



Previous Year

Solved Question Paper

I.I.T. JAM EXAM 2019

BIOTECHNOLOGY

Examination

(Original Question Paper with Answer Key)

JOINT ADMISSION TEST FOR M.Sc IN IITs AND IISc



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Paper Specific Instructions

1. The examination is of 3 hours duration. There are a total of 60 questions carrying 100 marks. The entire paper is divided into three sections, **A**, **B** and **C**. All sections are compulsory. Questions in each section are of different types.
2. **Section – A** contains a total of 30 **Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ)**. Each MCQ type question has four choices out of which only **one** choice is the correct answer. Questions Q.1 – Q.30 belong to this section and carry a total of 50 marks. Q.1 – Q.10 carry 1 mark each and Questions Q.11 – Q.30 carry 2 marks each.
3. **Section – B** contains a total of 10 **Multiple Select Questions (MSQ)**. Each MSQ type question is similar to MCQ but with a difference that there may be **one or more than one** choice(s) that are correct out of the four given choices. The candidate gets full credit if he/she selects all the correct answers only and no wrong answers. Questions Q.31 – Q.40 belong to this section and carry 2 marks each with a total of 20 marks.
4. **Section – C** contains a total of 20 **Numerical Answer Type (NAT)** questions. For these NAT type questions, the answer is a real number which needs to be entered using the virtual keyboard on the monitor. No choices will be shown for these type of questions. Questions Q.41 – Q.60 belong to this section and carry a total of 30 marks. Q.41 – Q.50 carry 1 mark each and Questions Q.51 – Q.60 carry 2 marks each.
5. In all sections, questions not attempted will result in zero mark. In **Section – A** (MCQ), wrong answer will result in **NEGATIVE** marks. For all 1 mark questions, 1/3 marks will be deducted for each wrong answer. For all 2 marks questions, 2/3 marks will be deducted for each wrong answer. In **Section – B** (MSQ), there is **NO NEGATIVE** and **NO PARTIAL** marking provisions. There is **NO NEGATIVE** marking in **Section – C** (NAT) as well.
6. Only Virtual Scientific Calculator is allowed. Charts, graph sheets, tables, cellular phone or other electronic gadgets are **NOT** allowed in the examination hall.
7. The Scribble Pad will be provided for rough work.

SECTION – A

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQ)

Q. 1 – Q.10 carry one mark each.

Q.1 The glycosidic linkages in cellulose and amylose are _____, respectively.

- (A) α 1-4 and β 1-4
- (B) β 1-4 and α 1-4
- (C) β 1-4 and α 1-6
- (D) α 1-4 and α 1-2

Ans. B

Q.2 A mutation in the operator locus of *lac* operon that confers constitutive expression of β -galactosidase is _____.

- (A) *cis* dominant
- (B) *trans* dominant
- (C) co-dominant
- (D) dominant negative

Ans. A

Q.3 Which one of the points $P = \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$, $Q = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right)$, $R = \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{11}{2}\right)$ and $S = \left(\frac{11}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right)$ lies ABOVE the parabola $y = 2x^2$ and INSIDE the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$?

- (A) P
- (B) Q
- (C) R
- (D) S

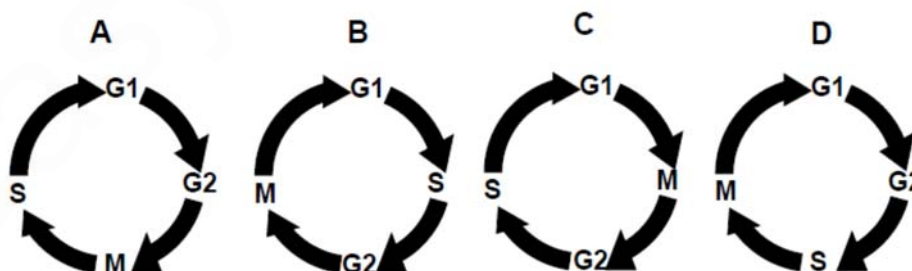
Ans. B

Q.4 Let $U = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$. A subset S is chosen uniformly at random from the non-empty subsets of U . What is the probability that S does NOT have two consecutive elements?

