The University of the State of New York REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Friday, June 15, 2001 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only

School Name ____

Print your name and the name of your school on the lines above. Then turn to the last page of this booklet, which is the answer sheet for Part A. Fold the last page along the perforations and, slowly and carefully, tear off the answer sheet. Then fill in the heading of your answer sheet.

This examination has three parts with a total of 73 questions. You must answer <u>all</u> questions in this examination. Write your answers to the Part A multiple-choice questions on the separate answer sheet. Write your answers for the questions in Parts B and C directly in this examination booklet. All answers should be written in pen, except for graphs and drawings which should be done in pencil. You may use scrap paper to work out the answers to the questions, but be sure to record all your answers on the answer sheet and in this examination booklet.

When you have completed the examination, you must sign the statement printed on the Part A answer sheet, indicating that you had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that you have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination. Your answer sheet cannot be accepted if you fail to sign this declaration.

DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION BOOKLET UNTIL THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN.

Part A

Answer all 35 questions in this part. [35]

Directions (1–35): For *each* statement or question, write on the separate answer sheet the number of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1 Diagrams, tables, and graphs are used by scientists mainly to
 - (1) design a research plan for an experiment
 - (2) test a hypothesis
 - (3) organize data
 - (4) predict the independent variable
- 2 A scientist tested a hypothesis that white-tailed deer would prefer apples over corn as a primary food source. The findings of the test, in which the scientist claimed that the deer preferred apples, were published. Which research technique, if used by the scientist, might result in this claim being questioned?
 - (1) The scientist observed four deer in different locations at various times of the day.
 - (2) The scientist observed a total of 500 deer in 20 different locations at various times of the day.
 - (3) The scientist observed 200 deer in various natural settings, but none in captivity.
 - (4) The scientist observed 300 deer in various locations in captivity, but none in natural settings.
- 3 What happens to certain nutrient molecules after they pass into muscle cells?
 - (1) They are replicated in the nucleus.
 - (2) They are acted on by enzymes and release the energy they contain.
 - (3) They are changed into tissues and organs in the cytoplasm.
 - (4) They enter chloroplasts, where they can absorb light energy.
- 4 A medical test indicates that a patient has a defective protein. This condition is most likely due to a change in the directions coded in the
 - (1) number of hydrogen atoms in starch molecules
 - (2) sequence of inorganic molecules
 - (3) number of carbon atoms in sugar molecules
 - (4) sequence of subunits in DNA

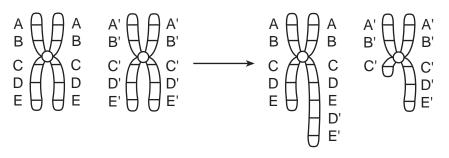
- 5 If a human system fails to function properly, what is the most likely result?
 - (1) a stable rate of metabolism
 - (2) a disturbance in homeostasis
 - (3) a change in the method of cellular respiration
 - (4) a change in the function of DNA
- 6 Which statement regarding the functioning of the cell membrane of all organisms is *not* correct?
 - (1) The cell membrane forms a boundary that separates the cellular contents from the outside environment.
 - (2) The cell membrane is capable of receiving and recognizing chemical signals.
 - (3) The cell membrane forms a barrier that keeps all substances that might harm the cell from entering the cell.
 - (4) The cell membrane controls the movement of molecules into and out of the cell.
- 7 In multicellular organisms, cells must be able to communicate with each other. Structures that enable most cells to communicate with each other are known as
 - (1) pathogenic agents (3) antibiotics
 - (2) chloroplasts (4) receptor molecules
- 8 Every single-celled organism is able to survive because it carries out
 - (1) metabolic activities
 - (2) autotrophic nutrition
 - (3) heterotrophic nutrition
 - (4) sexual reproduction
- 9 The shape of a protein molecule is influenced by
 - (1) whether it is organic or inorganic
 - (2) the sequence of amino acids in it
 - (3) the number of genes found in the nucleus
 - (4) the number of chromosomes in the cell

10 The data table below summarizes the results of an investigation in which seeds from the same plant were grown under different conditions of temperature and relative humidity.

Temperature: 20°C Relative Humidity: 20%		Temperature: 31°C Relative Humidity: 95%		
Genes Present in Cells of Organism	Appearance of Organism	Genes Present in Cells of Organism	Appearance of Organism	
AA	red	AA	white	
Aa	red	Aa	white	
aa	white	aa	white	

Which conclusion can be drawn from the information in the data table?

