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COMMONWEALTH SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS
EXAMINATION FOR TWO-YEAR SCHOLARSHIP
1970-71

Candidate's Number
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COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH (SCIENCE)
FREDERICK STREET, HAWTHORN
VICTORIA, 3122

Afternoon session: Wednesday 30th July 1969

Time allowed: two hours

TEST BOOKLET TO BE HANDED IN WITH YOUR ANSWER SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

This is a test of your ability to read and understand material of a scientific nature. It will be possible for you to do well on this test even though you may have studied only a little science in your school course. The test consists of 11 units.

You are strongly advised to observe the following points:

1. Work carefully through the questions in the order in which they are given.
2. Do not waste too much time on any one question; if necessary, go on to the next question and come back to the difficult ones later.
3. If you think you know an answer, mark it even if you are not certain that it is correct. Marks will **not** be deducted for wrong answers.
4. Make sure that you mark the letter you have chosen in the correct line on your answer sheet.

ANSWERING

For each question you will be given four alternative answers. These alternative choices will be represented by the letters A B C D. You are required to select an answer from these alternatives. Indicate your answer by putting a black pencil mark between the dotted lines across the letter representing your choice.

If you wish to change your answer you must erase your first mark completely. Try to avoid the necessity for making erasures by not answering hastily. Take care that your pencil mark does **not** cross into another row or column, that is, it does not go outside one dotted space, and that there are no marks or smudges on your answer sheet.

For example, if you choose D you should mark your answer sheet as follows:

~~A~~ ~~B~~ ~~C~~ **D**

Now look through this examination paper, but **do not start writing** until the supervisor tells you to do so.

UNIT 1

An optical system has a high resolving power to the extent that it can be used to distinguish objects as separate when they are very close together. This resolving power may be measured according to the distance between objects which can just be distinguished. Thus a microscope using white light for illumination can resolve to 2500 Ångstrom units (Å); the electron microscope has a greater resolving power—it can resolve to about 5 Å; i.e. objects which can just be distinguished are *very* close together. If two objects are closer than 5 Å, they will appear as one and not as two distinct objects on examination with the electron microscope.

The resolving power of a microscope is limited by the kind of illumination used and for many microscopes this is white light. For certain purposes light may be considered as having wave-like properties. The range of wavelength for white light is 4500 Å to 6100 Å. Objects cannot be distinguished as separate if their outlines are closer together than one half the wavelength of the illuminating radiation.

The electron microscope provides increased resolving power using a beam of high-speed electrons instead of light. The electron beam has, like a wave, a characteristic range of wavelengths. As the electrons pass through the specimen being viewed, the parts of the specimen absorb electrons differentially and an image of the specimen can be formed on a screen.

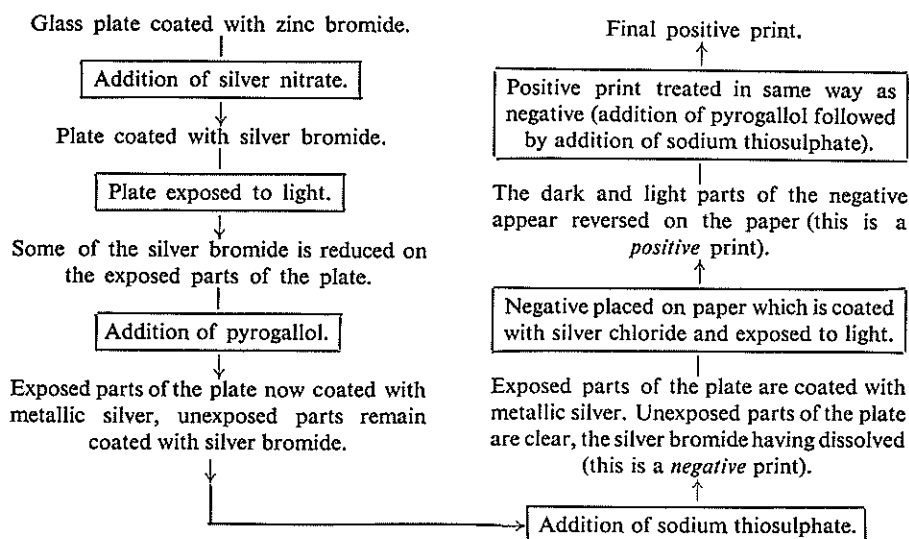
- 1 The electron beam for a particular electron microscope has an average wavelength of 12 Å. This electron microscope can, in theory, distinguish objects as close together as
 - A 24 Å.
 - B 12 Å.
 - C 6 Å.
 - D 1.2 Å.
- 2 An electron microscope which can resolve to 5 Å is able to distinguish objects
 - A which are separated by less than 5 Å.
 - B which are separated by more than 5 Å.
 - C provided they are less than 5 Å from the lens near the object.
 - D which are smaller than 5 Å.
- 3 In a crystal, particular rows of atoms are separated by 1.06 Å. On the evidence given, two of these rows which are adjacent could be distinguished by
 - A the naked human eye.
 - B a microscope using white light for illumination.
 - C an electron microscope.
 - D none of the above.

