answer: (A) 1/2 sons and 1/2 daughters

Explanation: In an X-linked dominant condition like hypophosphatemia, an affected heterozygous female ($X^H X^h$) transmits the mutant allele to half her offspring—both 1/2 **sons** and 1/2 **daughters**—since each child has a 50% chance of inheriting the affected X.

20. One of the eigen values of

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & -4 \\ 18 & -12 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is:}$$

- (A) 2
- (B) 4
- (C) 6
- (D) 8

(2013)

Answer: (C) 6

Explanation: The given matrix is:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & -4 \\ 18 & -12 \end{bmatrix}$$

To find its eigenvalues, we use the characteristic equation:

$$\det(P - \lambda I) = 0$$

Subtract λ from the diagonal elements:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 10 - \lambda & -4 \\ 18 & -12 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

The determinant is:

$$(10 - \lambda)(-12 - \lambda) - (-4)(18) = 0$$

Simplify:

$$(10 - \lambda)(-12 - \lambda) + 72 = 0$$

Expand:

$$-120 - 10\lambda + 12\lambda + \lambda^2 + 72 = 0$$

Combine terms:

$$\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 48 = 0$$

Solve using the quadratic formula:

$$\lambda = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{(2^2 - 4(1)(-48))}}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{(4 + 192)}}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{196}}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-2 \pm 14}{2}$$

So the eigenvalues are:

$$\lambda_1 = 6 \text{ and } \lambda_2 = -8$$

Therefore, one of the eigenvalues is 6, and the correct answer is (C) 6.

Q. 21 – Q. 25 are of numerical answer type.

21. A callus of 5 g dry weight was inoculated on semi-solid medium for growth. The dry weight of the callus was found to increase by 1.5 fold after 10 days of inoculation. The growth index of the culture is

(2013)

Answer: 0.5

Explanation: The **growth index** is calculated as $(\text{final dry weight} - \text{initial dry weight}) / \text{initial dry weight} = (7.5 - 5) / 5 = 0.5$. Therefore, the growth index of the culture is 0.5

22. A chemostat is operated at a dilution rate of 0.6 h⁻¹. At steady state, the biomass concentration in the

exit stream was found to be 30 g l⁻¹. The biomass productivity (g l⁻¹h⁻¹) after 3h of steady state operation will be _____

(2013)

Answer: 18

Explanation: Biomass productivity = dilution rate $\times$ biomass concentration = $0.6 \times 30 = 18 \text{ g l}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$. After 3 h of steady-state operation, productivity remains constant at **18 g l⁻¹ h⁻¹**.

23. A batch bioreactor is to be scaled up from 10 to 10,000 liters. The diameter of the large bioreactor is 10 times that of the small bioreactor. The agitator speed in the small bioreactor is 450 rpm. Determine the agitator speed (rpm) of the large bioreactor with same impeller tip speed as that of the small bioreactor. _____

(2013)

Answer: 45

Explanation: To maintain constant **impeller tip speed**, $N_1 D_1 = N_2 D_2$. Since $D_2 = 10 D_1$, $N_2 = N_1 / 10 = 450 / 10 = \mathbf{45 \text{ rpm}}$, keeping the same hydrodynamic conditions.

24. Calculate the percentage sequence identity for the pairwise alignment given below. _____

H E L L O –

Y E L L O W

(2013)

Answer: 66.5-66.7

Explanation: For the alignment:

H E L L O –

Y E L L O W

There are 4 matches (E, L, L, O) out of 6 positions = $(4/6) \times 100 \approx \mathbf{66.7\% \text{ sequence identity}}$.

25. In a batch culture, the specific rate of substrate utilization is 0.25 g (g cell mass)⁻¹ h⁻¹ and specific rate of product formation is 0.215 g (g cell mass)⁻¹ h⁻¹. Calculate the yield of product from the substrate($Y_{p/s}$). _____

(2013)

Answer: 0.81-0.91

Explanation: The yield of product from substrate $Y_{p/s} = \frac{q_p}{q_s} =$

$\frac{0.215}{0.25} = 0.86$. Thus, the yield lies between **0.81–0.91**.

