

Name:

- D. Cancer
- E. Influenza

24.

25. Normal cell division is involved in all of the following EXCEPT:

- A.
- B. Repair of an injury
- C. Growing
- D. Making reproductive cells
- E. Protein synthesis

26.

27. Neurons, cells in the nervous system, and skin cells are very different. They have a different shape, different function and are even found in different places in the body. BUT upon close inspection, neurons and skin cells have the exact same set of DNA. What causes all the differences?

- A. In reality their DNA is different it only looks the same.
- B. They have the same DNA but access different genes to make different proteins.
- C. Neurons don't use their DNA
- D. Skin cells are actually dead cells.

28. Place the following stages in the order that they happen:

- A. Fertilization → mitosis → differentiation → organ formation
- B. Fertilization → differentiation → mitosis → organ formation
- C. Mitosis → organ formation → differentiation → fertilization
- D. Fertilization → differentiation → organ formation → mitosis.

29. The body cell of a carrot has 18 chromosomes. That means that the carrot's reproductive cells will each have _____ chromosomes and a carrot zygote will have _____ chromosomes.

- A.
- B. 18; 18
- C. 18; 36
- D. 9; 9
- E. 9; 18

30.

31. A young patient is diagnosed with the genetic disorder, Lactose Intolerance, which results in the inability to digest milk products due to a missing enzyme called lactase. What is most likely the cause of lactose intolerance in this patient?

- A. The patient is allergic to milk.
- B. The patient stopped consuming milk products.
- C. A disease destroyed the lining of the digestive tract.
- D. A mutation occurred in the gene that is responsible for producing lactase.

32. Which of the following diseases/disorders is contagious?

- A.
- B. Cancer
- C. Strep throat
- D. Color blindness
- E. Down syndrome

33.

34. Which of the following diseases/disorders is heritable?

- A.
- B. Cancer
- C. Strep throat
- D. Color blindness
- E. AIDS

35.

36. Disease, in general, can basically be defined as:

- A. When our bodies are infected with foreign pathogens.
- B. When mutations disrupt our ability to make proteins.
- C. When organs are not formed properly
- D. When an imbalance is created that prevents our body from functioning normally.

37. You are the trainer for your high school's sports teams. During a hot and humid day at summer training camp, a football player comes into the training room. His symptoms include nausea, dizziness, severe headache and blurred vision. He reports that he

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had a breakfast of eggs, toast and two cups of coffee. He also has consumed several quick-energy drinks during practice. You know that coffee and energy drinks are loaded with caffeine, which is a strong diuretic. Use your understanding of cellular regulation to determine the underlying cause of his symptoms and suggest immediate treatment.

38 After biology class one day, you explain to a friend who isn't in your biology class that all humans start out as a single cell. Your friend is doubtful, so you decide to create a time-lapse video using digital images of a fertilized egg developing into a human being to prove your point. Narrate the video, explaining the specific changes that occur between each developmental stage. You can also mention those certain stages where errors can occur in human development.

39 A local politician has learned that your biology class has been studying cell differentiation and discussing the possible applications in health and biotechnology. She is particularly interested in gaining support from young people, so she has requested that you share your thoughts on embryonic and adult stem cell research. Because stem cell research is a topic embroiled in much controversy, you have decided to hold a town hall debate to share your diverse thoughts about the topic as a group. Divide into groups based on your class' positions (pro vs. con, pro-adult stem cells vs. con-adult stem cells, pro-embryonic stem cells vs. con-embryonic stem cells, etc.) and conduct research. Both sides should seek out and use specific data and scientific evidence to support their claims about how stem cell research has or has not led to improved therapies or disease prevention efforts. Each group should also consider the moral, ethical, and political questions related to stem cell research. Engage in the town hall discussion, inviting elected officials and the community to take part in the event.

40 As a class, you have been asked to create an online digital library of genetic disorder profiles. Working in small groups, each select a disorder of interest. Conduct research on the disorder, including a general description of the disorder, health-related resources provided by appropriate sources such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), links to *accurate* sites for organizations and support groups, diagnostic or genetic testing information, clinical trials for patients, and other miscellaneous web resources. The profile's centerpiece is a digital slide show of the mechanism of action for the disorder, beginning from the DNA error. In this digital presentation, trace the effects on the human body over time, focusing on the relationships among the DNA, cell, tissue, organ and systems affected. Post the complete profiles online for others to view.