UNIT 2

The process of photography makes use of the following facts:

- 1 Silver halides (e.g. silver chloride, silver bromide and silver iodide) are white solids which are reduced to black metallic silver on exposure to light. Under otherwise constant conditions, the extent of reduction depends on the duration of exposure.
- 2 Sodium thiosulphate dissolves any silver halide which has not been reduced to metallic silver.
- 3 Violet light is very effective in reducing silver halides. The effect lessens as the light used is further from the violet end of the spectrum and closer to the red end. Red light has practically no reducing effect.

A nineteenth century photographic process is outlined on page 3. In those days the photographer did not use a *roll* of film; instead *one glass plate* was used each time a photograph was taken.



- 4 The function of the zinc bromide on the plate was to
- provide the halide for the formation of silver halide.
 - provide the metallic zinc which formed the final positive print.
 - reduce the silver bromide to metallic silver.
 - reduce the zinc halide to metallic silver.
- 5 If the glass plate were **not** treated with sodium thiosulphate after exposure to light,
- the metallic silver remaining would be easily washed away.
 - further light exposure would reduce some of the silver halide in the previously unexposed portion of the film.
 - further light exposure would result in reduction of the metallic silver.
 - the metallic silver remaining would form silver halide on further light exposure.
- 6 Which of the following best summarizes, in the correct order, the processes in the formation of a negative print?
- Unreduced halide is dissolved; silver halide decomposes to metallic silver.
 - Silver halide decomposes to metallic silver; unreduced metallic silver is dissolved.
 - Silver halide decomposes to metallic silver; unreduced halide is dissolved.
 - Unreduced metallic silver is dissolved; silver halide decomposes to metallic silver.
- 7 In the last step of the photographic process outlined, the positive print is treated in the same way as the negative (addition of pyrogallol followed by addition of sodium thiosulphate). If the positive print were **not** treated in this way, it would
- be exactly the same as the negative print.
 - darken on further exposure to light.
 - fade on further exposure to light.
 - always be moist.
- 8 In a laboratory used for developing a photograph, the most suitable light to have on during the process would be
- very dim white light.
 - violet light.
 - red light.
 - white light without the red component.

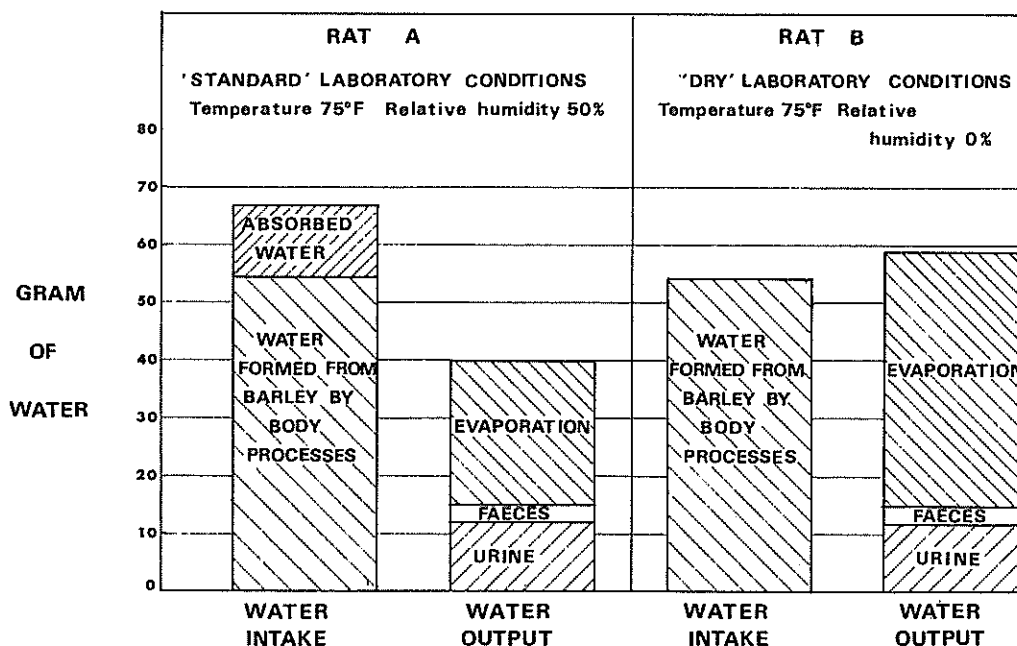
UNIT 3

The bannertailed kangaroo rat of Arizona thrives in very dry regions. In its natural environment it feeds entirely on seeds and other dry material, drinking no water. Water constitutes 65 per cent of its body weight, and it has been shown that this percentage does not change significantly when the rat is living in its normal habitat—a waterless desert.