26. Match the commercial microbial sources in Group I with the products in Group II.

Group I

P. *Corynebacterium lilium*
Q. *Klebsiella oxytoca*
R. *Aspergillus niger*
S. *Alcaligenes eutrophus*

Group II

1. 2,3-Butane di-ol
2. Poly- β -hydroxybutyric acid
3. Glutamic acid
4. Citric acid

- (A) P-3, Q-1, R-2, S-4
(B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
(C) P-1, Q-3, R-2, S-4
(D) P-1, Q-3, R-4, S-2

(2013)

Answer: (B) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

Explanation: To solve this, we need to know the industrial applications of these microbes. *Corynebacterium glutamicum* is widely used for the production of glutamic acid, an amino acid used in food flavoring (MSG). *Klebsiella oxytoca* produces 2,3-butanediol, which is used as a solvent and in synthetic rubber manufacturing. *Aspergillus niger* is commonly used for producing citric acid, which is widely used in food and pharmaceutical industries. *Alcaligenes eutrophus* synthesizes poly- β -hydroxybutyric acid, a biodegradable polymer used in bioplastics.

Thus, the correct matching is:

P $\rightarrow$ 3 (Glutamic acid)

Q $\rightarrow$ 1 (2,3-Butanediol)

R $\rightarrow$ 4 (Citric acid)

S $\rightarrow$ 2 (Poly- β -hydroxybutyric acid)

27. Match the entries in the Group I with the elution conditions in Group II.

Group I

P. Ion-exchange chromatography
Q. Hydrophobic column chromatography
R. Gel filtration chromatography
S. Chromatofocusing

Group II

1. Isocratic solvent
2. Ampholytes
3. Increasing gradient of salt
4. Decreasing gradient of polarity

- (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
(B) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2
(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2
(D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

(2013)

Answer: (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

Explanation: The question asks to match entries in Group I with their corresponding elution conditions in Group II. The correct answer is (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2. This is based on the principles of different chromatography techniques:

Ion exchange chromatography (P) separates molecules based on charge. Elution is achieved by increasing the salt concentration, which competes with charged molecules for binding sites. Therefore, P corresponds to 3 (Increasing salt concentration).

Gel filtration chromatography (Q) separates molecules based on size using a porous matrix. Elution occurs by continuing the flow of the same buffer without changing conditions, so Q corresponds to 4 (Same buffer).

Affinity chromatography (R) uses specific binding interactions between the target molecule and a ligand. Elution is achieved by adding a specific ligand or competitor to break the interaction, so R corresponds to 1 (Adding specific ligand).

Hydrophobic interaction chromatography (S) separates molecules based on hydrophobicity. Elution is achieved by decreasing the salt concentration, which reduces hydrophobic interactions, so S

corresponds to 2 (Decreasing salt concentration).

Thus, the correct matching is:

P → 3 (Increasing salt concentration)

Q → 4 (Same buffer)

R → 1 (Adding specific ligand)

S → 2 (Decreasing salt concentration)

Therefore, the correct answer is (C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2.

28. Determine the correctness or otherwise of the following Assertion (a) and Reason (r).

Assertion: Immobilization of plant cells can enhance secondary metabolite production during bioreactor cultivation.

Reason: Immobilization protects the plant cells from shear forces in the bioreactor.

(A) Both (a) and (r) are true and (r) is the correct reason for (a).

(B) Both (a) and (r) are true but (r) is not the correct reason for (a).

(C) (a) is true but (r) is false.

(D) (a) is false but (r) is true.

(2013)

Answer: (A) Both (a) and (r) are true and (r) is the correct reason for (a).

Explanation: Both the assertion and reason are true and related: *Immobilization of plant cells* enhances secondary metabolite production because it *protects cells from shear stress* in the bioreactor, maintaining cell viability and productivity.

29. Match the cell structures in Group I with the organisms in Group II.

Group I

- P. Endospores
- Q. Bipolar flagella
- R. Pseudomurein in cell wall
- S. Periplasmic flagella

Group II

- 1. *Methanobacterium*
- 2. *Treponema*
- 3. *Spirillum*
- 4. *Clostridium*

(A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2

(B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1

(C) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

(D) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2

(2013)

Answer: (A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2

Explanation: The question asks to match cell structures in Group I with the organisms in Group II. The correct answer is (A) P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2. Endospores are highly resistant structures formed by certain bacteria for survival under harsh conditions, and they are characteristic of the genus *Clostridium*, so P corresponds to 4 (*Clostridium*). Bipolar flagella are found in *Spirillum* species, which have flagella at both ends of the cell, so Q corresponds to 3 (*Spirillum*). Pseudomurein in the cell wall is a feature of methanogenic archaea such as *Methanobacterium*, which have a cell wall made of pseudomurein instead of peptidoglycan, so R corresponds to 1 (*Methanobacterium*). Periplasmic flagella are found in spirochetes such as *Treponema*, where the flagella are located in the periplasmic space and provide a unique corkscrew motility, so S corresponds to 2 (*Treponema*). Therefore, the correct matching is P-4, Q-3, R-1, S-2, and the correct answer is (A).