- (1) Color in this species is determined by genes, only.
- (2) Many characteristics are not inherited.
- (3) Mutations occur only when plants are grown at low temperatures.
- (4) There is an interaction between environment and heredity.
- 11 The diagram below represents a change that occurred in a pair of chromosomes during the formation of an egg cell. The letters represent genes on the pair of chromosomes.



The alteration that occurred will most likely

- (1) be passed on to every cell that develops from the egg cell
- (2) change the chromosome number of the body cells that develop from the egg cell
- (3) convert sex cells into body cells
- (4) trigger the production of pathogens
- 12 A small amount of DNA was taken from a fossil of a mammoth found frozen in glacial ice. Genetic technology can be used to produce a large quantity of identical DNA from this mammoth's DNA. In this technology, the original DNA sample is used to
 - (1) stimulate differentiation in other mammoth cells
 - (2) provide fragments to replace certain human body chemicals
 - (3) act as a template for repeated replication
 - (4) trigger mitosis to obtain new base sequences

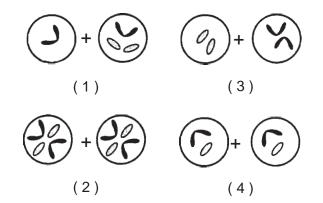
- 13 Many diabetics are now using insulin that was made by certain bacteria. The ability of these bacteria to produce insulin was most likely the result of
 - (1) deleting many DNA segments from bacterial DNA
 - (2) genetic mapping of bacterial DNA to activate the gene for insulin production
 - (3) inserting a portion of human DNA into the ring-shaped DNA of bacteria
 - (4) using radiation to trigger mutations

- 14 Which situation would most directly affect future generations naturally produced by a maple tree?
 - (1) Ultraviolet radiation changes the DNA sequence within some leaves of the tree.
 - (2) Ultraviolet radiation changes the DNA sequence within the gametes of some flowers of the tree.
 - (3) An increase in temperature reduces the number of cell divisions in the roots.
 - (4) Rapidly growing cells just under the bark are exposed to radiation, causing changes in genetic material.
- 15 Which statement is best supported by fossil records?
 - (1) Many organisms that lived in the past are now extinct.
 - (2) Species occupying the same habitat have identical environmental needs.
 - (3) The struggle for existence between organisms results in changes in populations.
 - (4) Structures such as leg bones and wing bones can originate from the same type of tissue found in embryos.
- 16 The first life-forms to appear on Earth were most likely
 - (1) complex single-celled organisms
 - (2) complex multicellular organisms
 - (3) simple single-celled organisms
 - (4) simple multicellular organisms
- 17 One explanation for the variety of organisms present on Earth today is that over time
 - (1) new species have adapted to fill available niches in the environment
 - (2) evolution has caused the appearance of organisms that are similar to each other
 - (3) each niche has changed to support a certain variety of organism
 - (4) the environment has remained unchanged, causing rapid evolution
- 18 Within which structure in the human body does specialization of parts of the developing baby take place?
 - (1) ovary (3) testis
 - (2) uterus (4) pancreas
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- 19 Which statement best explains the significance of meiosis in the process of evolution within a species?
 - (1) The gametes produced by meiosis ensure the continuation of any particular species by asexual reproduction.
 - (2) Equal numbers of eggs and sperm are produced by meiosis.
 - (3) Meiosis produces eggs and sperm that are alike.
 - (4) Meiosis provides for variation in the gametes produced by an organism.
- 20 The diagram below represents chromosomes in a zygote.

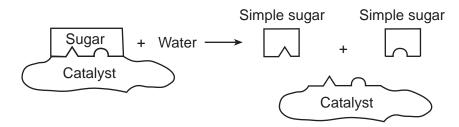


Which diagrams best illustrate the daughter cells that result from normal mitotic cell division of this zygote?



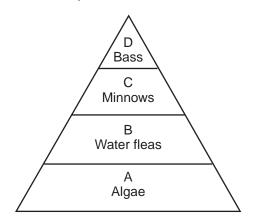
- 21 During the last months of pregnancy, the brain of a human embryo undergoes an essential "growth spurt." Which action by the mother would most likely pose the greatest threat to the normal development of the nervous system of the embryo at this time?
 - (1) spraying pesticides in the garden
 - (2) taking prescribed vitamins on a daily basis
 - (3) maintaining a diet high in fiber and low in fat
 - (4) not exercising

22 The diagram below illustrates a biochemical process that occurs in organisms.



The substance labeled "catalyst" is also known as

- (1) a hormone
- (2) an enzyme
- 23 Which phrase best describes cellular respiration, a process that occurs continuously in the cells of organisms?
 - (1) removal of oxygen from the cells of an organism
 - (2) conversion of light energy into the chemical bond energy of organic molecules
 - (3) transport of materials within cells and throughout the bodies of multicellular organisms
 - (4) changing of stored chemical energy in food molecules to a form usable by organisms
- 24 A food pyramid representing relationships in a pond community is shown below.