Water is formed from the dry food by body processes; and, for example, from each 100 gram of dry barley consumed, the rat obtains 54 gram of water. Since the rat consumes only about 100 gram of barley in five weeks, the total amount of water available to it is very small. The rat maintains its water balance by excreting urine with very high concentrations of salt and urea. Because it can excrete urine with such a high salt concentration, the rat can drink sea water and survive.

The following information refers to a particular experiment comparing bannertailed kangaroo rats under different conditions. During eight weeks on a diet of dry barley in 'standard' laboratory conditions, some of these rats increased their body weight and increased the total amount of water in their bodies. Others of these rats in 'dry' laboratory conditions could not survive indefinitely because under these conditions there is a water deficit.

The diagrams below show water intake and water output for two rats under different conditions. 100 gram (dry weight) of barley was exposed to the atmosphere in 'standard' laboratory conditions and then fed to rat A; the term 'absorbed water' refers to the amount of water this barley absorbed from the atmosphere. Similarly 100 gram (dry weight) of barley was exposed to the atmosphere in 'dry' laboratory conditions and then fed to rat B.



- 9 The total water intake for rat A in the experiment described is closest to
- A 13 gram.
 - B 27 gram.
 - C 54 gram.
 - D 67 gram.
- 10 Referring to rat A and rat B in the experiment described, which one of the following statements is false?
- A For rat A water intake exceeds water output.
 - B For rat B water intake exceeds water output.
 - C Water intake for rat A exceeds water intake for rat B.
 - D Water output for rat B exceeds water output for rat A.

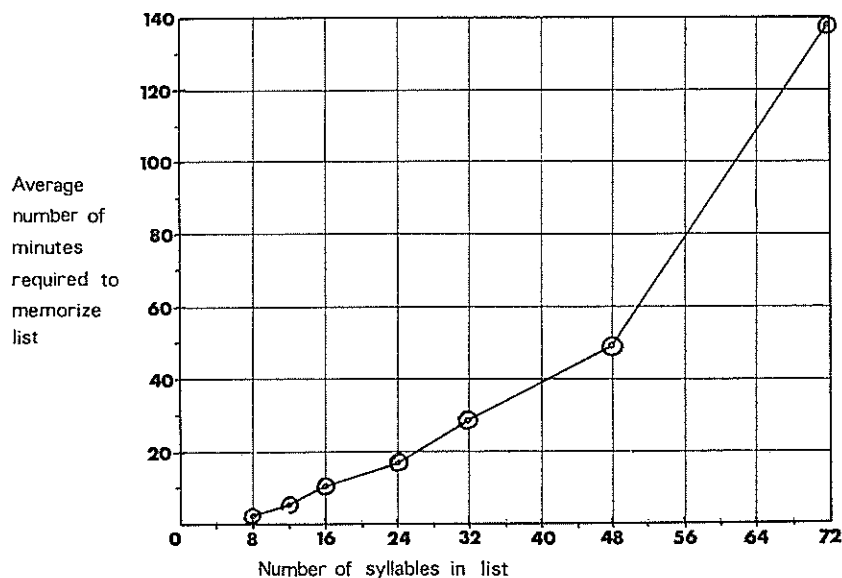
UNIT 4

The factors known to influence the process of learning can be classified into three groups:

- 1 those characteristic of the learner, e.g. interest, ability, fitness;
- 2 those characteristic of the learning task, e.g. amount of material, type of material;
- 3 those characteristic of the conditions in which learning occurs, e.g. use of rewards and punishments in training, amount of practice.

To study how variations in one factor affect learning, it is necessary for the experimenter to eliminate or to control the effects of other factors which might influence results.

In one of the earliest experiments ever undertaken on learning, the aim was to determine the relationship between the amount of material to be learned and the amount of practice required to learn it. The task was to memorize sets of nonsense syllables. A nonsense syllable consists of two consonants with a vowel between them so chosen that the syllable formed is not a meaningful word, e.g. XOM, QON. Ten volunteers participated in the experiment and the average time required to memorize a given amount of material was determined. Seven lists of different lengths were used. The results of the experiment are shown in the graph below.