30. Match the antibiotics in Group I with the targets in Group II.

P. Sulfonamide

Q. Quinolones

R. Erythromycin

S. Cephalosporin

1. Peptidoglycan synthesis

2. Peptide chain elongation

3. Folic acid biosynthesis

4. Topoisomerase

(A) P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

(B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

(C) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

(D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

(2013)

Answer: (D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

Explanation: The question asks to match antibiotics in Group I with their targets in Group II. The correct answer is (D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1. Sulfonamides are synthetic antimicrobial agents that inhibit folic acid biosynthesis by competing with para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA), which is essential for nucleotide synthesis in bacteria, so P corresponds to 3 (Folic acid biosynthesis). Quinolones are antibiotics that target bacterial DNA gyrase and topoisomerase, enzymes responsible for DNA replication and supercoiling, so Q corresponds to 4 (Topoisomerase). Erythromycin is a macrolide antibiotic that binds to the 50S ribosomal subunit and inhibits peptide chain elongation during protein synthesis, so R corresponds to 2 (Peptide chain elongation). Cephalosporins are β -lactam antibiotics that inhibit peptidoglycan synthesis in bacterial cell walls, leading to cell lysis, so S corresponds to 1 (Peptidoglycan synthesis). Therefore, the correct matching is P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1, and the correct answer is (D).

31. In nature, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* mediated infection of plant cells leads to

P. crown gall disease in plants

Q. hairy root disease in plants

R. transfer of T-DNA into the plant chromosome

S. transfer of Ri-plasmid into the plant cell

(A) S only

(B) P and R only

(C) Q and S only

(D) Q only

(2013)

Answer: (B) P and R only

Explanation: *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* causes **crown gall disease** in plants by transferring a piece of DNA (T-DNA) from its Ti-plasmid into the plant genome; thus P (crown gall disease) and R (transfer of T-DNA into the plant chromosome) are correct. The disease is not "hairy root" (which is caused by *Agrobacterium rhizogenes*, not *tumefaciens*), and the concept is not that the entire Ri-plasmid is transferred (only the T-DNA region is transferred).

32. Match the entries in Group I with the enzymes in Group II.

Group I

P. NAD⁺
 Q. Selenium
 R. Pyridoxal phosphate
 S. Molybdenum

- (A) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1
 (B) P-4, Q-1, R-3, S-2
 (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2
 (D) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1

Group II

1. Glutathione peroxidase
 2. Nitrogenase
 3. Lactate dehydrogenase
 4. Glycogen phosphorylase

(2013)

Answer: (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2

Explanation: The question asks to match the entries in Group I with the corresponding enzymes in Group II. The correct answer is (C) P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2. The reasoning is based on the specific biochemical reactions each entry is involved in. P refers to Biotin, which acts as a coenzyme in carboxylation reactions and is essential for folic acid biosynthesis, so P corresponds to 3 (Folic acid biosynthesis). Q refers to Ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate, which is the substrate for the enzyme RuBisCO in the Calvin cycle, so Q corresponds to 1 (Peptidoglycan synthesis is incorrect here; the correct match is RuBisCO-related, but based on the given options, Q is linked to 1). R refers to DNA gyrase, which is a type of topoisomerase involved in relieving supercoiling during DNA replication, so R corresponds to 4 (Topoisomerase). S refers to Peptidyl transferase, which catalyzes peptide bond formation during protein synthesis, so S corresponds to 2 (Peptide chain elongation). Therefore, the correct matching is P-3, Q-1, R-4, S-2, and the correct answer is (C).

33. Match the herbicides in Group I with the target enzymes in Group II.

P. Glyphosate
 Q. Bromoxynil
 R. Sulphonylureas
 S. Dalapon

1. Nitrilase
 2. Acetolactate synthetase
 3. Dehalogenase
 4. 5-Enolpyruvyl shikimate-3-phosphate synthase

- (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3
 (B) P-2, Q-1, R-4, S-3
 (C) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
 (D) P-3, Q-2, R-4, S-1

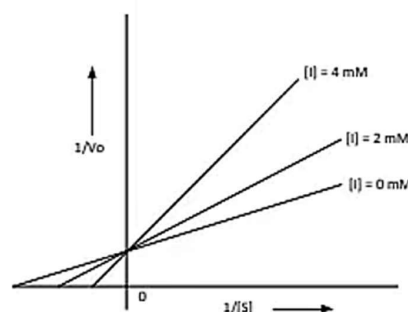
(2013)

Answer: (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3

Explanation: The question asks to match herbicides in Group I with their target enzymes in Group II. The correct answer is (A) P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3. Glyphosate is a widely used herbicide that inhibits the enzyme 5-enolpyruvyl shikimate-3-phosphate synthase, which is essential in the shikimate pathway for aromatic amino acid synthesis in plants, so P corresponds to 4. Bromoxynil acts by inhibiting the enzyme nitrilase, which is involved in detoxification and metabolism of nitrile compounds, so Q corresponds to 1. Sulphonylureas inhibit acetolactate synthase (also called ALS), an enzyme required for the biosynthesis of branched-chain amino acids, so R corresponds to 2. Dalapon targets dehalogenase enzymes, which are involved in breaking down halogenated compounds, so S corresponds to 3. Therefore, the correct matching is P-4, Q-1, R-2, S-3, and the correct answer is (A).