- (A) 9/31
- (B) 10/31
- (C) 11/31
- (D) 12/31

Ans. D

Q.5 Which one of the following figures represents the correct sequence of phases in adult eukaryotic cell cycle?



Ans. B

Q.6 At what pH does poly-Glu in an aqueous solution form α -helical structure?

- (A) 3
- (B) 7
- (C) 9
- (D) 12

Ans. A

Q.7 The dimensions of coefficient of viscosity are _____.

- (A) $ML^{-1}T^{-1}$
- (B) $ML^{-1}T^{-2}$
- (C) $ML^{-2}T^{-2}$
- (D) $ML^{-2}T^{-1}$

Ans. A

Q.8 Match the entries in Group I with the entries in Group II

Group I

- (P) Nylon
- (Q) Natural rubber
- (R) Starch
- (S) Myoglobin

Group II

- (i) Isoprene
- (ii) Hexose
- (iii) Amino acid
- (iv) Adipic acid

- (A) P-iv, Q-i, R-ii, S-iii
- (B) P-iv, Q-i, R-iii, S-ii
- (C) P-iv, Q-iii, R-ii, S-i
- (D) P-ii, Q-iv, R-i, S-iii

Ans. A

Q.9 The technique that involves impacting samples with electrons is _____.

- (A) NMR spectroscopy
- (B) ESI mass spectrometry
- (C) IR spectroscopy
- (D) UV-vis spectroscopy

Ans. B

Q.10 The orbital angular momentum of hydrogen atom in the ground state is _____.

- (A) 0
- (B) $\frac{h}{2\pi}$
- (C) $\frac{h}{2}$
- (D) h

Ans. A OR B

Q. 11 – Q. 30 carry two marks each.

Q.11 Let $a = \frac{\sqrt{5}+1}{2}$ and $b = \frac{\sqrt{5}-1}{2}$. Then, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a^n + b^n}{a^n - b^n}$

- (A) is 1
- (B) is $\frac{1}{2}$
- (C) is 0
- (D) does not exist

Ans. A

Q.12 In how many ways can one write the elements 1, 2, 3, 4 in a sequence x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 with $x_i \neq i \forall i$?

- (A) 9
- (B) 10
- (C) 11
- (D) 12

Ans. A

Q.13 Simplify $\frac{\sin A}{1+\cos A} + \frac{1+\cos A}{\sin A}$.

- (A) $2 \sec A$
- (B) $2 \operatorname{cosec} A$
- (C) $\sec A$
- (D) $\operatorname{cosec} A$

Ans. B

Q.14 The evolution of eyes in octopus and in human is an example of _____.

- (A) divergent evolution
- (B) convergent evolution
- (C) adaptive radiation
- (D) genetic drift

Ans. B

Q.15 Which one of the following modifications occurs both on DNA and protein?

- (A) ADP-ribosylation (B) Methylation
(C) Sumoylation (D) Ubiquitination

Ans. B

Q.16 Solutions of the following peptides are prepared separately at a concentration of 1 mM. Among these four, which one has the highest A_{280} ?

- (A) Ser-Val-Trp-Asp-Phe-Gly-Tyr-Trp-Ala
(B) Gln-Leu-Glu-Phe-Thr-Leu-Asp-Gly-Tyr
(C) Met-Gly-Val-Ileu-Asp-Ser-Ala-Trp-His
(D) His-Pro-Gly-Asp-Val-Ileu-Phe-Met-Leu

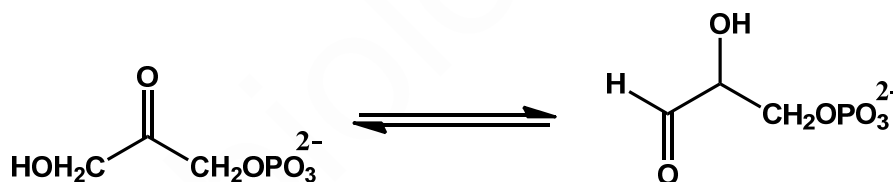
Ans. A

Q.17 The free energy required to synthesize a mixed anhydride bond of 1,3-bisphosphoglycerate is generated by the oxidation of _____.