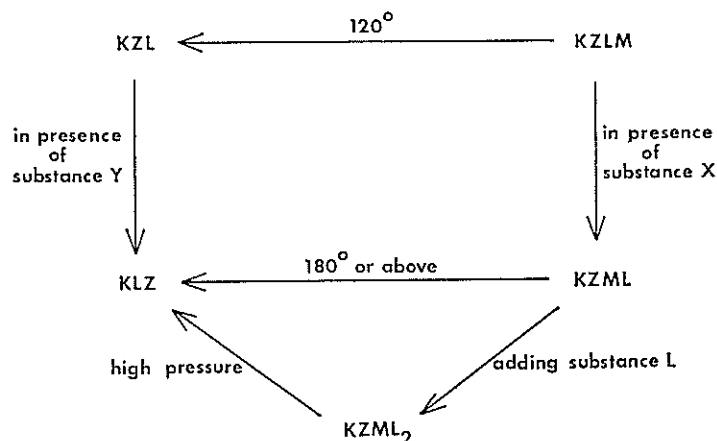
- 15 The most important assumption for the use of nonsense syllables in this learning experiment is that they
- A can be learned more easily since they are short.
 - B are equally unfamiliar to all subjects.
 - C are learned in the same way as meaningful words.
 - D are harder to learn than meaningful words.
- 16 In the learning experiment described, the experimenter was investigating
- A how long it takes to learn 72 nonsense syllables.
 - B which nonsense syllables a subject can learn in a specified time.
 - C the times taken to learn given numbers of nonsense syllables.
 - D the maximum number of nonsense syllables that each subject can learn in 140 minutes.

- 17 Which one of the following lists of factors which influence the process of learning contain only factors characteristic of the conditions of practice or training?
- A age of subjects, familiarity of material, use of punishments
 - B use of punishments, amount of noise in room, amount of practice
 - C amount of material, type of material, health of subjects
 - D familiarity of material, use of punishments, amount of practice
- 18 In another learning experiment one group of 10 subjects memorized a list of 20 nonsense syllables, whilst another group of 10 subjects memorized a list of 20 three-letter meaningful words. The average times taken to memorize the lists were recorded. This experimenter was varying the
- A amount of material to be memorized.
 - B ability of the subjects.
 - C type of material to be memorized.
 - D amount of practice required to memorize the lists.
- 19 Another experimenter asked a group of subjects to memorize two lists of 20 nonsense syllables. The first list was memorized before the day's work and the second at the end of the day's work. The experimenter recorded the average times taken to memorize the lists. He was probably investigating the effect of
- A fatigue on the amount of practice required.
 - B the type of material memorized on fatigue.
 - C the subjects' ability on the amount of material memorized.
 - D the amount of practice on fatigue.

GO STRAIGHT ON TO UNIT 5

UNIT 5

A number of reactions involving compounds of the elements K , Z , L and M are outlined below. The formulae in the diagram indicate the proportions of K , Z , L and M in each compound. For example, the formula $KZML_2$ indicates that there are 2 units of L , one unit of K , one unit of Z and one unit of M in that compound. Compounds KZL and KLZ have different arrangements of the elementary units in a particle of compound and these compounds do not have identical characteristics. Assume that no reactions other than those indicated take place involving the substances shown, and that in all reactions all of the reacting compounds are completely used up.



- 20 If we add substance X to $KZLM$ and heat to 200° , we obtain
- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| A $KZML$. | C KLZ . |
| B $KZML_2$. | D $KZLM$. |
- 21 A mixture containing $KZML$ and substances L and Y is subjected to high pressure. Which one of the following remains in the reaction vessel?
- | | |
|---------|------------|
| A KLZ | C $KZML$ |
| B KZL | D $KZML_2$ |
- 22 KZL is heated to 125° in the presence of substance X . Which of the following remain/s in the reaction vessel?
- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| A KZL only | C KLZ and X only |
| B KLZ only | D KZL and X only |
- 23 A quantity of substance Y is added to one gram of KZL . This results in the formation of
- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A one gram of KLZ . | C more than one gram of KLZ . |
| B less than one gram of KLZ . | D one gram of $KZLY$. |

- 24 One hundred gram of $KZML_2$ is subjected to high pressure. At the completion of reaction how much KLZ is in the vessel?
- A one hundred gram
 - B less than one hundred gram but not zero
 - C more than one hundred gram
 - D none
- 25 $KZML$ is heated from 25° to 250° and at one point in the course of heating some substance L is added. Which one of the following statements is true?
- A Equal quantities of KLZ and $KZML_2$ are formed.
 - B Only KLZ is formed.
 - C KLZ and $KZML_2$ are both formed but there is insufficient evidence to decide in what proportions.
 - D There is insufficient evidence to decide what would be formed.

GO STRAIGHT ON TO UNIT 6

UNIT 6

Organisms vary in their requirements for growth, and in a varied environment different groups of organisms will become established at particular regions. The table below shows the conditions required by some groups of organisms found in freshwater lakes and rivers. If any of the required conditions are absent, the region is not a suitable one for the survival of the particular group of organisms.