The energy of the Sun is made available to the pond community through the activities of the organisms at level

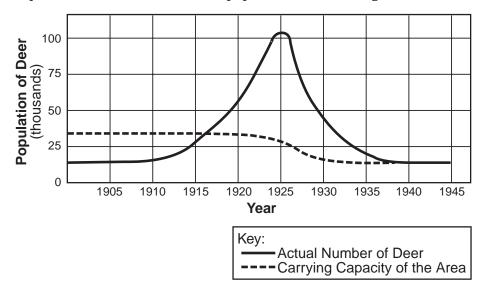
(1)	Α	(3)	C
(2)	В	(4)	D

(4) an inorganic compound

(3) an antibody

- 25 Eating a sweet potato provides energy for human metabolic processes. The original source of this energy is the energy
 - (1) in protein molecules stored within the potato
 - (2) from starch molecules absorbed by the potato plant
 - (3) made available by photosynthesis
 - (4) in vitamins and minerals found in the soil
- 26 Which statement does *not* identify a characteristic of antibodies?
 - (1) They are produced by the body in response to the presence of foreign substances.
 - (2) They may be produced in response to an antigen.
 - (3) They are nonspecific, acting against any foreign substance in the body.
 - (4) They may be produced by white blood cells.
- 27 The blood of newborn babies is tested to determine whether a certain substance is present. This substance indicates the presence of the disorder known as PKU, which may result in mental retardation. Babies with this disorder are put on a special diet to prevent mental retardation. In this situation, which action is usually taken first?
 - (1) treating the expression of the disorder
 - (2) preventing the expression of the disorder
 - (3) controlling the disorder
 - (4) diagnosing the disorder

28 The graph below provides information about the population of deer in a given area between 1900 and 1945.



Which statement identifies the most likely reason that the carrying capacity of the area to support deer decreased between 1925 and 1930?

- (1) The deer population decreased in 1926.
- (2) The number of predators increased between 1915 and 1925.
- (3) The deer population became too large.
- (4) An unusually cold winter occurred in 1918.
- 29 An increase in the level of insulin in the blood would most directly result in
 - (1) a decrease in the amount of glucose in the blood
 - (2) a decrease in the amount of protein in the blood
 - (3) an increase in the amount of fat in cells
 - (4) an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in cells
- 30 Compared to a natural forest, the wheat field of a farmer *lacks*
 - (1) heterotrophs
 - (2) significant biodiversity
 - (3) autotrophs
 - (4) stored energy
- 31 Human impact on the environment is often more dramatic than the impact of most other living things because humans have a greater
 - (1) need for water
 - (2) need for food
 - (3) ability to adapt to change
 - (4) ability to alter the environment

- 32 Which factor is *not* considered by ecologists when they evaluate the impact of human activities on an ecosystem?
 - (1) amount of energy released from the Sun
 - (2) quality of the atmosphere
 - (3) degree of biodiversity
 - (4) location of power plants
- 33 What will most likely result after a fire or other natural disaster damages an ecosystem in a certain area?
 - (1) The area will remain uninhabited for an indefinite number of centuries.
 - (2) A stable ecosystem will be reestablished after one year.
 - (3) An ecosystem similar to the original one will eventually be reestablished if the climate is stable.
 - (4) The stable ecosystem that becomes reestablished in the area will be different from the original.

34 The chart below shows the environmental functions that some organisms perform in a stable ecosystem.

Environmental Functions	Performed By	
Pollination	bees, bats	
Biodegradation	microorganisms	
Soil aeration	earthworms	
Recycling of atoms	soil bacteria	
$CO_2 - O_2$ exchange	plants	
Water storage	plants	

How would a decrease in the number of organisms that perform these functions most likely affect the ecosystem?