- (A) an aldehyde to acid
(B) an alcohol to acid
(C) an alcohol to aldehyde
(D) NADH to NAD^+

Ans. A

Q.18 The following reaction is an example of _____.



- (A) enolization (B) racemization (C) isomerization (D) epimerization

Ans. C

Q.19 Which one of the following parameters changes upon doubling the enzyme concentration?

- (A) K_M (B) V_{max} (C) k_{cat} (D) K_{eq}

Ans. B

Q.20 Which one of the following statements is a correct description of modes of action of taxol and colchicine?

- (A) Taxol causes DNA damage and colchicine prevents microtubule formation
(B) Taxol stabilizes microtubules and colchicine inhibits protein synthesis
(C) Taxol destabilizes microtubules and colchicine promotes microtubule formation
(D) Taxol stabilizes microtubules and colchicine prevents microtubule formation

Ans. D

Q.21 In a simple microscope, _____.

- (A) a lens with negative power is used
- (B) the focal length of the lens is less than the least distance for clear vision
- (C) the focal length of the lens is greater than the least distance for clear vision
- (D) magnification depends only on the focal length of the lens

Ans. B

Q.22 Which one of the following statements is INCORRECT with respect to bacterial conjugation?

- (A) It facilitates transfer of genetic material
- (B) It requires flagellum
- (C) It can spread antibiotic resistance
- (D) It can transfer virulence factors

Ans. B

Q.23 A particle starting from rest is subjected to a constant force. The plot of distance traveled along the direction of the force as a function of time is a/an _____.

- (A) straight line
- (B) circle
- (C) parabola
- (D) ellipse

Ans. C

Q.24 Indole acetic acid (IAA) is involved in _____.

- (A) gravitropism
- (B) flowering
- (C) ripening
- (D) senescence

Ans. A

Q.25 Which one of the following remains unchanged when light waves enter water from air?

- (A) Wavelength
- (B) Wavenumber
- (C) Frequency
- (D) Intensity

Ans. C

Q.26 According to the kinetic theory of gases, the average energy of a diatomic molecule in an ideal gas depends on _____.

- (A) mass of each atom and the temperature
- (B) mass of each atom and the bond length
- (C) mass of each atom, bond length, and temperature
- (D) temperature only

Ans. D

Q.27 Match the entries in Group I with entries in Group II

Group I

- (P) Bacteria
- (Q) Virus
- (R) Protozoa
- (S) Autoantibodies

Group II

- (i) Malaria
- (ii) Tuberculosis
- (iii) Influenza
- (iv) Myasthenia gravis

- (A) P-ii, Q-i, R-iii, S-iv
- (C) P-iv, Q-iii, R-i, S-ii

- (B) P-ii, Q-iii, R-i, S-iv
- (D) P-i, Q-iv, R-ii, S-iii

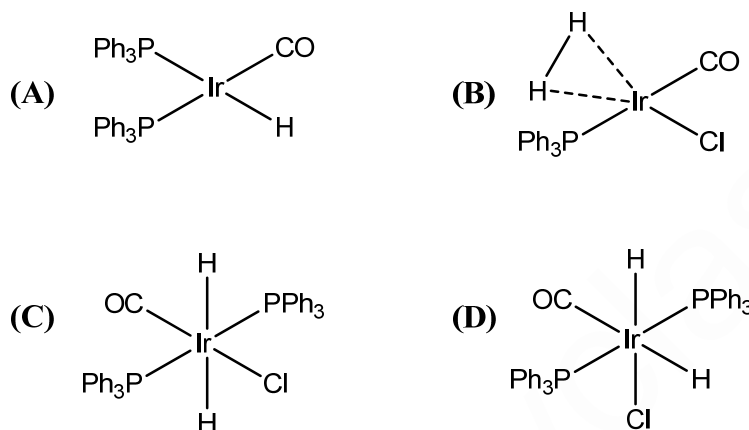
Ans. B

Q.28 pK_a increases in the order _____.

