Chapter 2 The Chemistry Of Life Answer Key

Chapter 2 The Chemistry of Life ANSWER KEY

Section Review 2-1

1. protons; neutrons **2.** electrons **3.** neutrons **4.** electrons **5.** ionic **6.** The two main types of chemical bonds are ionic and covalent bonds. Ionic bonds are formed when a transfer of electrons takes place from one atom to another, and covalent bonds are formed when electrons are shared between atoms. **7.** An atom becomes an ion when it gains or loses electrons. **8.** Electrons and protons are both subatomic particles; however, they have different charges and locations within the atom. Electrons are negatively charged and found outside the nucleus, while protons are positively charged and found inside the nucleus. Electrons are also much smaller than protons. **9.** When atoms are joined together by covalent bonds, the structure that results is a molecule. **10.** The property of radioactive isotopes that is useful for dating is that they break down at a constant rate over time.

Section Review 2-2

1. a **2.** b **3.** c **4.** c **5.** a **6.** b **7.** c **8.** Polarity in a water molecule is caused by an uneven distribution of electrons between the oxygen and hydrogen atoms. **9.** The concentration of H^+ ions determines whether a solution is acidic or basic. **10.** Capillary action is the effect of water rising in a narrow tube against the force of gravity. Cohesion holds the molecules of water together as they rise. **11.** Two types of mixtures are solutions and suspensions. In a solution, all the components are evenly distributed throughout the solution. In a suspension, small particles mixed with water are not dissolved but are kept suspended by the movement of water molecules. **12.** A base is a compound that can form a basic solution when dissolved. **13.** Acidic solutions have a lower pH than pure water. This is due to their greater concentration of H^+ ions than pure water. Pure water has a pH of 7 and contains equal concentrations of H^+ and OH^- ions. **14.** Strong acids and bases are dangerous to cells. Buffers are dissolved compounds that help prevent sharp, sudden swings in pH.

Section Review 2-3

1. carbohydrates **2.** proteins **3.** lipids **4.** nucleic acids **5.** proteins **6.** proteins **7.** carbohydrates **8.** nucleic acids **9.** glycerol **10.** monosaccharides **11.** ribonucleic acid (RNA), deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) **12.** Proteins **13.** saturated **14.** Carbon atoms have 4 valence electrons and therefore can form 4 strong, stable, covalent bonds. Carbon can also bond with other carbon atoms, which gives it the ability to form chains and rings. These carbon–carbon bonds can be single, double, or triple bonds. **15.** Both plastics and polysaccharides are organic polymers, or chains of carbon-containing molecules. Polysaccharides are naturally occurring molecules found in the body, while plastics are synthetic molecules made in factories or labs.

Section Review 2-4

1. release **2.** broken **3.** activation energy **4.** substrates **5.** A catalyst lowers the activation energy. An enzyme is an example of a catalyst. **6.** A chemical reaction involves reactants changing to products. **7.** Path A has the greatest activation energy. **8.** Graph I shows a reaction that absorbs energy. **9.** Pathway B is the pathway without enzyme, and Pathway C is the pathway with enzyme. The enzyme lowers the activation energy. **10.** This imaginary enzyme would work best when the body temperature is elevated. Therefore, students' answers should mention a function involving recovery from fever or reduction of body temperature after exercise.

Chapter Vocabulary Review

1. nucleus **2.** element **3.** compound **4.** ionic, covalent **5.** van der Waals forces **6.** A sodium atom is a neutral particle that contains equal numbers of protons and electrons. A positive sodium ion is a sodium atom that has a positive charge because it has lost an electron. **7.** Cohesion is an attraction between molecules of the same substance, and adhesion is an attraction between different substances. **8.** Water is the solvent because it is the substance that the salt is dissolved in, and salt is the solute because it is the substance that is dissolved. **9.** Acids are compounds that have higher concentrations of H^+ ions than pure water and have pH values below 7. Bases are compounds that have lower concentrations of H^+ ions than pure water and have pH values higher than 7. **10.** A catalyst is a substance that speeds up the rate of a chemical reaction by lowering the activation energy. The substrate is the reactant in an enzyme-catalyzed reaction. **11.** c **12.** e **13.** g **14.** a **15.** b **16.** h **17.** d **18.** f **19.** i **20.** nucleotide **21.** amino acid **22.** reactants **23.** activation energy **24.** products