- B. **Matter and Energy Transformations:** Food is required for energy and building cellular materials. Organisms in an ecosystem have different ways of obtaining food, and some organisms obtain their food directly from other organisms
1. *As matter cycles and energy flows through different levels of organization within living systems (cells, organs, organisms, communities), and between living systems and the physical environment, chemical elements are recombined into different products.*
 2. *Each recombination of matter and energy results in storage and dissipation of energy into the environment as heat.*
 3. *Continual input of energy from sunlight keeps matter and energy flowing through ecosystems.*
 4. *Plants have the capability to take energy from light to form sugar molecules containing carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen*
 5. *In both plant and animal cells, sugar is a source of energy and can be used to make other carbon-containing (organic) molecules*
 6. *All organisms must break the high-energy chemical bonds in food molecules during cellular respiration to obtain the energy needed for life processes.*

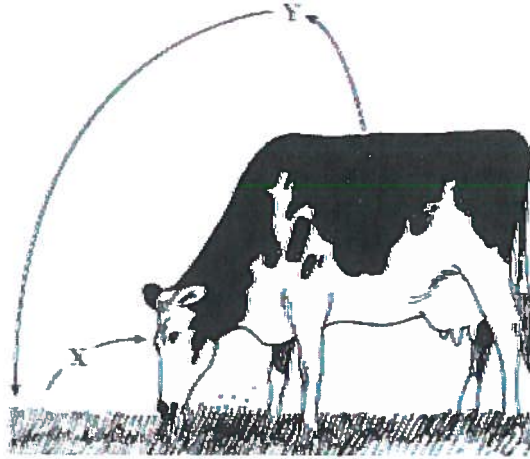
BASIC INFORMATION:

The atoms we are built out of cycle through the ecosystem constantly. Describe in words or labeled drawings how each of the following atoms/molecules cycles through our ecosystems:

- Carbon:

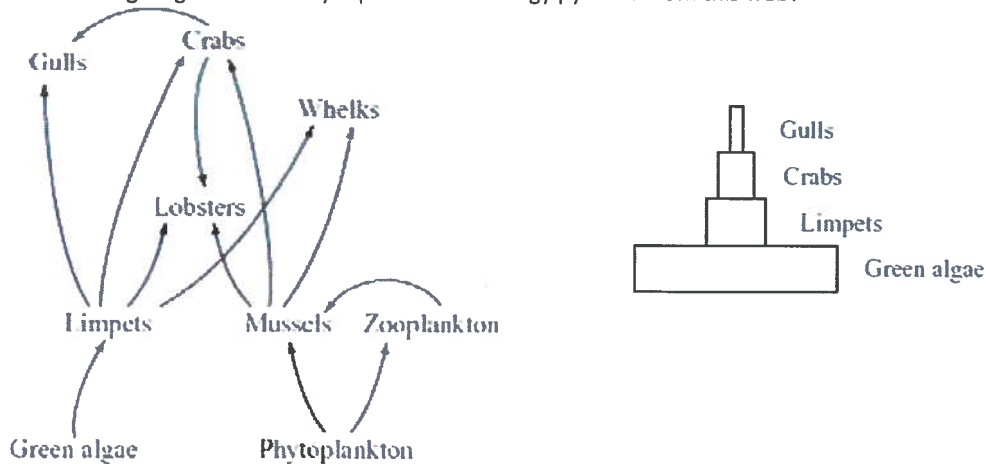
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6. At position Y, carbon is most likely to be in which of the following forms?



- A.
- B. protein
- C. carbon solid
- D. carbohydrate
- E. carbon dioxide

7.
8. Which of the following diagrams correctly represents an energy pyramid from this web?



- 9. You are a zookeeper at a nationally recognized zoo. You care for the largest mixed-species exhibit at the zoo, which features a wide variety of organisms from the Amazonian rainforest. When cleaning the exhibit, you have noticed that the soil contains far fewer worms and termites than earlier in the year. Express your concern for the lack of "soil engineers" in terms of the energy flow and matter cycling in the exhibit. Prepare a memo to the zoo director highlighting your concerns in order to request emergency funds, explaining why all of the species living in the exhibit are at risk. To bolster your argument, use evidence and data from appropriate peer-reviewed journal articles.
- 10. Your friend is a vegan who excludes the use of animal products for any lifestyle purpose. When discussing his vegan diet, you tell him that it is not healthy because it does not allow for a balanced diet. He claims that it is a much more energy-efficient diet and has less of an impact on the ecosystem. Use scientific evidence to either support or debunk that claim.
- 11. You are a conservation biologist interested in studying the impact of tourism on the coral reef ecosystems. You are concerned primarily with importance of symbioses to energy flow in reefs. Write a research proposal to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature to request funds to study a reef of your choice. In the proposal, explain why the reef is essential to its marine ecosystem from an energy perspective. Evaluate and critically select data and evidence from published journal studies to support your proposal
- 12. You are an agricultural scientist studying the effects of global warming on crop production. While high temperatures can cause plants like rice, corn and wheat to grow faster, they can reduce plant fertility and grain production. Using existing models,