Group	Conditions required
<i>Chromatium</i> (photosynthetic bacteria)	Dissolved oxygen but in a concentration not greater than 0.1 milligram per litre Sulphide Light
<i>Anabaena</i> (blue-green algae)	Dissolved oxygen Light
<i>Desulfovibrio</i>	Dissolved oxygen but in a concentration not greater than 0.1 milligram per litre Sulphate Organic matter
Facultative anaerobic bacteria	Organic matter

A river containing sulphate in solution flows into a particular lake. Towards the bottom of the lake where the river enters, some sulphate is converted to sulphide. The concentration of sulphide is zero down to 14 metre below the surface throughout the lake, but is 12 milligram per litre at all depths greater than 20 metre where sulphide and sulphate are both present in fixed proportions. A number of factors combine to prevent a uniform distribution of dissolved substances throughout the lake.

Organic matter enters the lake from the river and is also formed in the lake from plant and animal remains. This organic matter is found throughout the lake at all depths. Various facultative anaerobic bacteria use the organic matter and in the process reduce the amount of oxygen in the lake water. The concentration of dissolved oxygen in the water at the surface of the lake is 8 milligram per litre and this decreases by half every 2 metre below the surface. Accordingly, the concentration is 4 milligram per litre at a depth of 2 metre, 2 milligram per litre at a depth of 4 metre, and so on.

Light useful to photosynthetic bacteria (i.e. bacteria which require light for photosynthesis) penetrates to a depth of about 20 metre. Blue-green algae can use light penetrating to a depth of about 10 metre, but not light penetrating below that depth.

- 26 At a depth of 0 to 10 metre in the lake, conditions are suitable for the survival of
- A *Anabaena* only.
 - B *Anabaena* and facultative anaerobic bacteria only.
 - C facultative anaerobic bacteria only.
 - D *Desulfovibrio*, *Anabaena* and facultative anaerobic bacteria.
- 27 The lake becomes quite shallow at its northern end, the depth being 14 metre. The organism/s likely to be present at this end of the lake is/are
- A *Anabaena* only.
 - B *Desulfovibrio* only.
 - C facultative anaerobic bacteria only.
 - D *Desulfovibrio*, *Anabaena* and facultative anaerobic bacteria.

- 28 At a depth of 14 to 20 metre in the middle of the lake, conditions are suitable for the survival of
- A *Chromatium* and *Desulfovibrio* only.
 - B *Chromatium*, *Desulfovibrio* and *Anabaena*.
 - C *Chromatium*, *Desulfovibrio* and facultative anaerobic bacteria.
 - D *Chromatium*, *Desulfovibrio*, *Anabaena* and facultative anaerobic bacteria.
- 29 In the middle of the lake the depth of water exceeds 20 metre. In a sample of water taken from the region below 20 metre, you would expect to find living samples of
- A *Desulfovibrio* only.
 - B facultative anaerobic bacteria only.
 - C *Desulfovibrio* and facultative anaerobic bacteria only.
 - D neither *Desulfovibrio* nor facultative anaerobic bacteria.
- 30 Which two groups of organisms are unlikely to be found within three and a half metre of each other?
- A *Anabaena* and *Chromatium*
 - B *Chromatium* and *Desulfovibrio*
 - C facultative anaerobic bacteria and *Chromatium*
 - D *Anabaena* and *Desulfovibrio*
- 31 Samples taken at all depths of 0 to 12 metre in the lake yield no *Chromatium*. Of the following the best explanation for this is that, although all other conditions are suitable,
- A the oxygen concentration is not suitable.
 - B the sulphide required is absent.
 - C the joint conditions of correct oxygen concentration and the presence of sulphide are not met.
 - D the light which penetrates to 14 metre is unsuitable.

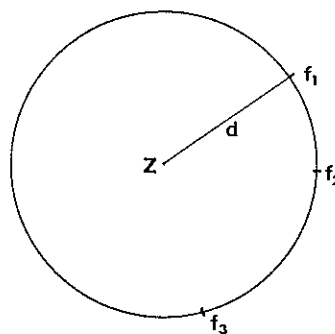
GO STRAIGHT ON TO UNIT 7

- 34 The best estimate of the half-life of element Z is approximately
- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| A 1 hour. | C 2.5 hours. |
| B 2 hours. | D 3 hours. |

Questions 35 and 36 refer to the following diagram and information in addition to the graph:

Point Z represents a sample of the radioactive element Z . Points f_1 , f_2 and f_3 represent films placed at the circumference of a circle of radius d and centre at Z .

f_1 was exposed to radiation from Z from 12 noon to 1 p.m. On development, it showed 400 spots per sq in. f_2 was exposed from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on the same day. f_3 was exposed from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the same day.