- (A) $\text{HN}_3 > \text{NH}_3\text{OH}^+ > \text{N}_2\text{H}_5^+ > \text{NH}_3$
 (B) $\text{NH}_3\text{OH}^+ > \text{N}_2\text{H}_5^+ > \text{HN}_3 > \text{NH}_3$
 (C) $\text{NH}_3 > \text{NH}_3\text{OH}^+ > \text{N}_2\text{H}_5^+ > \text{HN}_3$
 (D) $\text{HN}_3 > \text{N}_2\text{H}_5^+ > \text{NH}_3 > \text{NH}_3\text{OH}^+$

Ans. marks to all

Q.29 H_2 reacts with *trans*-(Ph_3P)₂ $\text{Ir}(\text{CO})\text{Cl}$ to primarily produce _____.



Ans. D

Q.30 Among the following species, the metal center that has the highest number of unpaired electrons is _____.

- (A) VCl_4 (B) $\text{Ni}(\text{CO})_4$ (C) $[\text{AuCl}_4]^-$ (D) $[\text{CdBr}_4]^{2-}$

Ans.A

SECTION - B

MULTIPLE SELECT QUESTIONS (MSQ)

Q. 31 – Q. 40 carry two marks each.

Q.31 Pick the correct statement(s) with respect to the inter-conversion of the topoisomers of a circularly closed double stranded DNA.

- (A) Only one strand needs to be cut
 (B) Both strands have to be cut
 (C) No strand needs to be cut
 (D) ATP is required for inter-conversion

Ans. A, B, D

Q.32 Let $U = \{1, 2, \dots, 15\}$. Let $P \subseteq U$ consist of all prime numbers, $Q \subseteq U$ consist of all even numbers and $R \subseteq U$ consist of all multiples of 3. Let $T = P - Q$. Then, which of the following is/are CORRECT?

- (A) $|T| = 5$ and $|T \cup R| = 9$ (B) $|T| = 6$ and $|T \cup R| = 9$
 (C) $|T| = 5$ and $|T \cap R| = 1$ (D) $|T| = 6$ and $|T \cap R| = 1$

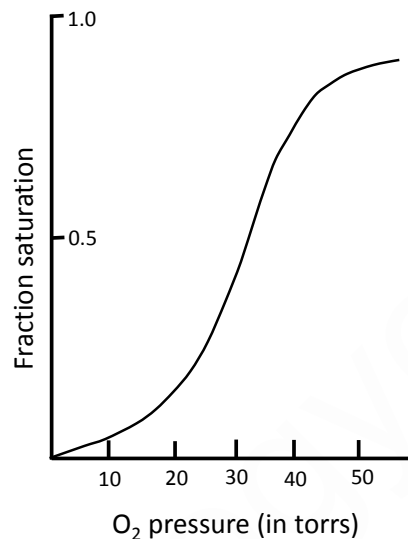
Ans. A, C

Q.33 Let $f(x) = (x - 1)(x - 2)(x - 3)(x - 4)$ and let $\alpha = f\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$, $\beta = f\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)$ and $\gamma = f\left(\frac{7}{2}\right)$. Which of the following is/are CORRECT?

- (A) α and β have the same sign
 (B) α and γ have the same sign
 (C) β and γ have the same sign
 (D) $\alpha\beta$ and $\beta\gamma$ have the same sign

Ans. B, D

Q.34 The characteristic oxygen binding profile of hemoglobin shown below arises due to the _____.



- (A) quaternary structure
 (B) subunit dissociation
 (C) cooperativity
 (D) conformational change

Ans. A, C, D

Q.35 The advantage(s) of storing chemical energy in the form of starch and not as free glucose is/are that it _____.