Enrichment

1. Student answers should include blood in living things. Many substances in the environment are colloids, such as smoke, fog, and dust. **2.** Particles in a colloid are usually much smaller than particles in a suspension. Suspension particles tend to settle out after a period of time, and colloid particles will continue to mix with the liquid or gas that they are suspended in. They both can be made up of solids, liquids, or gases in some combination.

Graphic Organizer

1. Carbon **2.–4.** Oxygen, Nitrogen, Phosphorus **5.** Lipids **6.** Proteins **7.** Nucleic acids **8.** Polysaccharides **9.–10.** To store energy; To form biological membranes **11.** Amino acids **12.–13.** DNA; RNA

Chapter 2 the chemistry of life answer key is a crucial topic for students studying biology and related fields. Understanding the principles of chemistry that underpin biological processes is essential for grasping how living organisms function. This chapter serves as a bridge between basic chemical concepts and their applications in biological systems. In this article, we will explore the key concepts covered in Chapter 2, providing a detailed answer key that can help students reinforce their learning and prepare for exams.

Overview of the Chemistry of Life

The chemistry of life is primarily focused on the molecules that make up

living organisms. These molecules can be classified into four main categories:

- **Carbohydrates**: Sugars and starches that serve as energy sources and structural components.
- **Proteins**: Composed of amino acids, proteins perform a variety of functions, including catalyzing reactions as enzymes and providing structural support.
- **Lipids**: Fats and oils that are essential for membrane structure and energy storage.
- **Nucleic Acids**: DNA and RNA, which store and transmit genetic information.

The Role of Water in Biological Systems

Water is often referred to as the "universal solvent" and plays a vital role in the chemistry of life. Its unique properties include:

- **Polarity**: Water molecules have a positive and a negative end, allowing them to interact with various substances.
- **Hydrogen Bonding**: The ability of water to form hydrogen bonds leads to high surface tension and specific heat capacity.
- **Solvent Properties**: Water dissolves many ionic and polar substances, facilitating biochemical reactions.

These properties are essential for maintaining homeostasis and enabling metabolic processes in living organisms.

Key Concepts in Chapter 2

Understanding the fundamental principles of chemistry is critical for comprehending biological processes. Here are some of the key concepts covered in Chapter 2:

1. The Structure of Atoms and Molecules

Atoms are the basic units of matter, and understanding their structure is essential. Each atom consists of:

- **Protons**: Positively charged particles found in the nucleus.
- **Neutrons**: Neutral particles also located in the nucleus.
- **Electrons**: Negatively charged particles that orbit the nucleus.

The arrangement of these particles determines the chemical properties of an element. Molecules, formed when two or more atoms bond together, can be classified as covalent or ionic based on how they share or transfer electrons.

2. Chemical Bonds and Reactions

Chemical bonds are the forces that hold atoms together in molecules. The two primary types of bonds include:

- **Covalent Bonds**: Formed when atoms share electrons, leading to the creation of strong and stable molecules.
- **Ionic Bonds**: Formed when one atom donates electrons to another, resulting in the attraction between positively and negatively charged ions.

Chemical reactions occur when bonds are broken and formed, leading to the transformation of substances. These reactions are essential for metabolism and energy transfer in living organisms.

3. The Importance of pH in Biological Systems

pH measures the acidity or basicity of a solution, which is critical for biological functions. The pH scale ranges from 0 to 14, with 7 being neutral. In biological systems:

- A pH below 7 indicates an acidic environment.

- A pH above 7 indicates a basic (alkaline) environment.

Most enzymes, which are crucial for biochemical reactions, function optimally at specific pH levels. Deviations from these levels can lead to enzyme denaturation and disrupted metabolic processes.

