

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

B.Sc Degree Program 2014/2015

CHU 3139 – LEVEL 5 – BIOCHEMISTRY 1

Duration: Two Hours

Date: 21st May 2015 Time: 1.30-3.30 pm

Instructions to candidates:

This paper consists of six (06) questions. The first question is compulsory. You may need to select three questions from the rest (Q2-Q6) and answer four (04) questions in total.

- Q1 (a) Isolated biological sample was divided into five fractions, A, B, C, D and E. Following tests were carried out for each fraction and observations were recorded.
 - a. When a Biuret test was performed for fraction A, no colour change was observed.
 - b. For the Molisch test in fraction B, purple colour was observed.
 - c. An orange colour was observed when phenol/sulphuric acid test was performed to fraction C.
 - d. Tollen's reagent was added to fraction D, a faint silver mirror test was observed.
 - e. Fraction E was hydrolyzed with dilute H_2SO_4 and the hydrolyzate and fraction E was subjected to TLC and two spots were observed. Reported $R_{\rm glc}$ values were 1.0 and 0.5.
 - (i) Explain each observation and suggest possible class of compounds present in isolated biological sample?
 - (ii) What further experiments can to be performed to confirm suggested compounds?
 - (b) (i) What do you mean by tertiary structure of proteins? Explain.
 - (ii) What are the forces that maintain the tertiary structure of proteins?
 - (c) (i) What is meant by denaturation of proteins?
 - (ii) Briefly explain factors that brings about denaturation?
 - (d) i. What is meant by renaturation?
 - ii. What are the methods of renaturing proteins?

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Q2 (a) Consider the following reactions.

Glutamate + Pyruate
$$\leftrightarrow \alpha$$
 Ketoglutarate + Alanine $\Delta G^0 = -0.24$ Kcal/mol Glutamate + Oxaloacetate $\leftrightarrow \alpha$ Ketoglutarate + Aspartate $\Delta G^0 = -1.15$ Kcal/mol

- (i) By giving reasons, predict whether the net formation of Oxaloacetate and Alanine is thermodynamically feasible under standard conditions?
- (ii) Show whether the spontaneous synthesis of Oxaloacetate and Alanine is possible with following concentration values of reactants and products. [Alanine] = 10^{-3} M, [Aspartate] = 10^{-4} M, [Oxaloacetate] = 10^{-5} M, [Pyruate] = 10^{-2} M

Faraday constant, F = 96.5 kJ/Vmol, 1J = 1CV, $R = 8.314 \text{ Jmol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$, 1 Calorie = 4.184 J.

- (b) What are the types of linkages formed between sugars and amino acids? Explain.
- (c) (i) What are lipoproteins?
 - (ii) What are the types of lipoproteins found in blood?
 - (iii) What is the function of lipoproteins in human body?

Q3. (a) (i) What is meant by a codon?

- (ii) DNA is very fragile, how do you isolate DNA from cells without damaging? Explain.
- (iii) What method can be used to purify isolated DNA? Write down basic steps of this method?
- (b) (i) What are the special properties of the cell membrane?
- (ii) List some of the proteins present in the cell membrane and state their function.
- (iii) Draw a model of a cell membrane and label important structural components.
- (iv) How do substances move across the membrane? Explain.
- (c) Using labeled diagram, describe how biotin functions as a carboxyl carrier.

Q4. (a) (i) What is meant by a cofactor?

- (ii) List five enzymes containing or requiring inorganic elements as cofactors.
- (iii) Name all water soluble and fat soluble vitamins.
- (iv) What vitamins have the ability to function as antioxidants?
- (b) (i). What are the major roles of lipids in human body? Explain.
- ii. What is the common isolation method for lipids? Write down major steps.
- iii. Explain the factors that can complicate above isolation method.
- (c) How do you determine cholesterol concentration in blood serum? Explain the procedure.

- Q5. (a) Compare cyclic and non-cyclic electron flow in the photosynthetic organisms.
- (b) (i) What are the ways in which glucose provides energy for cells?
- (ii) Explain different methods of removing amino groups from amino acids?
- (iii) Describe how cane sugar provides energy on catabolism.
- (c) i. What is the pentose phosphate pathway?
 - ii. List two special products of this pathway?
 - iii. Why do some tissues prefer pentose phosphate path way to glycolysis?
- (d) Explain situations where oxidation of amino acids is important in animals.
- Q6. (a) (i) What is the function of citric acid cycle?
- (ii) Write down major steps of the citric acid cycle.
- (b) (i) Calculate the number of moles of ATP produced from β oxidation of stearic acid? (Stearic acid is $C_{17}H_{35}COOH$)),
- (ii) Compare the above value with the net ATP equivalent from oxidation of glucose.
- (c) (i) What is meant by oxidative deamination?
- (ii) What are the different forms of nitrogen removal? Explain.
- (d) Describe three situations where oxidation of amino acid is required in animals.

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