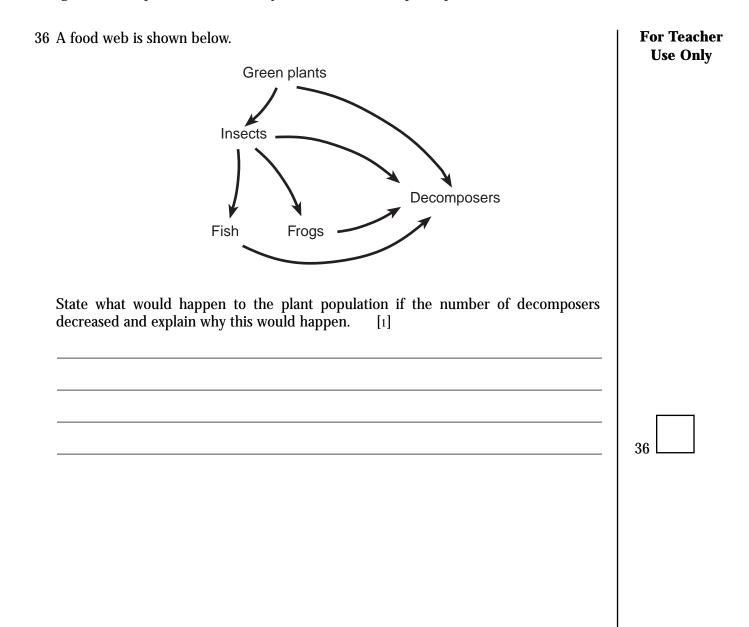
- (1) The interactions between other organisms would stop immediately.
- (2) The functions carried out by these organisms would no longer be necessary.
- (3) The ecosystem would remain stable.
- (4) The ecosystem would become less stable.

- 35 A new type of fuel gives off excessive amounts of smoke. Before this type of fuel is widely used, an ecologist would most likely want to know
 - (1) what effect the smoke will have on the environment
 - (2) how much it will cost to produce the fuel
 - (3) how long it will take to produce the fuel
 - (4) if the fuel will be widely accepted by consumers

Part B

Answer all questions in this part

Directions (36–64): For those questions that are followed by four choices, circle the number of the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question. For all other questions in this part, follow the directions given in the question and record your answers in the spaces provided. [30]



Directions (37–39): For each description in questions 37 through 39, select the interaction, *chosen from the list below*, that is most closely associated with that description. Then record its *number* in the space below the description. An answer may be used more than once or not at all.

> **Interactions** Organism A —— → Organism B (1)Organism B ----- Organism A (2) Organism A −−−−→ Organism B Organism B → Organism A Organism A ····· Organism B (3) Organism B → Organism A Organism A −−−→ Organism B (4) Organism B −−−− → Organism A Key - = Positive effect - - = Negative effect ----- = No effect

- 37 The rhinoceros bird (organism *A*) feeds on parasites that live on the body of a rhinoceros (organism *B*). The rhinoceros allows the birds to feed on the parasites.
- 38 Ants (organism *A*) defend acacia trees (organism *B*) from attacks by insects that are herbivores. The ants live in the hollow thorns of the trees.
- 39 Wasp larvae (organism *A*) obtain nutrition from tomato hornworms (organism *B*). The tomato hornworms do *not* survive.

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Base your answers to questions 40 through 44 on the information and data table below and on your knowledge of biology.

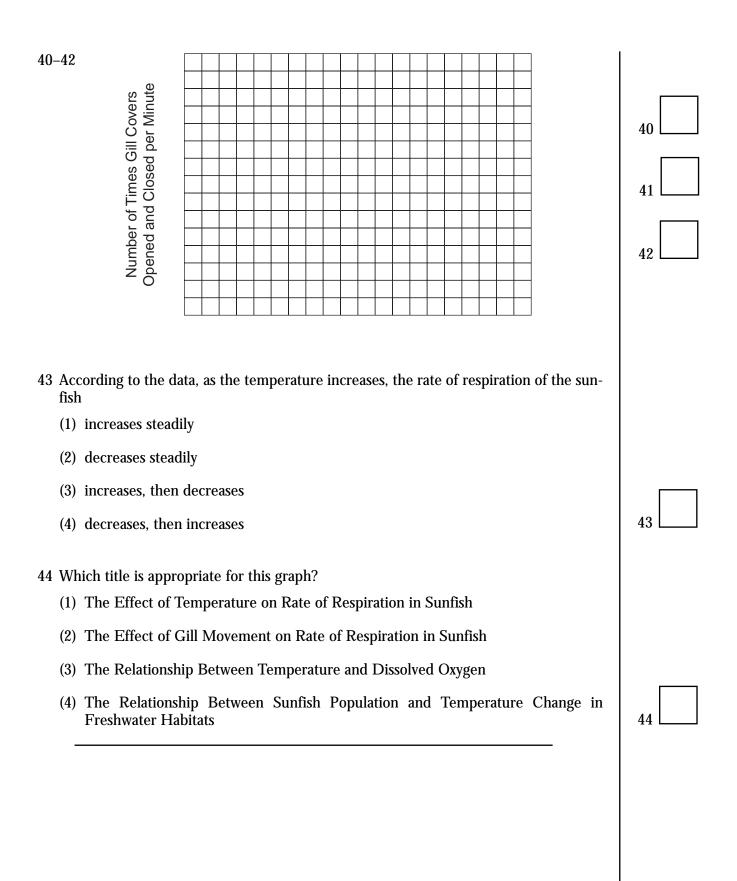
The rate of respiration of a freshwater sunfish was determined at different temperatures. The rate of respiration was determined by counting the number of times the gill covers of the fish opened and closed during 1-minute intervals at the various temperatures. The following data were collected.