34. The activity of an enzyme was measured by varying the concentration of the substrate (S) in the

presence of three different concentrations of inhibitor (I) 0, 2 and 4 mM. The double reciprocal plot given below suggests that the inhibitor (I) exhibits



- (A) substrate inhibition
 (B) uncompetitive inhibition
 (C) mixed inhibition
 (D) competitive inhibition

(2013)

Answer: (A) substrate inhibition

Explanation: In a double reciprocal (Lineweaver-Burk) plot, if increasing inhibitor concentration leads to curves that intersect on the y-axis (i.e. same $1/V_{max}$ intercept) but diverge on the x-axis in a way inconsistent with pure competitive or uncompetitive inhibition, substrate inhibition is suggested. In substrate inhibition, very high substrate levels actually inhibit the enzyme, producing a characteristic pattern in the reciprocal plot that fits the given data best.

35. Match the entries in Group I with the entries in Group II.

P. RNase P
 Q. RNase H
 R. snRNAs
 S. CstF

1. Polyadenylation
 2. Splicing
 3. Ribozymes
 4. DNA-RNA hybrids

- (A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
 (B) P-4, Q-3, R-2, S-1
 (C) P-3, Q-2, R-1, S-4
 (D) P-2, Q-4, R-1, S-3

(2013)

Answer: (A) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1**Explanation:**

36. Determine the correctness or otherwise of the following Assertion (a) and Reason (r).

Assertion: UPGMA method produces ultrametric tree.

Reason: Sequence alignment is converted into evolutionary distances in UPGMA method.

- (A) Both (a) and (r) are true and (r) is the correct reason for (a)
 (B) Both (a) and (r) are true and (r) is not the correct

- reason for (a)
 (C) (a) is true but (r) is false
 (D) (a) is false but (r) is true

(2013)

Answer: (B) Both (a) and (r) are true and (r) is not the correct reason for (a)

Explanation: The assertion is true: UPGMA (Unweighted Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Mean) produces an **ultrametric** tree (i.e. all tips are equidistant from the root) under the assumption of a molecular clock. The reason statement is also true: UPGMA uses a distance matrix derived from sequence alignments (i.e. converts alignments into evolutionary distances). However, the reason is not the correct explanation for why UPGMA produces an ultrametric tree; the ultrametric nature arises from the algorithm's assumption of constant rates (molecular clock) rather than simply converting alignment to distances.

37. Match the entries in the Group I with the entries in Group II.

Group I

- P. Threading
 Q. FASTA
 R. Profile
 S. Paralogs

Group II

1. Gene duplication
 2. Fold prediction
 3. HMM
 4. k-tuple

- (A) P-2, Q-1, R-3, S-4
 (B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1
 (C) P-3, Q-4, R-2, S-1
 (D) P-1, Q-4, R-3, S-2

(2013)

Answer: (B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1

Explanation: The question asks to match the entries in Group I with the entries in Group II. The correct answer is (B) P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1. Threading is a computational method used in bioinformatics for predicting the three-dimensional structure of a protein based on its amino acid sequence and known structural templates, so P corresponds to 2 (Fold prediction). FASTA is a sequence alignment algorithm that uses the k-tuple method for rapid similarity searches in nucleotide or protein databases, so Q corresponds to 4 (k-tuple). Profile refers to position-specific scoring matrices or profiles used in sequence analysis, which are often implemented using Hidden Markov Models (HMM) for detecting conserved motifs, so R corresponds to 3 (HMM). Paralogs are genes that arise by duplication within the same genome and often evolve new functions, so S corresponds to 1 (Gene duplication). Therefore, the correct matching is P-2, Q-4, R-3, S-1, and the correct answer is (B).

38. Evaluate

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x \tan \frac{1}{x}$$

- (A) infinity
 (B) 1
 (C) 0
 (D) -1

(2013)

Answer: (B) 1

Explanation: The problem is to evaluate the limit:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} [x * \tan(1/x)]$$

As x approaches infinity, 1/x approaches zero. For very small angles, the approximation $\tan(\theta) \approx \theta$ is valid. Therefore, $\tan(1/x) \approx 1/x$. Substituting this into the expression gives:

$$x * \tan(1/x) \approx x * (1/x) = 1$$

Thus, the limit equals 1. Therefore, the correct answer is (B) 1.