- (A) minimizes diffusion
 (B) enables compact storage
 (C) reduces osmotic pressure
 (D) protects against chemical reactivity of aldehyde groups

Ans. A, B, C, D

Q.36 Which of the following cell types can develop from myeloid lineage?

- (A) Macrophages (B) T lymphocytes (C) B lymphocytes (D) Erythrocytes

Ans. A, D

Q.37 Electromagnetic waves _____.

- (A) carry energy
 (B) carry momentum
 (C) are transverse in nature while travelling in vacuum
 (D) do not need a material medium to travel

Ans. A, B, C, D

- Q.38 Which of the following statement(s) is/are true?
- (A) In intrinsic semiconductors, the number of electrons is equal to the number of holes at any temperature
- (B) An intrinsic semiconductor changes to an n -type semiconductor upon addition of a trivalent element
- (C) The shape of the I-V characteristics of a p - n diode is a straight line
- (D) In the reverse bias condition, the current in a p - n diode is due to the minority carriers

Ans. A, D

- Q.39 BF_3 reacts readily with _____.
- (A) $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$ (B) SnCl_2
- (C) SO_3 (D) $(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N})-\text{SnCl}_2$

Ans. A, D

- Q.40 The reaction of (R)-2-bromobutane with CN^- proceeds by _____.
- (A) retention of configuration
- (B) inversion of configuration
- (C) formation of $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)$
- (D) formation of (S)-2-methylbutanenitrile

Ans. B, D

SECTION – C

NUMERICAL ANSWER TYPE (NAT)

Q. 41 – Q. 50 carry one mark each.

- Q.41 C_3 plants utilize 18 molecules of ATP to synthesize one molecule of glucose from CO_2 . How many molecules of ATP equivalents are used by C_4 plants to synthesize one molecule of glucose from CO_2 ?

Ans. 30 to 30

- Q.42 A 0.1% (w/v) solution of a protein absorbs 20% of the incident light. What fraction of light is transmitted if the concentration is increased to 0.4%? [Correct to two decimal places]

Ans. 0.40 to 0.42

- Q.43 Let XYZ be an equilateral triangle and let P, Q, R be the mid points of YZ, XZ, and XY, respectively.

$$\text{Let } r = \frac{\text{Area}(\Delta PQR)}{\text{Area}(\Delta XYZ)}$$

The value of r is _____.

Ans. 0.25 to 0.25

Q.44 Let N be the set of natural numbers and $f: N \mapsto N$ be defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x/2, & x \text{ is even} \\ 3x + 1, & x \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Let $f^n(x)$ denote the n -fold composition of $f(x)$. What is the smallest integer n such that $f^n(13) = 1$?

Ans. 9 to 9

Q.45 Heterozygous female fruit flies with gray body and purple eyes were mated with homozygous males with black body and red eyes. The number of offspring obtained and their phenotypes are shown below:

Number of offspring	Phenotype
300	Gray body–purple eyes
347	Black body–red eyes
61	Gray body–red eyes
55	Black body–purple eyes

Calculate the recombination frequency.

Ans. 15.0 to 15.4

Q.46 Proinsulin is an 84 residue polypeptide with six cysteines. How many different disulfide combinations are possible?

Ans. 15 to 15

Q.47 The refractive index of a liquid relative to air is 1.5. Calculate the ratio of the real depth to the apparent depth when the liquid is taken in a beaker.

Ans. 1.5 to 1.5

Q.48 A metallic wire of electrical resistance 40Ω is bent in the form of a square loop. The resistance between any two diagonally opposite corners is _____ Ω .

Ans. 10 to 10

Q.49 The total number of lone pairs of electrons in NO_2F is _____.