Data Table			
Temperature (°C) Gill Cover Opening and Closing Per Minute			
10	15		
15	25		
18	30		
20	38		
23	60		
25	57		
27	25		

Directions (40–42): Using the information in the data table, construct a line graph on the grid provided on the next page, following the directions below.

- 40 Label the *x*-axis and indicate the units. [1]
- 41 Mark an appropriate scale on each axis. [1]
- 42 Plot the data from the data table. Surround each point with a small circle and connect the points. [1]

Example:



Base your answers to questions 45 through 48 on the passage below and on your knowledge of biology.

To Tan or Not To Tan

Around 1870, scientists discovered that sunshine could kill bacteria. In 1903, Niels Finsen, an Icelandic researcher, won the Nobel Prize for the use of sunlight therapy against infectious diseases. Sunbathing then came into wide use as a treatment for tuberculosis, Hodgkin's disease (a form of cancer), and common wounds. The discovery of vitamin D, the "sunshine vitamin," reinforced the healthful image of the Sun. People learned that it was better to live in a sun-filled home than in a dark dwelling. At that time, the relationship between skin cancer and exposure to the Sun was not known.

In the early twentieth century, many people believed that a deep tan was a sign of good health. However, in the 1940s, the rate of skin cancer began to increase and reached significant proportions by the 1970s. At this time, scientists began to realize how damaging those deep tans could really be.

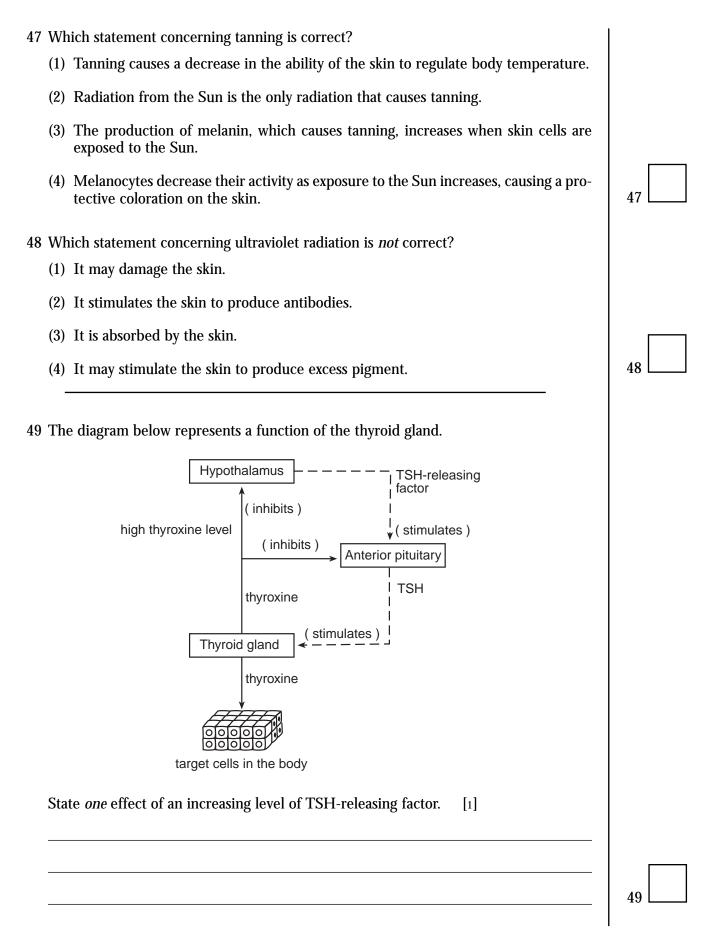
Tanning occurs when ultraviolet radiation is absorbed by the skin, causing an increase in the activity of melanocytes, cells that produce the pigment melanin. As the melanin is produced, it is absorbed by cells in the upper region of the skin, resulting in the formation of a tan. In reality, the skin is building up protection against damage caused by the ultraviolet radiation. Exposure to more sunlight means more damage to the cells of the skin. Research has shown that, although people usually do not get skin cancer as children, each time a child is exposed to the Sun without protection, the chance of that child getting skin cancer as an adult increases.

