5. Enzymes

(IGCSE Biology Syllabus 2023-2025)

- Catalyst: a substance that speeds up a chemical reaction and is not changed by the reaction
- Enzymes: proteins that function as biological catalysts
- Enzymes lower the amount of energy needed for reaction to take place
- Lock and key theory:



- Substrate: the molecules before they are made to react
- Product: the molecules that are made in a reaction
- Catabolic reaction: molecules are broken down
- Anabolic reaction: molecules are combined

Effect of Temperature on Enzymes

- Enzymes have an **optimum temperature**: the temperature at which they work best giving the fastest reaction
- When temperature increases, molecules move faster so collide with an enzyme in less time
- Having more energy makes them more likely to bind to active site
- If temperature is too high, enzyme is **denatured** it loses its shape and will no longer bind with a substrate
- When the temperature is too low, there is not enough kinetic energy for the reaction so it reacts too slowly



Effect of pH on Enzymes

- Enzymes are sensitive to pH
- Some enzymes work best in an acid, some work best in a neutral condition and others in an alkaline
- Enzymes work best at their optimum pH
- If the pH is changed then the enzyme will denature and will no longer fir with substrate no reaction takes place



Enzymes and their Uses

- Seeds to germinate: the enzyme turn insoluble stored food to soluble
- Biological washing powders: enzymes are added to washing powder to help remove stains from clothes
 - Lipase: digest lipids from fatty food and greasy fingerprints Enzymes
 - Protease: digest proteins from blood stains
- Food industry:
 - Isomerase converts glucose to fructose which is sweeter, so less is needed to give a sweet taste
 - Pectinase helps break down cell walls in fruit juice production so it increases yield, lowers viscosity and reduces cloudiness

Feb/March 2019 (21)

10 The diagram shows the effect of an enzyme working in the human digestive system.



What would reduce the rate of production of amino acids?

- A removing the amino acids as they are formed
- B increasing the amount of protein
- C raising the temperature to 37.1 °C
- D raising the pH to 7.5
- 11 The diagrams show molecules involved in the action of a digestive enzyme such as maltase.

Which is the substrate?



Oct/Nov 2018 (23)

9 The apparatus shown is used for an experiment on starch digestion.

Which test-tube contains the most sugar after 20 minutes?



10 The graph shows how an enzyme-controlled reaction is affected by temperature.



Which statement explains the change in activity between X and Y?

- A There are more effective collisions.
- B There is a change in the enzyme shape.
- C There is more substrate present.
- D The kinetic energy of the molecules has increased.

Oct/Nov 2019 (23)

9 Enzyme X digests protein in the stomach.

Four test-tubes were set up, each contained the same amounts of protein and enzyme X. The test-tubes are kept at different levels of pH and temperature, as shown in the table.

In which test-tube will protein digestion be quickest?

	pH	temperature/°C
A	2	20
в	2	35
C	7	20
D	7	35

Feb/Mar 2020 (22)

10 The diagram shows an experiment on the digestion of the protein in egg albumen by protease.

The protease was taken from a human stomach.

In which test-tube will the protein be digested most quickly?



8. Transport in Plants

(IGCSE Biology Syllabus 2023-2025)

8.1 Xylem and Phloem

Plants have transport systems to move food, water and minerals around. These systems use continuous tubes called xylem and phloem

- <u>Xvlem vessels</u> carry water and minerals from the roots to the leaves + supporting the stem and strengthening it
- <u>**Phloem</u>** tubes carry **sugar** & other organic **nutrients** made by plant from the **leaves** to the rest of the plant</u>

Structure of Xylem Tissue

- i. Dead cells
- ii. Thick, strengthened cellulose cell wall
- iii. Hollow lumen
- iv. End walls of the cells have disappeared long and open tube
- v. Contains holes (pits)



Structure of the Phloem Tissue

- i. Long, narrow tube
- ii. Perforated sieve plates
- iii. Made of columns of living cells, which contains a cytoplasm but no nucleus
- iv. Its activities control by a companion cell next to it which has a nucleus (***but companion cell have no function in translocation)



Distribution of Xylem and Phloem in roots, stems and leaves

- In the **roots**, xylem and phloem are in the **centre** to withstand stretching forces.
- In the stems, they are arranged in bundles near the edge to resist compression and bending forces.
- They are grouped together into veins and vascular bundles as they pass through leaves.