Biomolecules and Their Functions

Biomolecules are the building blocks of life, and understanding their structures and functions is vital for a comprehensive grasp of the chemistry of life.

1. Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates serve as energy sources and structural components. They can be classified into:

- **Monosaccharides**: Simple sugars like glucose and fructose.
- **Disaccharides**: Formed by two monosaccharides, such as sucrose and lactose.
- **Polysaccharides**: Long chains of monosaccharides, including starch, glycogen, and cellulose.

Carbohydrates are crucial for energy storage and supply, as well as for cell structure in plants (cellulose) and fungi (chitin).

2. Proteins

Proteins are essential for virtually every function in a living organism. They are composed of 20 different amino acids that can combine in various sequences to form complex structures. The functions of proteins include:

- **Enzymatic Activity**: Acting as catalysts to accelerate biochemical reactions.
- **Transport**: Carrying molecules across cell membranes (e.g., hemoglobin transporting oxygen).

- **Structural Support**: Providing strength and flexibility to cells and tissues (e.g., collagen).

The specific shape of a protein determines its function, emphasizing the importance of proper folding and structure.

3. Lipids

Lipids play several roles in living organisms, including:

- **Energy Storage**: Fats store energy for long-term use.
- **Membrane Formation**: Phospholipids form the bilayer structure of cell membranes.
- **Signaling Molecules**: Steroids and other lipids function as hormones and signaling molecules.

The hydrophobic nature of lipids allows them to form barriers in biological membranes, separating cellular compartments.

4. Nucleic Acids

Nucleic acids, namely DNA and RNA, are vital for genetic information storage and transmission. Key points include:

- **DNA**: The molecule that carries the genetic blueprint for an organism.
- **RNA**: Involved in protein synthesis and gene regulation.

Both DNA and RNA are composed of nucleotides, which consist of a sugar, a phosphate group, and a nitrogenous base.

Conclusion

Chapter 2 the chemistry of life answer key encompasses a wide range of topics essential for understanding the molecular basis of life. From the structure of atoms and molecules to the roles of biomolecules in biological systems,

this chapter lays the foundation for further exploration of biological concepts. By mastering these key ideas, students will be better prepared to apply their knowledge in practical and theoretical contexts, leading to a deeper appreciation of the intricate chemistry that sustains life. Whether studying for exams or enhancing comprehension, a solid grasp of this chapter is indispensable for anyone pursuing the life sciences.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the primary focus of Chapter 2 in 'The Chemistry of Life'?

The primary focus is on the basic chemical principles that underlie biological processes, including the structure and function of biomolecules.

What are the four major types of macromolecules discussed in Chapter 2?

The four major types of macromolecules are carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids.

How do enzymes function according to Chapter 2?

Enzymes function as biological catalysts that speed up chemical reactions by lowering the activation energy required.

What is the role of water in biological systems as described in Chapter 2?

Water is essential for life; it serves as a solvent, participates in biochemical reactions, and helps regulate temperature.

What is the significance of pH in biological systems mentioned in Chapter 2?

pH affects enzyme activity and the structure of biomolecules, influencing biochemical reactions and metabolic processes.

How are ionic bonds and covalent bonds different according to Chapter 2?

Ionic bonds involve the transfer of electrons between atoms, while covalent bonds involve the sharing of electrons.

What is a buffer and what role do buffers play in

biological systems as per Chapter 2?

A buffer is a solution that resists changes in pH upon the addition of small amounts of acid or base, helping to maintain homeostasis.

What are the building blocks of proteins as outlined in Chapter 2?

The building blocks of proteins are amino acids, which link together to form polypeptides.

How do lipids differ from other macromolecules based on Chapter 2?

Lipids are hydrophobic and do not form polymers, unlike carbohydrates, proteins, and nucleic acids.

What is the process of dehydration synthesis as explained in Chapter 2?

Dehydration synthesis is a chemical reaction where two molecules combine to form a larger molecule, releasing a molecule of water in the process.

Chapter 2 The Chemistry Of Life Answer Key

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