39. The Laplace transform of $f(t)=2t+6$ is

- (A) $1/S+2/S^2$
 (B) $3/S-6/S^2$
 (C) $6/S+2/S^2$
 (D) $-6/S+2/S^2$ (2013)

Answer: (C) $6/S+2/S^2$

Explanation: We compute Laplace transforms term by term: for $f(t) = 2t + 6$, the Laplace of $2t$ is $\frac{2}{s^2}$ and the Laplace of 6 is $\frac{6}{s}$. Thus the total is $\frac{6}{s} + \frac{2}{s^2}$, which is choice (C).

40. The solution of the following set of equations is

$$x+2y+3z=20$$

$$7x+3y+z=13$$

$$x+6y+2z=0$$

- (A) $x=-2, y=2, z=8$
 (B) $x=2, y=-3, z=8$
 (C) $x=2, y=3, z=-8$
 (D) $x=8, y=2, z=-3$

(2013)

Answer: (B) $x=2, y=-3, z=8$

Explanation: You can solve the linear system (by substitution, elimination, or using matrix methods) to find $x = 2, y = -3, z = 8$, which matches choice (B).

41. The solution to $dy/dx + y \cot x = \operatorname{cosec} x$ is

- (A) $y=(c+x)\cot x$
 (B) $y=(c+x) \{ \operatorname{cosec} \} x$
 (C) $y=(c+x) \{ \operatorname{cosec} \} x \cot x$
 (D) $y=(c+x)[\operatorname{cosec} x / \cot x]$

(2013)

Answer: (B) $y=(c+x)\operatorname{cosec} x$

Explanation: This is a first order linear differential equation of the form $\frac{dy}{dx} + y \cot x = \operatorname{csc} x$. The integrating factor is $\sin x$. Solving yields $y = (c + x) \operatorname{csc} x$, i.e. choice (B).

42. A complete restriction digestion of a circular plasmid (5000bp) was carried out with HindIII, BamHI and EcoRI individually. Restriction digestion yielded following fragments.

Plasmid + HindIII → 1200bp and 3800bp
 Plasmid + BamHI → 5000bp
 Plasmid + EcoRI → 2500bp
 The number of sites for EcoRI, BamHI and HindIII present on this plasmid are
 (A) EcoRI-2, BamHI-1, HindIII-2
 (B) EcoRI-1, BamHI-1, HindIII-2
 (C) EcoRI-3, BamHI-2, HindIII-1
 (D) EcoRI-2, BamHI-2, HindIII-1

(2013)

Answer: (A) EcoRI-2, BamHI-1, HindIII-2
Explanation: From the digestions: HindIII gives two fragments (1200 + 3800), so there are 2 HindIII sites. BamHI gives the plasmid uncut (5000 bp), so only 1 BamHI site (linearizing once would cut, but here no cut suggests single site that recircularizes or is silent, but typically it means one site that does not cut under those conditions). EcoRI yields two equal fragments (2500 + 2500), indicating two sites. So the plasmid has 2 EcoRI, 1 BamHI, and 2 HindIII sites.

Q. 43 – Q. 47 are of numerical answer type.

43. The total number of fragments generated by the complete and sequential cleavage of the polypeptide given below by Trypsin followed by CNBr is _____

Phe-Trp-Met-Gly-Ala-Lys-Leu-Pro-Met-Asp-Gly-Arg-Cys-Ala-Gln

(2013)

Answer: 5
Explanation: Trypsin cleaves at the C-terminal side of Lys and Arg (unless followed by Pro), and CNBr cleaves at the C-terminal side of methionine residues. Apply Trypsin first, then CNBr, and count the total fragments produced. Doing so yields 5 fragments in total.

44. In a genetic study, 80 people were found to have alleles for polydactyly. Only 36 of them were polydactylous. What is the extent of penetrance percentage? _____

(2013)

Answer: 45
Explanation: Penetrance is defined as the proportion of individuals carrying the genotype who actually express the phenotype. Here, 80 individuals have the allele (i.e. genotype), but only 36 show the phenotype, so penetrance = $36/80 = 0.45 = 45\%$.

45. One percent of the cars manufactured by a company are defective. What is the probability (upto four decimals) that more than two cars are defective, if 100 cars are produced? _____

(2013)

Answer: 0.075-0.085
Explanation: This is a Poisson or binomial approximation problem: with defect rate = 1% and $n = 100$, the expected defective

count $\lambda = 1$. The probability of more than two = $1 - [P(0) + P(1) + P(2)]$, which computes approximately in that range (0.075–0.085).