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predict the impact that a global temperature gain of 2°C may have on commercially important crops in the United States and worldwide. Some models suggest that average global temperatures will continue to rise, and peaks will occur during prime crop-growing seasons. The hardest-hit areas will be the tropics and subtropics, which encompass about half the world's population and include Africa, much of India, China and South America. Select a region, and conduct independent experiments using simulated regional climate conditions to determine possible strategies to increase plant growth at higher temperature levels. Use statistical analyses to determine if your findings fit one of the existing climate change models, and if climate change will impact crop yield significantly.

13. You work for an eco-friendly toy company interested in designing and marketing a desktop-sized self-contained ecosystem. You are asked to include active micro-organisms, red shrimp and green algae, and filtered sea water. The living organisms within the sealed ecosystem must utilize their resources without overpopulating or contaminating the environment. Research the system, then conduct a series of experiments to determine the appropriate ratios and types of plants, animals and amount of external light for this delicate balance to occur.

14. In your biology class, there was a discussion about climate change. You learned that human activities are changing the composition of Earth's atmosphere, and that levels of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide (CO₂) have been increasing since pre-industrial times. Your teacher stated that the atmospheric buildup of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases is largely the result of human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels. One student in your class disagreed. He said that the increase in human populations worldwide is causing the higher level of CO₂. His argument is that as people exhale, they release CO₂ from cellular respiration; more people, more CO₂. Your class erupted in discussion, and your teacher has asked that you choose a side and research the argument. Working in small groups, create short documentary (3-5 minutes) about how respiration and fossil fuel burning are similar processes. Use data and evidence from peer-reviewed sources to make a claim regarding whether or not one (or both) of these processes can be the root cause of climate change.

C. **Interdependence:** All animals and most plants depend on both other organisms and their environment to meet their basic needs.

1. *Biological communities in ecosystems are based on stable interrelationships and interdependence of organisms*
2. *Stability in an ecosystem can be disrupted by natural or human interactions*

BASIC INFORMATION:

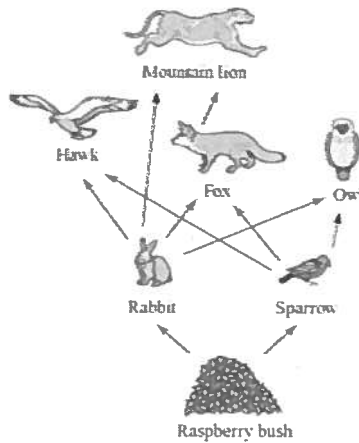
- Define the following terms in relationship to their position in the hierarchy of ecosystems
 - Populations:
 - Communities:
 - Ecosystems:
 - Biomes:
 - Biospheres:
- Explain how each organism in a food web can be dependent on each other.
- What does the term symbiosis mean?
- What are the three types of symbiosis and how do they work?

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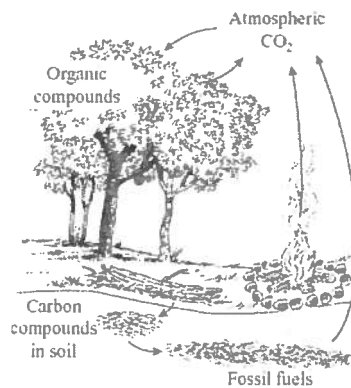
- List 5 activities of humans that throw off the delicate balance of an ecosystem and *how* it happens.
- NATURALLY: how does an ecosystem balance itself to keep all the organisms at the top of the food chain from wiping out all the organisms below?

Sample problems:

1. Which of the following is most likely to lead to an increase in the number of foxes over time?



- A.
 - B. a decrease in owls
 - C. an increase in hawks
 - D. an increase in mountain lions
 - E. a decrease in raspberry bushes
- 2.
3. If many trees are removed from a forest, what is the most immediate effect on the carbon cycle in that forest?



- A.
- B. increased rates of decomposition
- C. decreased use of atmospheric CO₂
- D. decreased combustion of fossil fuels
- E. increased production of organic compounds

4.

You are a conservation biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and you have been assigned to launch a plan to protect a single species in a threatened habitat in the United States (wetland, forest, prairie, kelp forest, etc.) with high biodiversity.

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Conduct research to determine which individual species provides the most essential ecosystem services to the ecosystem; with their removal, the ecosystem might collapse. Construct your species survival plan based on your research, and create a presentation to share your point of view.

