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### QUESTION 1

In the food chain below, vultures represent grass ?gt; cow ?gt; wolf ?gt; vulture:

- A. Scavengers
- B. Primary carnivores
- C. Detritivores
- D. Secondary consumers
- E. Herbivores

Correct Answer: A

Vultures eat carrion, or dead animals, so they are considered scavengers. Detritivores are heterotrophs that eat decomposing organic matter such as leaf litter. They are usually small.

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### QUESTION 2

What are the critical points of  $y = 4x^2 + 3x$ ?

- A. 0
- B.  $-3/8$
- C. 0 and  $-3/8$
- D. 0 and  $3/8$

Correct Answer: B

A critical point of a function is a point where the derivative of the function is equal to 0 or is undefined. Evaluate the derivative with respect to x, set it equal to 0, and solve for x:

$$0 = 8x + 3 \text{ ?gt; } x = -3/8$$

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### QUESTION 3

Polymers are formed by:

- A. successive addition reactions
- B. successive condensation reactions
- C. cross-linking between molecules
- D. all of the above

Correct Answer: D



Polyethylene and similar thermoplastic polymers are formed by addition reactions. Polyesters and polyamides such as nylon are formed by condensation reactions. Molecules with more than one functional reactive site can polymerize in a three-dimensional crosslinked manner instead of a strictly linear manner.

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#### QUESTION 4

When blood flow to human tissue is interrupted, the lack of sufficient blood supply is called ischemia. If ischemia is not restored quickly, the affected tissue may undergo a process called infarction, which involves a series of chemical changes that damage the tissue. The lack of blood supply results in lack of oxygen, and thus lactic acidosis. Mitochondrial dysfunction results. Microscopic examination and chemical analysis of ischemic cells reveal membrane degeneration, excessive calcium ( $\text{Ca}^{+}$ ) inside the cell, and free radical formation, accompanied by a reactive inflammation and free fatty acid formation. A research experiment is designed to evaluate the response of infarcted tissue to intra-arterial administration of an antioxidant. Preliminary results demonstrate that follow-up evaluation of tissue exposed to intra-arterial antioxidant injection resulted, on average, in a smaller area of infarcted tissue after seven days when compared to controls without exposure to the antioxidant. It was noted that 70% of the patients who demonstrated smaller areas of infarction also had a notable decrease in edema of the ischemic tissue lasting about 6 to 10 hours after injection.

Which of the following chemical moieties forms the backbone of DNA?

- A. Nitrogenous bases
- B. Glycerol
- C. Amino groups
- D. Pentose and phosphate

Correct Answer: D

DNA is composed of nucleotides joined together in long chains. Nucleotides are composed of a pentose sugar, a phosphate group, and a nitrogenous base. The bases form the "rungs" of the ladder at the core of the DNA helix and the pentose-phosphates are on its outside, or backbone.

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#### QUESTION 5

What fractional part of an hour is 400 seconds?

- A.  $\frac{1}{5}$
- B.  $\frac{1}{6}$
- C.  $\frac{1}{7}$
- D.  $\frac{1}{9}$

Correct Answer: D

Each hour has 60 minutes, and each of those minutes has 60 seconds. Expressed in seconds, then, an hour is  $60 \times 60 = 3600$ .

$400 / 3600 = 1/9$ .



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