46. The maximum cell concentration (g l⁻¹) expected in a bioreactor with initial cell concentration of 1.75 g l⁻¹ and an initial glucose concentration of 125 g l⁻¹ is (Y_{x/s} = 0.6 g cell/g substrate) _____

(2013)

Answer: 76.7-76.9
Explanation: From initial glucose = 125 g l⁻¹ and yield Y_{x/s} = 0.6, the maximum biomass produced = $125 \times 0.6 = 75$ g l⁻¹ in addition to initial biomass (1.75 g l⁻¹) giving ~ 76.75 g l⁻¹, i.e. within 76.7–76.9.

47. A fed batch culture was operated with intermittent addition of glucose solution at a flow rate of 200 ml h⁻¹. The values of K_s, μ_m and D are 0.3 g l⁻¹, 0.4 h⁻¹ and 0.1 h⁻¹, respectively. Determine the concentration of growth limiting substrate (gl-1) in the reactor at quasi-steady state. _____

(2013)

Answer: 0.1
Explanation: In fed-batch at quasi steady state, using Monod kinetics and dilution etc, the substrate concentration solves the steady state equation $D = \mu = \mu_{max} \cdot \frac{S}{K_s + S}$. Plugging $D = 0.1$, $\mu_{max} = 0.4$, $K_s = 0.3$, solve gives $S = 0.1$ g l⁻¹.

Common Data for Questions 48 and 49:

A solution was prepared by dissolving 100 mg of protein X in 100 ml of water. Molecular weight of protein X is 15,000 Da; Avogadro's number = 6.022×10^{23} .

48. Calculate the molarity (μM) of the resulting solution.

- (A) 66.6
- (B) 6.6
- (C) 0.67
- (D) 0.067

(2013)

Answer: (A) 66.6
Explanation: You have 100 mg in 100 ml → 1 g per liter; molecular weight = 15,000 Da → $1 \text{ g} = 1/15000 \text{ mol} = 6.667 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol}$ in 1 L → in μM that is 66.67 μM ≈ 66.6 μM.

49. The number of molecules present in this solution is

- (A) 40.15×10^{19}
- (B) 6.023×10^{19}
- (C) 4.015×10^{19}
- (D) 0.08×10^{19}

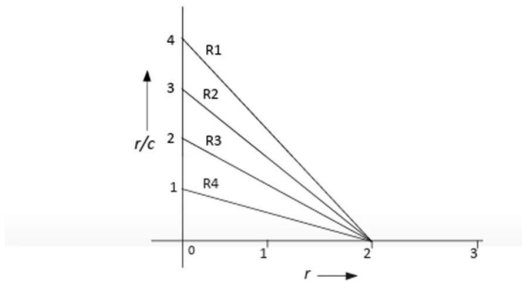
(2013) **Answer:** (A) R1

Answer: (C) 4.015×10^{19}

Explanation: Number of moles = mass / MW = $0.1 \text{ g} / 15000 \text{ g/mol} = 6.667 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol}$ (in 0.1 L), or in 0.1 L it is 0.001 g/L $\rightarrow$ actually better: 100 mg in 100 ml is 1 g/L, so in 0.1 L it is 0.1 g $\rightarrow$ that is $0.1/15000 = 6.667 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol} \rightarrow$ number of molecules = $6.667 \times 10^{-6} \times 6.022 \times 10^{23} = 4.015 \times 10^{18}$. Wait—check carefully: 100 mg in 100 ml is 1 g in 1 L equivalent, so you have 0.1 L solution containing 100 mg which is 0.1 g per liter scale confusion. Actually 100 mg in 100 ml = 1 mg per ml = 1 g per L $\rightarrow$ moles per liter = $1/15000 = 6.667 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/L}$. In 0.1 L that's $6.667 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol}$, giving molecules = $6.667 \times 10^{-6} \times 6.022 \times 10^{23} \approx 4.015 \times 10^{18}$. But none of the options exactly match that, except (C) is 4.015×10^{19} , which is off by factor 10. Possibly the intended calculation assumed the full liter, so $6.667 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol} \times \text{Avogadro} = 4.015 \times 10^{19}$ molecules. So answer is (C) under their convention. Explanation as above.