5. You are a wetland ecologist who is working to preserve the wetlands of the Mississippi Delta. In order to understand how to proceed with conservation efforts, you must study the human-induced changes to the delta from the past 100 years. Create an interactive digital timeline that illustrates how humans have altered the ecosystem, specifically describing the impact on the physical terrain and, ultimately, living systems.

- D. **Heredity and Reproduction:** Organisms reproduce, develop, and have predictable life cycles. Organisms contain genetic information that influences their traits, and they pass this on to their offspring during reproduction.
1. *Genes are segments of DNA molecules located in the chromosome of each cell. DNA molecules contain information that determines a sequence of amino acids, which result in specific proteins.*
 2. *Inserting, deleting, or substituting DNA segments can alter the genetic code*
 3. *An altered gene may be passed on to every cell that develops from it. The resulting features may help, harm, or have little or no effect on the offspring's success in its environment.*
 4. *Sorting and recombination of genes in sexual reproduction result in a great variety of possible gene combinations in the offspring of any two parents*

BASIC INFORMATION:

According to the central dogma of all living things:

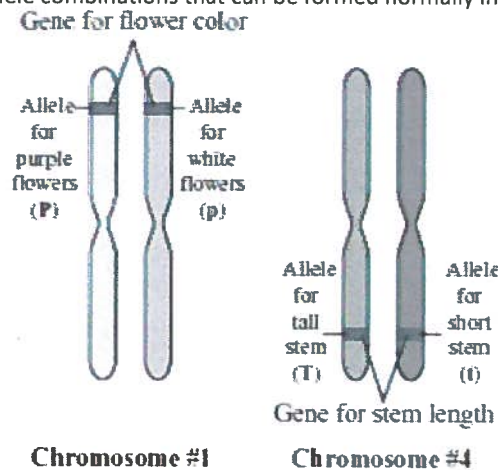
- _____ contains the master copy of all our information. This information is broken up into sections, or recipes, called _____. Each gene contains the directions to make a single _____ by linking together the proper sequence of _____.
- Before building a protein, a temporary copy of the single recipe must be made. This copy is called _____.
- Ultimately it is the _____ that gives you the traits that we have and the _____ that teaches us how to make them.
- Where is DNA kept in the cell? What is the name of the little structure of wound up DNA?
- What is a mutation? What problems does it cause? What types of changes are considered mutations?
- If a piece of DNA is mutated how can that affect future cells? Are they always negative?
- What is genetic variation and why is it important?
- List at least three things that can increase the genetic variation in a population.
- Which process listed above also explains how one set of parents can seemingly have an infinite number of different children?

Sample Problems:

1. Fireflies produce light inside their bodies. The enzyme luciferase is involved in the reaction that produces the light. Scientists have isolated the luciferase gene. A scientist inserts the luciferase gene into the DNA of cells from another organism. If these cells produce light, the scientist knows that which of the following occurred?

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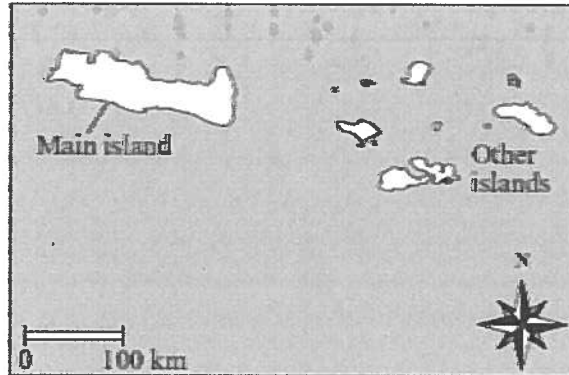
- A. The luciferase gene mutated inside the cells.
 - B. The luciferase gene was transcribed and translated.
 - C. The luciferase gene destroyed the original genes of the cells.
 - D. The luciferase gene moved from the nucleus to the endoplasmic reticulum
2. Which of the following best describes the result of a mutation in an organism's DNA?
- A. The mutation may produce a zygote.
 - B. The mutation may cause phenotypic change.
 - C. The mutation causes damage when it occurs.
 - D. The mutation creates entirely new organisms.
3. The diagram below shows the positions of the genes for flower color and stem length in a pea plant. For these two genes, what is the maximum number of different allele combinations that can be formed normally in gametes produced from this cell?