Knowledge connecting the Sun to skin cancer has greatly increased since the late 1800s. Currently, it is estimated that ultraviolet radiation is responsible for more than 90% of skin cancers. Yet, even with this knowledge, about two million Americans use tanning parlors. A recent survey showed that at least 10% of these people would continue to do so even if they knew for certain that it would give them skin cancer.

Many of the deaths due to this type of cancer can be prevented. The cure rate for skin cancer is almost 100% when treated early. Reducing exposure to harmful ultraviolet radiation helps to prevent it. During the past 15 years, scientists have tried to undo the tanning myth. If the word "healthy" is separated from the word "tan," maybe the occurrence of skin cancer will be reduced.

45 State *one* known benefit of daily exposure to the Sun. [1]

46 Explain what is meant by the phrase "the tanning myth." [1]

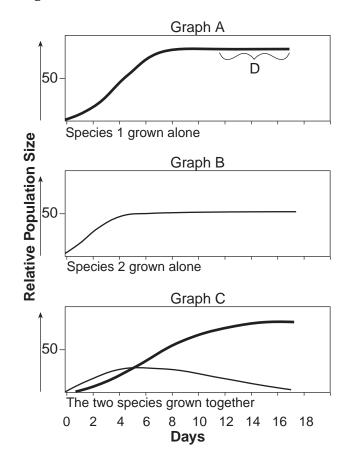


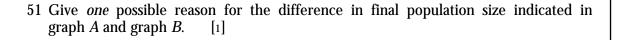
50 Although human muscle cells and nerve cells have the same genetic information, they perform different functions. Explain how this is possible. [1]

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Base your answers to questions 51 through 54 on the graphs below and on your knowledge of biology. The graphs show the relative population size of two closely related species of microorganisms grown under identical conditions in culture dishes.





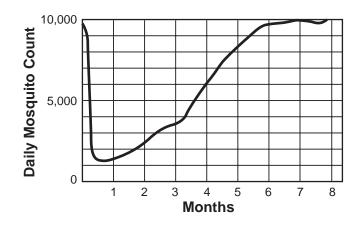
51

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52	In graph <i>A</i> , what causes the population to level off at letter <i>D</i> ? [1]	
		52
53	Give <i>one</i> possible explanation for the results shown in graph <i>C</i> . [1]	
		53
54	What will most likely happen if the culture containing the two species together (graph C) is maintained for an additional week? [1]	
55	Explain why people with AIDS often develop many other infectious diseases. [1]	54
56	An unknown microorganism was observed with a compound light microscope. Identify	55
	the structure that, if observed in the organism, would indicate that it is an autotroph. [1]	56

Base your answers to questions 57 and 58 on the information and graph below and on your knowledge of biology.

A small community that is heavily infested with mosquitoes was sprayed weekly with the insecticide DDT for several months. Daily counts providing information on mosquito population size are represented in the graph below.



57 Which statement best explains why some mosquitoes survived the first spraying?

- (1) The weather in early summer was probably cool.
- (2) Most of the mosquitoes were of reproductive age.
- (3) Environmental factors varied slightly as the summer progressed.
- (4) Natural variation existed within the population.

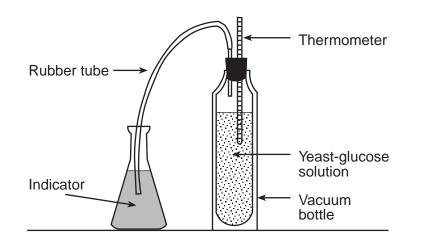
58 What is the most probable reason for the decreased effectiveness of the DDT?

- (1) DDT caused mutations in the mosquitoes, which resulted in immunity.
- (2) DDT was only sprayed once.
- (3) Mosquitoes resistant to DDT lived and produced offspring.
- (4) DDT chemically reacted with the DNA of the mosquitoes.

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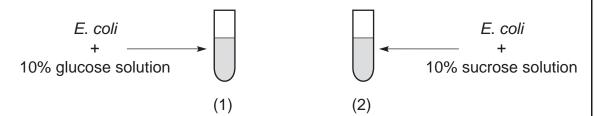
57

59 A student placed a solution of glucose and yeast in a vacuum bottle and sealed it with a two-hole stopper as shown in the diagram below. The temperature of the yeast-glucose solution increased gradually with time, and the color of the indicator was observed and recorded throughout a 2-day period.