8.2 Water Uptake



Plants take in water from the soil, through their root hairs:

- At the very tip is a root cap. This is a layer of cells which protects the root as it grows through the soil.
- The rest of the root is covered by a layer of cells called the **epidermis**.
- The **root hairs** are a little way up from the root tip. Each root hair is a **long epidermal cell**. Root hairs do not live for very long. As the root grows, they are replaced by new ones.

Functions of root hair cell

- **Increase** the external **surface area** of the root for **absorption** of **water** and mineral ions (the hair increases the surface area of the cell to make it more efficient in absorbing materials).
- Provide **anchorage** for the plant.

8.3 Transpiration



- Water enters <u>root hair</u> cells by osmosis. This happens when the water potential in the soil surrounding the root is higher than in the cell à water diffuses from the soil into the root hair, down its concentration gradient.
- As the water enters the cell, its water potential becomes higher than in the cell next to it, e.g. in the <u>cortex</u>. So water moves, by **osmosis**, into the next cell. Some of water may also just **seep** through the spaces between the cells, or through the cell walls, never actually entering a cell.

Oct/Nov 2018 (42)

3 (a) Fig. 3.1 is a photomicrograph of some xylem vessels.





(i) State one structural feature of xylem vessels and explain how this is related to the function of water transport.

feature
explanation
[2]

(ii) Explain the mechanism that is responsible for the movement of water in xylem vessels.

((iii)	State one role of xylem vessels other than transport.
(-)	hum Stat	nidity of the air.
		[3]
		[Total: 10]

May/June 2018 (42)

3 Aphids are insects that feed on the phloem sap in plants.

Fig. 3.1 shows a diagram of an aphid with its mouth parts inserted into the stem of a plant.





- (a) The mouth parts of the aphid reach the phloem tissue of the stem.
 - (i) State the name of the foods the aphid could suck out of the phloem tissue.

[2]

9. Transport in Animals

(IGCSE Biology Syllabus 2023-2025)

9.1 Transport System

- **Circulatory system**: system of blood vessels (veins, capillaries, arteries) with a pump (heart) and valves (in heart and veins) to ensure one-way flow of blood
- Double circulation system:
 - Four heart chambers
 - Blood passes through heart twice
 - o Blood is oxygenated in lungs, to heart, to body then back to heart
 - Advantage: delivers greater blood flow rate to tissues around the body as the heart pumps the oxygenated blood from the lungs

9.2 The Heart

- Single circulation system
 - Two heart chambers
 - Blood passes through heart once
 - o Blood travels much more slowly to a fish's body organs than it does in a mammal





Coronary Heart Disease

- Coronary artery becomes blocked, interrupting the supply of blood to the heart muscle
- The heart muscle cells are deprived of oxygen and glucose, and poisonous wastes such as lactic acid build up
- Part of the heart muscle stops contracting, causing a heart attack
- Caused by stress, smoking, poor diet, poor lifestyle and genetically
- Can be prevented by not smoking, avoiding fatty food and exercising regularly
- Treated by aspirin and surgery (stents, angioplasty and by-pass)



Past Year Topical Questions

Oct/Nov 2019 (41)

5 Fig. 5.1 shows an angiogram of a heart before and after treatment for coronary heart disease (CHD). An angiogram is an image of the blood flow through the blood vessels of the heart.



before treatment

after treatment



- (a) The arrow on Fig. 5.1 shows the position of a blockage in a blood vessel.
 - (i) State the name of the blocked blood vessel.

[1]

(ii) The blockage is caused by a blood clot.

Describe how a blood clot forms.

[3]
State the name of a drug that can be used to treat coronary heart disease.

(iii)