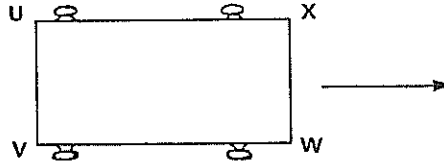
- 35 When developed, film f_2 would show about
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| A 200 spots per sq in. | C 700 spots per sq in. |
| B 500 spots per sq in. | D 800 spots per sq in. |
- 36 When developed, film f_3 would show about
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| A 100 spots per sq in. | C 300 spots per sq in. |
| B 200 spots per sq in. | D 400 spots per sq in. |

GO STRAIGHT ON TO UNIT 8

Questions 41 and 42 refer to the following additional information:

When a tank containing water is moving at constant speed in a straight line, the surface of the water remains horizontal. When the tank is speeded up or slowed down rapidly, the water surface does not remain horizontal, but the water tends to remain travelling at its same speed and in the original direction. For example, the water surges forward when the tank is rapidly slowed down and it tends to surge back in the tank when the tank is rapidly accelerated.

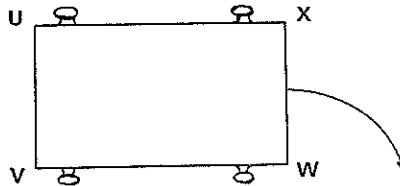
The tank is now mounted on a trolley so that it can be moved in a direction parallel to the sides *UX* and *VW* of the tank. The bottom of the tank is horizontal and the trolley is moving on a horizontal track. The trolley is initially moving along in the direction shown in the diagram below.



41 The trolley is rapidly accelerated. For which of the 9 gauges would the reading rise above 0.50 during the acceleration?

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| A 1, 2 and 3 | C 3, 6 and 9 |
| B 1, 4 and 7 | D 7, 8 and 9 |

42 The trolley, initially moving at constant speed, corners sharply to the right as shown, without changing its speed.



While cornering, one gauge reading is seen to be 0.45. Which of these gauges could it be?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| A gauge 7 | C gauge 3 |
| B gauge 5 | D gauge 1 |

UNIT 9

The pumping action of a heart (see Figure 1) follows an orderly sequence : contraction of the atria (*atrial systole*) is followed by contraction of the ventricles (*ventricular systole*). Then there is a period when all four heart chambers are relaxed (*diastole*). One complete sequence as described is called a *cardiac cycle*.

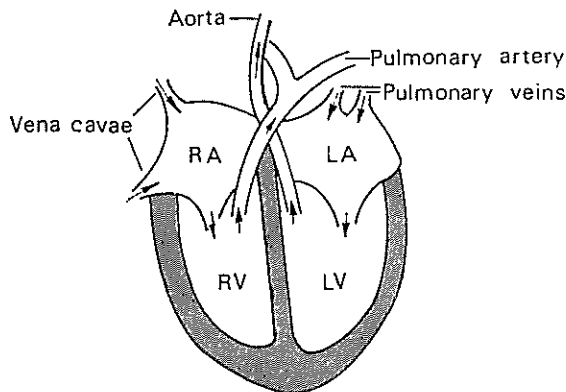


Figure 1

- RA = right atrium
- LA = left atrium
- RV = right ventricle
- LV = left ventricle

The arrows show the direction in which the blood flows through the heart.

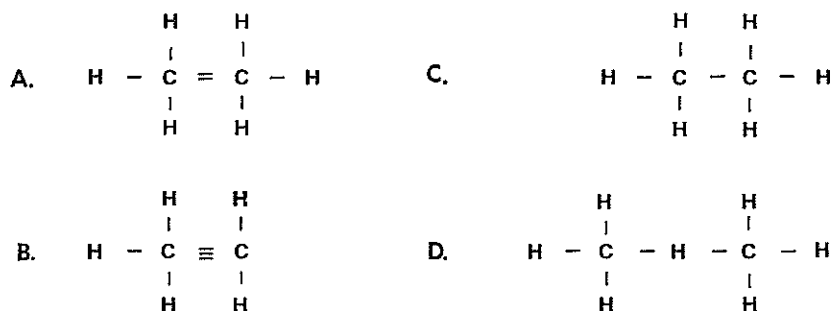
UNIT 10

Hydrocarbons are chemical substances consisting of particles called molecules. Each molecule consists of atoms of carbon and hydrogen only, and each hydrocarbon contains a fixed and definite number of carbon and hydrogen atoms per molecule. A sample of a hydrocarbon may contain many millions of identical molecules. The linking of carbon and hydrogen atoms into molecules is described by the following rules:

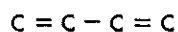
- 1 Each carbon atom (*C*) can be linked directly to no more than four hydrogen atoms.
- 2 Each hydrogen atom (*H*) can be linked directly to only one other atom.
- 3 One carbon atom may be linked to another carbon atom by one, two or three links, represented by one, two or three strokes (—) respectively ; i.e. two carbon atoms may be linked by a single, double or triple link.
- 4 In molecules in which carbon atoms link directly to other carbon atoms, the number of hydrogen atoms per molecule may be determined by the fact that any one carbon atom must have a total of four direct links, i.e. 4 single, 2 single and 1 double, 1 single and 1 triple, or 2 double links.