The purpose of the investigation was most likely to

- (1) study the relationship between temperature and pressure
- (2) demonstrate the release of energy by a chemical process
- (3) show that proteins are produced by yeast
- (4) study autotrophic nutrition in yeast
- 60 The diagram below shows two setups that were used to study bacterial growth. Each setup initially contained an equal number of the bacterium *E. coli* in different carbo-hydrate solutions. After one hour, a 1-milliliter sample was drawn from each tube and analyzed. The number of bacteria found in the sample from test tube 1 was higher than the number in test tube 2.



Which conclusion regarding this investigation is not valid?

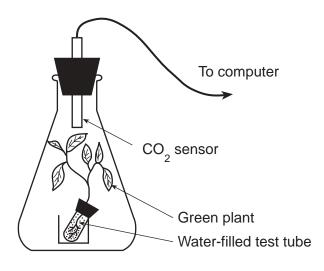
- (1) All bacteria grow best in a solution of glucose.
- (2) *E. coli* grows better in a 10% solution of glucose than in a 10% solution of sucrose.
- (3) The type of sugar solution will make a difference in the rate of growth of *E. coli*.
- (4) The rate of growth of *E. coli* depends on the type of carbohydrate present.

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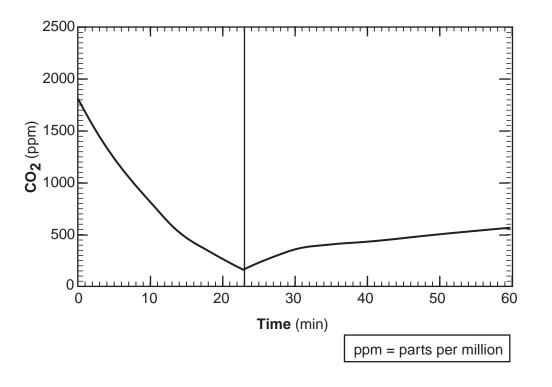
59

Base your answers to questions 61 and 62 on the information below and on your knowledge of biology.

A small green plant was placed in a flask as shown below. A sensor that measures the CO_2 content of the air in the flask was inserted, and then the flask was sealed with a rubber stopper. The other end of the sensor was connected to a computer to monitor and record CO_2 levels in the flask over a period of time.



For part of the time the flask was placed in bright light and for part of the time it was placed in total darkness. The graph below shows data that were recorded by the sensor over a period of time.



For Teacher Use Only 61 Which condition most likely produced the effect on CO_2 level over the first 23 minutes?

- (1) The light was on for the entire 23 minutes.
- (2) The light was off for the entire 23 minutes.
- (3) The light was off at the start and turned on after 10 minutes.
- (4) The light could have been either on or off because it would have had no effect on the CO_2 level.
- 62 Which process most likely caused the change in CO_2 level in the flask over the last 37 minutes?
 - (1) photosynthesis
 - (2) respiration
 - (3) active transport
 - (4) circulation
- 63 The data table below contains information on the growth of eight white pine trees, planted in eight different locations, after a period of time.

Data Table				
Tree Number	Trunk Diameter 1.2 Meters Above Soil Surface (m)	Elevation Above Sea Level (ft)		
1	0.54	4.0	1,200	
2	0.79	6.5	1,650	
3	0.64	4.5	1,400	
4	1.04	5.0	1,350	
5	0.96	5.0	1,350	
6	0.82	4.5	1,250	
7	0.80	5.5	1,400	
8	0.52	5.0	1,600	

Which statement is best supported by the data in the table?

- (1) White pines grow best at higher elevations.
- (2) White pines are not found at elevations below 1,000 feet.
- (3) White pines have a long life span.
- (4) White pines can grow in acidic soil.

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64 In the table below, identify *two* body activities that would change in response to an increase in muscle activity *and* describe how each would change. [2]

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64

Activity	Change in Response to Muscle Activity
1	1
2	2



Total Score for Part B

Part C

Answer all questions in Part C

Directions (65–73): Record your answers in the spaces provided in this examination booklet.

Base your answer to question 65 on the information below and on your knowledge of biology.