- A.
- A. 2
 - B. 4
 - C. 6
 - D. 8
4. If the DNA is mutated which of the following statements is true?
- A. ALL other cells in the body will have the same mutation.
 - B. All proteins in the cell will be mutated
 - C. Any proteins, RNA or cells that come from the mutated DNA will have the mutation
 - D. The cell will fix the mutation and nothing will happen
5. Which of the following populations is likely to have a high degree of genetic diversity?
- A. An asexual population of bacteria with a very low mutation rate
 - B. Sexually reproducing species where crossing over is frequent
 - C. A population of sheep created by cloning
 - D. A very small population of sexually reproducing species.
6. You are a genetic counselor working in the obstetrics department of a local hospital. A number of couples have recently requested pre-implantation genetic diagnosis to select the gender of their first born child. Write a position statement for the hospital's website outlining the department's policies regarding this technology; explain when and why gender selection might later have an effect on the health of the child. Select those heredity conditions that are linked (either directly or indirectly) to the sex of an individual. Determine the frequency of genetic conditions using the Autosomal Disease Calculator. Predict, using the calculator, how sex selection might change the prevalence of these diseases in the population, if at all
7. You have been commissioned to work with the Joint United Nation Programme on HIV/AIDS. You know that while HIV does not mutate into other forms of the virus, it mutates to escape detection by the immune system, making it difficult to develop vaccines. Study the replication cycle for HIV and compare the average rates of mutation throughout this time. Graph your findings and determine which cycle stage would be the best to target for drug design. You decide to initiate a global digital public health campaign explaining why an HIV vaccine is so difficult to create, explaining specifically how the virus mutates at such a rapid rate. Create a universally accessible brochure (using pictures and symbols) that explains why HIV is able to mutate so quickly, and why re-infection and super-infection can be so dangerous to someone already living with HIV

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- C. It shows how the embryos of many different vertebrate species are very similar.
 - D. It shows that the form and structure of groups of organisms have changed over time
4. On island chains like the one shown below, animal populations that spread from the main island to the other islands can evolve into separate species. Which of the following best explains what favors speciation in these situations?



- a. Predators on the main island can easily migrate to follow the populations to the other islands.
- b. Lack of disease on the other islands enables the populations to grow and change without limit
- c. The physical separation of the islands limits gene flow and interbreeding between the populations.
- d. The climatic conditions of the islands allow the populations to breed all year and produce several generations

5. You are a primatologist who studies lemurs, and you focus on the nocturnal aye-aye. The aye-aye has a number of traits that set it apart from other primates and allow it to exploit different niches than other lemurs. In the mid-1800's, Richard Owen used the aye-aye as an example of an animal that natural selection did not act upon. Compare the aye-aye to other lemurs, documenting which traits they share and do not share with other lemurs. Describe their unique niche and justify the claim that natural selection did act on the aye-aye, and use scientific evidence to describe how it fits its niche in Madagascar. Prepare a digital poster for a primatology conference.

6. You are a geneticist studying the relatedness of cichlid fish endemic to the African Great Lakes. You are conducting molecular analyses of cichlid DNA to determine relatedness between species. The fish in each of the lakes exhibit high levels of diversity in terms of morphology, ecology, and behavior. However, in some instances, species of cichlid fish that appear very different from one another turn out to be almost genetically identical. A number of people falsely believe that DNA alone can distinguish between species. Create a nature-inspired documentary explaining how scientists base their determination of species upon multiple forms of scientific evidence: anatomical similarities, similarities of DNA base and/or amino acid sequence, and even behavioral similarities to distinguish between species. Also address how, despite this evidence, ideas of species delineations can be changed by new findings.

7. You are an anthropologist working on identifying patterns in primate evolution. Obtain data and evidence (i.e. amino acid differences in proteins between certain primate species, anatomical structures, chromosome comparisons, etc.) and work in a small group to build a matrix of differences between the primate species. From the matrix of differences, construct a simple cladogram of the groups. Use this information to create a virtual interactive museum exhibit for other high school students that explores the evolutionary relationships between primates and their evolutionary relatives.

8. You are an evolutionary biologist studying salamanders, and focus on the ring species *Ensatina eschscholtzii*. Two distinct forms of the species, differing dramatically in color, coexist in southern California and are not successful at interbreeding. These two forms of salamanders are connected by a series of salamander populations with a gradient of varying color patterns, which encircle the Central Valley of California. A contractor is planning to purchase and develop the habitat of the salamander, and you are concerned that this species provides a unique opportunity to study evolution *in situ*. Develop a conservation campaign, stressing why these species must be saved for us to study and better understand the processes and mechanisms of evolution. Write and deliver a speech to be given to the California Department of Fish and Game's Environmental Review and Permitting Program officers. Focus not only on the need to conserve habitat, but stress the importance of preserving a model study species.