In the following questions hydrocarbon molecules are represented by formulae using the symbols *C*, *H* and —. The molecules are to be regarded as free to rotate or turn, but the positions of the atoms relative to one another in a molecule do not change. In most of the questions the links between the atoms in a molecule are represented for convenience as being in a straight line or at right angles to each other.

49 The only one of the following formulae which conforms to the rules outlined is



50 The following 'skeleton' formula of a hydrocarbon molecule shows only the carbon atoms and the links between them:



The total number of carbon-hydrogen links which must be added to complete the formula is

- | | |
|------|------|
| A 4. | C 6. |
| B 5. | D 7. |

UNIT 11

In *zone melting*, a molten zone is formed along a solid cylindrical rod by a heating coil which moves slowly along the rod. The heating coil is so arranged that the molten zone is one tenth the length of the rod. The process is illustrated in Figure 1.

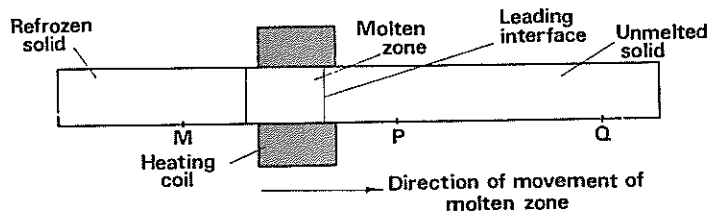


Figure 1

If zone melting is repeated numerous times, with several molten zones passing one after the other along the rod, the process is termed *zone refining* and is used to obtain a solid of high degree of purity from a solid which initially was contaminated by an impurity.

Consider the passage of a molten zone along a cylindrical rod of substance Y which contains an impurity X . Let the initial proportion of X in Y be represented by C_0 . As the molten zone advances, the first solid to freeze behind it has a proportion of X in Y less than C_0 ; i.e. the newly frozen solid contains less X than the original impure rod. The excess X passes into the molten zone, raising the proportion of X in Y in that zone. At the same time, solid with a proportion of X in Y of C_0 is being melted into the molten zone at the leading interface.

After an initial drop the proportion of X in Y in the molten zone and in the refrozen solid increases as the molten zone advances along the rod (see Figure 2). When the proportion of X in Y in the molten zone reaches a value K , which is a constant, the proportion of X in Y in the refrozen solid remains constant at C_0 until the molten zone reaches the last zone length of the rod, when the proportion of impurity X increases greatly.

A graph of the proportion of X in Y against distance along the rod after the passage of a single molten zone through the rod is shown in Figure 2. The points P and Q are the same points in Figures 1, 2 and 3.

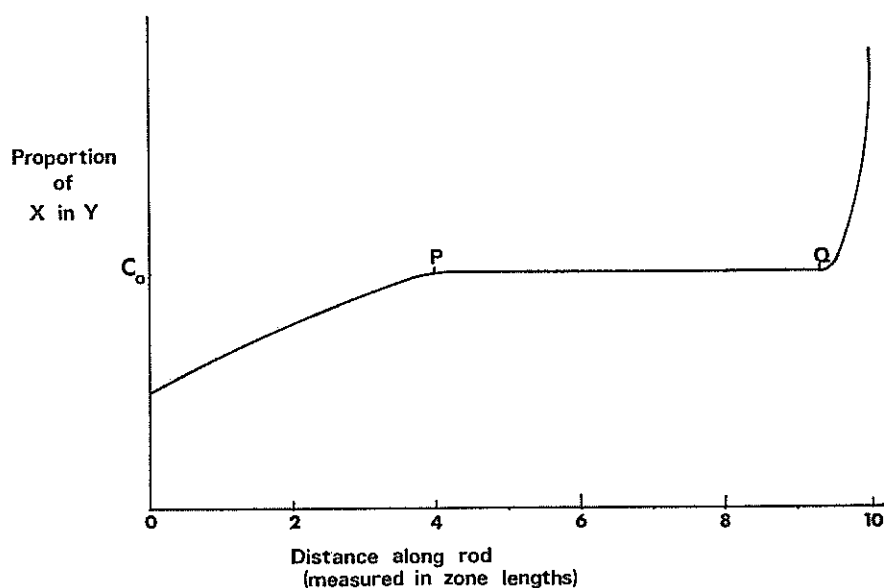


Figure 2

Figure 3 below shows the proportions of X in Y against distance along the rod for different numbers (n) of repetitions of the zone melting procedure. In the experiment illustrated the rod initially contained X and Y in the proportion 1 to 10.