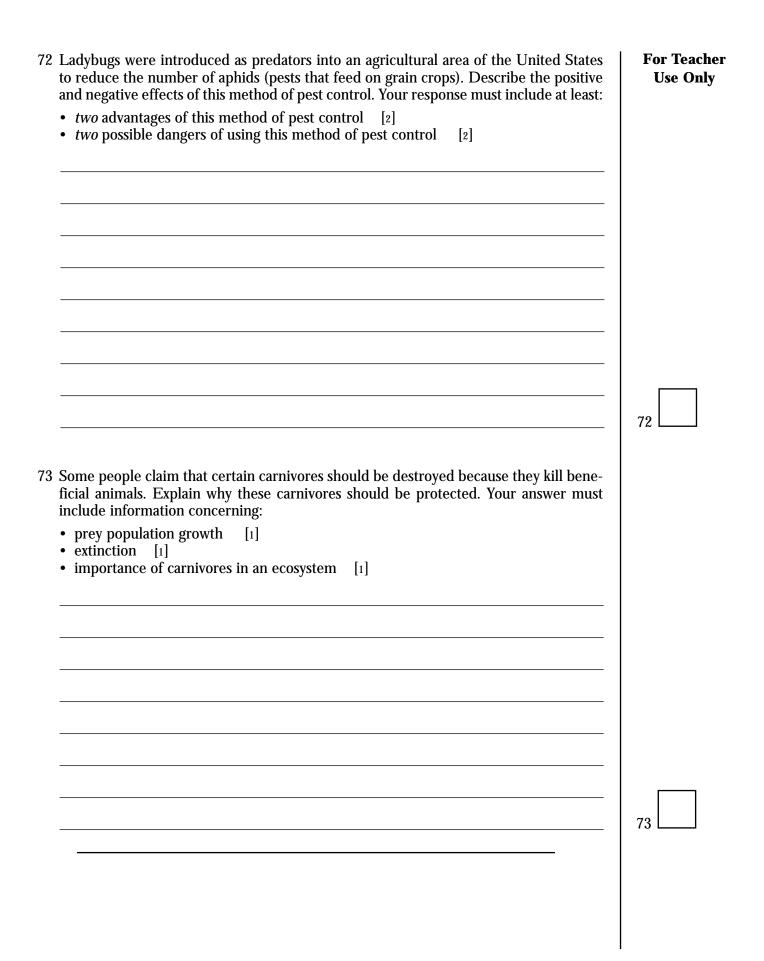
You are the head of the research division of the Leafy Lettuce Company. Your company is experimenting with growing lettuce using hydroponic technology. Hydroponic technology involves growing plants in containers of growth solution in a greenhouse. No soil is used. The growth solution that the company uses contains water, nitrogen, and phosphorus. The company wants to know if adding iron to this formula will improve lettuce growth.

- 65 Briefly describe how to test the effect of the formula with iron added. In your description, be sure to:
 - state a hypothesis to be tested in the new experiment [1]
 - state how the control group will be treated differently from the experimental group [1]
 - identify *two* factors that must be kept the same in both the experimental and control groups [2]
 - state what type of data should be collected to support or refute the hypothesis [1]

65 L

	Base your answers to questions 66 through 68 on the information below and on your vledge of biology.	For Teacher Use Only
	The planning board of a community held a public hearing in response to complaints by residents concerning a waste-recycling plant. These residents claim that the waste-hauling trucks were pollut- ing air, land, and water and that the garbage has brought an increase in rats, mice, and pathogenic bacteria to the area. The residents were insistent that the waste-recycling plant be closed permanently. Other residents recognized the health risks but felt that the benefits of waste recycling outweighed the health issues.	
	Identify <i>two</i> specific health problems that could result from living near the waste- recycling plant. [2]	
		66
	State <i>one</i> cause of a health problem that can be associated with the presence of the waste-recycling plant. [1]	
		67
68	State <i>one</i> ecological benefit of recycling wastes. [1]	
		68

Base your answers to questions 69 through 71 on the information below and on your knowledge of biology.	For Teacher Use Only
Children must be vaccinated against certain diseases before they can enter school. Some parents feel that vaccinations are dangerous.	
69 Explain to these parents what a vaccine is and what it does in the body. [2]	
	69
70 State one way a child could develop an immunity to a certain disease without being vac- cinated. [1]	
	70
71 Identify <i>one</i> part of a research plan that must be followed when developing a new vaccine. [1]	
	71



The University of the State of New York Regents High School Examination	Part	Maximum Student Score Score	
REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION	A	35	
LIVING ENVIRONMENT	B	30	
Friday, June 15, 2001 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only	C	20	
ANSWER SHEET	Total Raw (maximun	y Score n Raw Score: 85)]
Student	Final Scor (from con	re version chart)]
Teacher	Raters' In	itials	-
School Grade	Rater 1.	Rater 2	•

Record your answers to Part A on this answer sheet.

	Part A		
1	 13	25	
2	 14	26	
3	 15	27	
4	 16	28	
5	 17	29	
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12	 24		

The declaration below must be signed when you have completed the examination.

I do hereby affirm, at the close of this examination, that I had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that I have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination.

Tear Here

Tear Here Tear Here

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