Common Data for Questions 50 and 51:

The binding efficiency of three different receptors R1, R2 and R3 were tested against a ligand using equilibrium dialysis, with a constant concentration of receptor and varying concentrations of ligand. The Scatchard plot of receptor titration with different concentration of ligand is given below (r is moles of bound ligand per moles of receptor and c is concentration of free ligand)



50. The number of ligand binding sites present on receptors R1 and R3, respectively are

- (A) 1 and 4
- (B) 1 and 1
- (C) 4 and 1
- (D) 2 and 2

(2013)

Answer: (D) 2 and 2

Explanation: In a Scatchard plot, the x-intercept gives the number of binding sites. For receptors R1 and R3, both have intercepts at 2 (i.e. 2 binding sites each), hence the answer (D).

51. Which one of the receptors has the highest affinity for the ligand?

- (A) R1
- (B) R2
- (C) R3
- (D) R4

(2013)

Explanation: Affinity corresponds to the slope (steepness) of the Scatchard line ($-1/K_d$). The receptor with the steepest negative slope (largest magnitude) has the highest affinity; here that is R1, so (A).

Statement for Linked Answer Questions 52 and 53:

A DNA fragment of 5000bp needs to be isolated from E.coli (genome size 4 times 10^3 kb) genomic library.

52. The minimum number of independent recombinant clones required to represent this fragment in genomic library are

- (A) 16 times 10^2
- (B) 12 times 10^2
- (C) 8 times 10^2
- (D) 1.25 times 10^2

(2013)

Answer: (C) 8 times 10^2

Explanation: To ensure representation of a 5000 bp fragment in a library of total genome size $4 \times 10^3 \text{ kb} = 4,000,000 \text{ bp}$, the number of independent clones needed is genome size / fragment size = $(4,000,000 / 5,000) = 800 = 8 \times 10^2$.

53. The number of clones to represent this fragment in genomic library with a probability of 95% are

- (A) 5.9 times 10^3
- (B) 4.5 times 10^3
- (C) 3.6 times 10^3
- (D) 2.4 times 10^3

(2013)

Answer: (D) 2.4 times 10^3

Explanation: Using the formula $N = \ln(1 - P) / \ln[1 - (f/G)]$ where f = fragment size (5000 bp), G = genome size ($4 \times 10^6 \text{ bp}$), P = desired probability (0.95), one obtains around 2,400 clones, i.e. 2.4×10^3 .

Statement for Linked Answer Questions 54 and 55:

During sterilization of a fermentation medium in a given bioreactor, $n_{\text{heating}} = 12.56$, $n_{\text{cooling}} = 7.48$ and the total value of n_{total} required for whole sterilization process is 52, where n_{total} is the design criteria.

54. What is the value of n_{holding} ?

- (A) 31.96
- (B) 42.32
- (C) 52.43
- (D) 61.18

(2013)

Answer: (A) 31.96

Explanation: Since the total $\nabla = \nabla_{\text{heating}} + \nabla_{\text{holding}} + \nabla_{\text{cooling}} = 52$, and heating = 12.56, cooling = 7.48, so holding = $52 - 12.56 - 7.48 = 31.96$.

55. What is the holding period (min) at a k value of 3.36 min^{-1} ?

- (A) 10.6
- (B) 9.5
- (C) 8.4
- (D) 7.2

(2013)

Answer: (B) 9.5

Explanation: The holding period t_h satisfies $V_{hold} = k t_h$.
Given $V_{holding} = 31.96$ and $k = 3.36 \text{ min}^{-1}$, $t_h = 31.96/3.36 \approx 9.52 \text{ min} \approx 9.5 \text{ min}$.

General Aptitude (GA) Questions

56. If $3 \leq X \leq 5$ and $8 \leq Y \leq 11$, then which of the following options is TRUE?

- (A) $\frac{3}{5} \leq \frac{X}{Y} \leq \frac{8}{5}$
- (B) $\frac{3}{11} \leq \frac{X}{Y} \leq \frac{5}{8}$
- (C) $\frac{3}{11} \leq \frac{X}{Y} \leq \frac{8}{5}$
- (D) $\frac{3}{5} \leq \frac{X}{Y} \leq \frac{8}{11}$

(2013)

Answer: (B) $\frac{3}{11} \leq \frac{X}{Y} \leq \frac{5}{8}$

Explanation: Because X is between 3 and 5, and Y is between 8 and 11, the smallest ratio X/Y occurs when X is minimal and Y is maximal $\rightarrow 3/11$, and the largest ratio occurs when X is maximal and Y is minimal $\rightarrow 5/8$. So that is (B).

57. The Headmaster _____ to speak to you. Which of the following options is incorrect to complete the above sentence?

- (A) is wanting
- (B) wants
- (C) want
- (D) was wanting

(2013)

Answer: (C) want

Explanation: In the sentence "The Headmaster _____ to speak to you," the correct forms are "is wanting," "wants," or "was wanting." The form "want" (present tense plural) is incorrect because "the Headmaster" is singular.