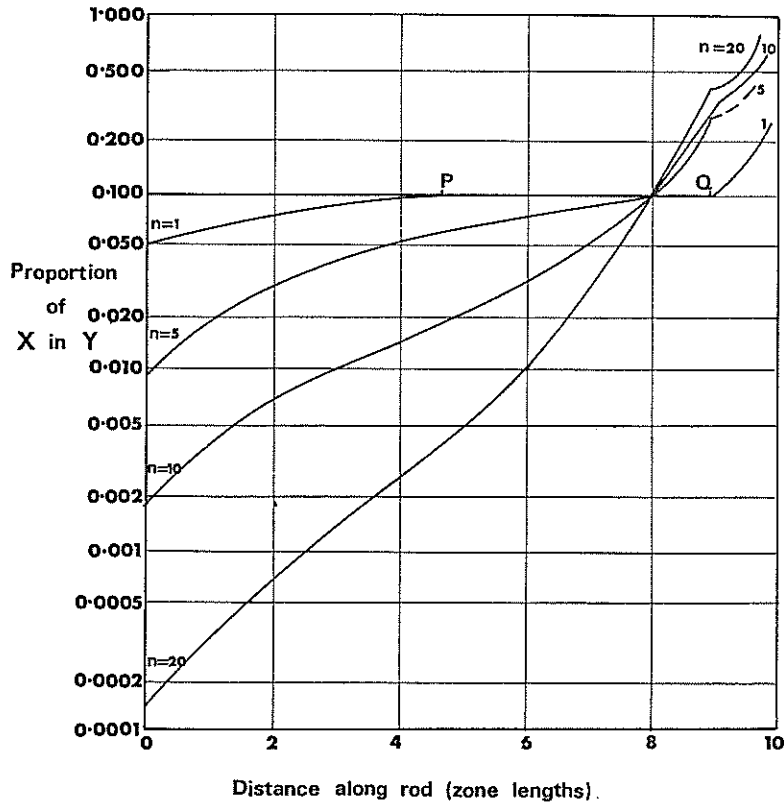
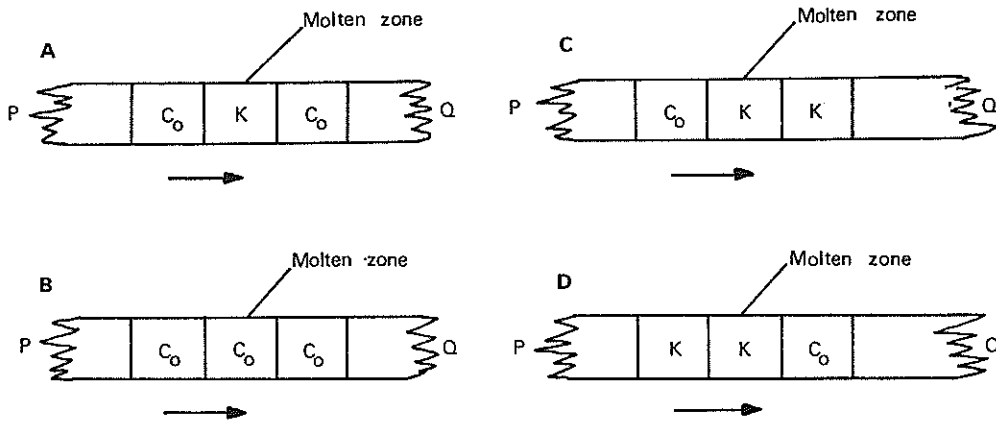


Figure 3

Note: a special scale is used for the vertical axis so that differences in small proportions of impurity can be distinguished.

- 57 The proportion of X in Y between the points P and Q in the rod before the refining process has begun is
- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| A K . | C KC_0 . |
| B $K - C_0$. | D C_0 . |
- 58 The proportion of X in Y at point M in the rod after the passage of the heating coil *once* must be
- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| A less than C_0 . | C greater than C_0 . |
| B C_0 . | D K . |
- 59 After a single passage of a molten zone along the rod, pure Y can be obtained
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A at the end that was first melted. | C between points P and Q . |
| B anywhere before point P . | D nowhere along the rod. |

- 60 A molten zone is passed along the rod once. Which diagram below represents the proportions of X in Y in a section of the rod when the molten zone is half-way between points P and Q ?



- 61 The proportion of X in Y in the rod after 20 repetitions of the zone melting process becomes 1 to 100
- A about 3 zone lengths along the rod.
 - B about 6 zone lengths along the rod.
 - C about 8 zone lengths along the rod.
 - D nowhere along the rod.
- 62 In zone refining, only in the case of the **first** passage of the molten zone along the rod
- A is there a steep increase in the proportion of impurity near the end of the rod.
 - B does the proportion of impurity remain constant over a large section of the rod.
 - C is there a substantial immediate reduction in the proportion of impurity.
 - D does the proportion of impurity rise after the initial drop.