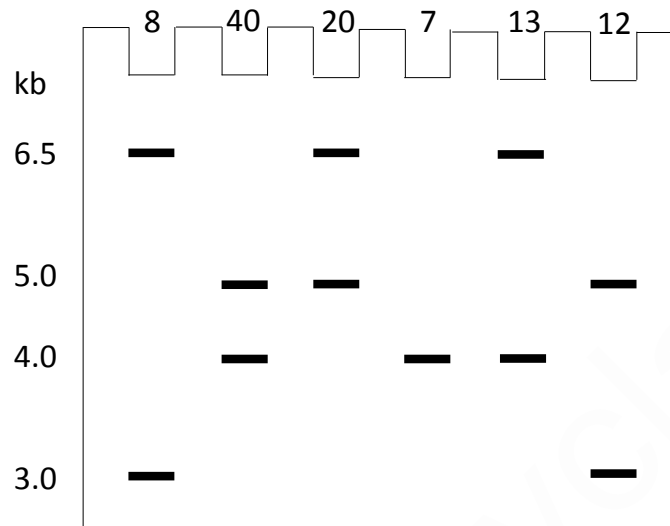
Ans. 8 to 8

Q.50 The total number of multiplet peaks in the ^1H NMR spectrum of 1,3,5-tri-isopropylbenzene in CDCl_3 is _____.

Ans. 2 to 2

Q. 51 – Q. 60 carry two marks each.

Q.51 A schematic representation of restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) analysis of a sample population is shown below. The number of people exhibiting a given pattern is indicated above the lanes.



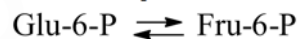
Calculate the frequency of 6.5 kb allele. [Correct to two decimal places]

Ans. 0.40 to 0.42

Q.52 The value of $\int_0^{\pi/2} x \sin x \, dx$ is _____.

Ans. 1 to 1

Q.53 Phosphoglucosomerase catalyzes the following reaction:



If 0.05% of the original concentration of Glu-6-P remains at equilibrium, then the equilibrium constant of this reaction is _____.

Ans. 1999 to 1999

Q.54 In a bacterium, a mutation resulted in an increase of K_s (substrate-specific constant) for ammonium from 50 μM to 5000 μM without affecting μ_{max} . The specific growth rate (μ) of the mutant growing on 0.5 mM ammonium in the medium decreases by a factor of _____.

Ans. 10 to 10

Q.55 The total number of DNA molecules present after 5 cycles of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) starting with 3 molecules of template DNA is _____.

Ans. 96 to 96

Q.56 Two identical, infinite conducting plates are kept parallel to each other and are separated by a distance d . The uniform charge densities on the plates are $+\sigma$ and $-\sigma$. The electric field at a point between the two plates is $n \left(\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \right)$, where n is _____.
(ϵ_0 is the permittivity of free space)

Ans. 2 to 2

Q.57 The concentration of NaCl (in mM) formed at the stoichiometric equivalence point when 10 mL of 0.1 M HCl solution is titrated with 0.2 M NaOH solution is _____. (as an integer)

Ans. 65 to 67

Q.58 The standard emf of a cell (in V) involving the reaction, $2 \text{Ag}^+ (\text{aq.}) \rightarrow \text{Ag} (\text{s}) + \text{Ag}^{2+} (\text{aq.})$ at 298 K is _____. [Correct to two decimal places]

[Given: $\text{Ag}^+ (\text{aq.}) + \text{e} \rightarrow \text{Ag} (\text{s}); E^\circ = 0.62 \text{ V}$ and $\text{Ag}^{2+} (\text{aq.}) + \text{e} \rightarrow \text{Ag}^+ (\text{aq.}); E^\circ = 0.12 \text{ V}$]

Ans. 0.49 to 0.51

Q.59 Let $\vec{a} = 4\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = 7\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 12\hat{k}$. If $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \alpha\hat{i} + \beta\hat{j} + \gamma\hat{k}$, then the value of $\alpha + \beta + \gamma$ equals_____.

Ans. 126 to 126

Q.60 An infinitely long solenoid of radius r and number of turns per unit length n carries a steady current I . The ratio of the magnetic fields at a point on the axis of the solenoid to a point $r/2$ from the axis is _____.

Ans. 1 to 1

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