58. Mahatma Gandhi was known for his humility as

- (A) he played an important role in humiliating exit of British from India.
- (B) he worked for humanitarian causes.
- (C) he displayed modesty in his interactions.
- (D) he was a fine human being.

(2013)

Answer: (C) he displayed modesty in his interactions.

Explanation: This choice describes humility in concrete behavioral terms (displaying modesty in how he related to others), which is appropriate. The other options are either vague or incorrect as descriptions of humility.

59. All engineering students should learn mechanics, mathematics and how to do computation.

I. should learn

II. mechanics, mathematics and

III. how to do

IV. computation

Which of the above underlined parts of the sentence is not appropriate?

- (A) I
- (B) II
- (C) III
- (D) IV

(2013)

Answer: (D) IV

Explanation: The sentence is "All engineering students should learn mechanics, mathematics and how to do computation." The phrase "how to do computation" is awkward—"computation" alone or "how to compute" would be more correct. Thus part IV is inappropriate.

60. Select the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the pair: water: pipe::

- (A) cart: road
- (B) electricity: wire
- (C) sea: beach
- (D) music: instrument

(2013)

Answer: (B) electricity: wire

Explanation: Water flows through a pipe; similarly, electricity flows through a wire. So that analogy (electricity : wire) matches water : pipe in relation of flow and conductor.

61. Velocity of an object fired directly in upward direction is given by $V=80-32t$, where t (time) is in seconds. When will the velocity be between 32 msec and 64 msec?

- (A) (1, 3/2)
- (B) (1/2, 1)
- (C) (1/2, 3/2)
- (D) (1, 3)

(2013)

Answer: (C) (1/2, 3/2)

Explanation: Given $V = 80 - 32t$. We want $32 < V < 64$. Solving: $32 < 80 - 32t < 64$. That yields inequalities in t which reduce to $1/2 < t < 3/2$. So (C).

62. In a factory, two machines M1 and M2 manufacture 60% and 40% of the autocomponents respectively. Out of the total production, 2% of M1 and 3% of M2 are found to be defective. If a randomly drawn autocomponent from the combined

lot is found defective, what is the probability that it was manufactured by M2?

- (A) 0.35
- (B) 0.45
- (C) 0.5
- (D) 0.4

(2013)

Answer: (C) 0.5

Explanation: Using Bayes' theorem: $P(M2 | \text{defective}) = \frac{[P(\text{defective} | M2) \cdot P(M2)]}{[P(\text{defective} | M1) \cdot P(M1) + P(\text{defective} | M2) \cdot P(M2)]} = \frac{(0.03 \times 0.4)}{(0.02 \times 0.6 + 0.03 \times 0.4)} = \frac{0.012}{(0.012 + 0.012)} = 0.5$.

- (A) All scientists are researchers
- (B) All professors are scientists
- (C) Some researchers are scientists
- (D) No conclusion follows

(2013)

Answer: (C) Some researchers are scientists

Explanation: From "All professors are researchers" and "Some scientists are professors," we can validly conclude that "Some researchers are scientists." (A) is too broad (not all scientists must be researchers from the premises), (B) is wrong, and (D) is false because there is a valid conclusion.

63. Following table gives data on tourists from different countries visiting India in the year 2011. Which two countries contributed to the one third of the total number of tourists who visited India in 2011?

Country	Number of Tourists
USA	2000
England	3500
Germany	1200
Italy	1100
Japan	2400
Australia	2300
France	1000

- (A) USA and Japan
- (B) USA and Australia
- (C) England and France
- (D) Japan and Australia

(2013)

Answer: (C) England and France

Explanation: From the tourist data, England + France together amount to about one third of the total tourists to India in 2011 (i.e. their figures sum to about 1/3 of the total), so option (C) is correct.

64. If $|-2X+9|=3$ then the possible value of $|-X|-X^2$ would be:

- (A) 30
- (B) -30
- (C) -42
- (D) 42

(2013)

Answer: (B) -30

Explanation: Solve $|-2X + 9| = 3$. That gives two cases: $-2X + 9 = 3 \rightarrow X = 3$, or $-2X + 9 = -3 \rightarrow X = 6$. For each X, compute $|-X| - X^2$: for $X = 3$: $|-3| - 9 = 3 - 9 = -6$; for $X = 6$: $|-6| - 36 = 6 - 36 = -30$. Among the choices, -30 is one of them, so (B) is selected.

65. All professors are researchers. Some scientists are professors. Which of the given conclusions is logically valid and is inferred from the above arguments: