

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

1. The tendency for an atom to attract electrons to itself in a chemical bond is called
- polarity.
 - electronegativity.
 - hydrophilicity
 - electrophilicity.

ANSWER: b

2. If atoms with greatly differing electronegativities form a bond, that bond will be
- polar.
 - nonpolar.
 - amphipathic.
 - acidic.

ANSWER: a

3. Many of the properties of water can be accounted for by the fact that
- it is polar
 - it forms hydrogen bonds
 - it is a bent molecule
 - all of these are true

ANSWER: d

4. Which of the following is true about ionic compounds?
- They are more likely to dissolve in non-polar solvents than covalent compounds.
 - They always dissolve completely in water.
 - They never dissolve in polar solvents.
 - Some of them dissolve completely in water or other polar solvents, while others do not.

ANSWER: d

5. Which of the following is a correct listing of electronegativity values, from low to high?
- C, H, O, N
 - N, H, O, C
 - H, C, N, O
 - H, C, O, N

ANSWER: c

6. Which of the following elements has the highest electronegativity?
- C
 - H
 - N
 - O
 - P

ANSWER: d

7. The water molecule is polar because:

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- a. Electrons are not distributed symmetrically in the molecule.
- b. The hydrogen atoms are found on one "side" of the molecule.
- c. Hydrogen is less electronegative than oxygen.
- d. The hydrogen atoms are found on one "side" of the molecule and hydrogen is less electronegative than oxygen.
- e. All of these are correct.

ANSWER: e

8. Which of the following molecules is polar?

- a. CCl_4
- b. CH_4
- c. CO_2
- d. NH_3
- e. None of these molecules is polar.

ANSWER: d

9. Which of the following molecules is amphipathic?

- a. sodium chloride
- b. acetic acid
- c. benzene
- d. palmitic acid

ANSWER: d

10. Which of the following classes of compounds is hydrophilic?

- a. Sugars
- b. Fatty acids
- c. Amino acids
- d. Sugars and amino acids.
- e. All of these

ANSWER: d

11. Which of the following classes of compounds is hydrophobic?

- a. Table Salt
- b. Cholesterol
- c. Phosphate esters
- d. Cholesterol and phosphate esters.
- e. All of these are hydrophobic.

ANSWER: b

12. Which of the following molecules has polar bonds but is itself not polar?

- a. NH_3
- b. CO_2

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

c. CH₄

d. H₂O

ANSWER: b

13. When a carboxylate side-chain of one amino acid in a protein is in close proximity to a charged amino group of another amino acid, we call the resulting interaction a(n)

a. ion - dipole bond

b. ionic bond

c. van der Waal's bond

d. salt bridge

ANSWER: d

14. A London dispersion force is another name for a(n)

a. induced dipole - induced dipole bond

b. ionic bond

c. covalent bond

d. non-polar bond

ANSWER: a

15. Ionic compounds and polar covalent compounds tend to dissolve in water because of

a. ion-dipole and dipole-dipole interactions

b. dipole-induced dipole interactions

c. van der Waals bonds

d. hydrophobic interactions

ANSWER: a

16. Which of the following is not considered a van der Waal's force?

a. dipole - dipole bond

b. dipole - induced dipole bond

c. induced dipole - induced dipole bond

d. ion - dipole bond

ANSWER: d

17. A micelle is a structure which

a. aggregates with other micelles in water.

b. has its polar groups on the outside and non-polar groups on the inside when in water.

c. explains how soaps and detergents work.

d. has its polar groups on the outside and non-polar groups on the inside when in water and explains how soaps and detergents work.

e. All of these are true.

ANSWER: d

18. Which of the following compounds is most likely to form a micelle?

a. Acetic acid.

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- b. Glucose.
- c. Glycerol.
- d. Sodium palmitate.
- e. Sodium phosphate.

ANSWER: d

19. The substance most likely to form a micelle is

- a. acetic acid
- b. sodium palmitate
- c. methyl alcohol
- d. acetone

ANSWER: b

20. Molecules which contain both hydrophilic and hydrophobic regions are:

- a. Amphipathic
- b. Amphiphilic
- c. Able to form micelles
- d. Both amphipathic and amphiphilic
- e. All of these

ANSWER: e

21. How do hydrogen bonds tend to affect the melting and boiling points of substances?

- a. They tend to increase both melting and boiling points.
- b. They tend to decrease both melting and boiling points.
- c. They tend to increase melting points and decrease boiling points.
- d. They tend to decrease melting points and increase boiling points.
- e. They do not have any affect on either melting or boiling points.

ANSWER: a

22. Hydrogen bonds

- a. play an important role in the solvent properties of water
- b. are not involved in protein structure
- c. play a role in the properties of DNA, but not of RNA
- d. give water a lower boiling point than expected

ANSWER: a

23. Which of the following molecules will not form hydrogen bonds?

- a. CH₄
- b. NH₃
- c. H₂O
- d. HF

ANSWER: a

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

24. How does the strength of hydrogen bonds compare with covalent bonds?

- a. Hydrogen bonds are much stronger than covalent bonds.
- b. Hydrogen bonds are much weaker than covalent bonds.
- c. Hydrogen bonds and covalent bonds have similar strengths.
- d. The question cannot be answered without knowing which covalent bonds are being referred to

ANSWER: b

25. A hydrogen bond is a special type of

- a. diole - dipole bond
- b. induced dipole - induced dipole bond
- c. covalent bond
- d. ionic bond

ANSWER: a

26. Which of the following is true regarding hydrogen bonds.

- a. They can only form between two different molecules
- b. They are important in protein folding but not DNA structure
- c. They are important in DNA structure but not protein folding
- d. They can be found within a single molecule

ANSWER: d

27. In a hydrogen bond

- a. three atoms lie in a straight line
- b. there is stronger bonding than in a covalent bond
- c. unpaired electrons play no role
- d. none of the above

ANSWER: a

28. The non-covalent interaction below associated with the strongest force in aqueous solution is

- a. dipole-induced dipole
- b. hydrophobic interactions
- c. hydrogen bonding
- d. van der Waals forces

ANSWER: c

29. Which of the following statements about hydrogen bonds is false?

- a. The donor is a hydrogen atom bonded to a less electronegative atom than hydrogen.
- b. The more linear the bond, the stronger the attraction.
- c. The acceptor must contain a non-bonded pair of electrons.
- d. It is a type of non-covalent bond.

ANSWER: a

30. True hydrogen bonds can NOT form between hydrogen and this element:

- a. N

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- b. F
- c. C
- d. O
- e. All of these elements can form hydrogen bonds.

ANSWER: c

31. What is the maximum number of hydrogen bonds a single water molecule can form?

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5

ANSWER: d

32. Which of the following characteristics makes for a good hydrogen bond acceptor?

- a. a high electronegativity
- b. a nonbonding pair of electrons
- c. both of these
- d. neither of these

ANSWER: c

33. Which of the following characteristics makes for a good hydrogen bond donor?

- a. a high electronegativity
- b. a nonbonding pair of electrons
- c. both of the above
- d. neither of the above

ANSWER: a

34. Which of the following properties of water are related to its ability to form hydrogen bonds?

- a. boiling point
- b. melting point
- c. density
- d. solvent potency
- e. all of the choices

ANSWER: e

35. Hydrogen bonds explain which of the following properties of water?

- a. Water is a great solvent for all ionic and polar molecules.
- b. Water has high melting and boiling points for its small size.
- c. Ice expands when frozen.
- d. Both the abnormal melting and freezing points and that ice expands when frozen.
- e. Hydrogen bonds explain all of these properties.

ANSWER: e

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

36. Hydrogen bonds can only form when the hydrogen atom is involved in a polar bond.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: a

37. Which of the following is a true statement?

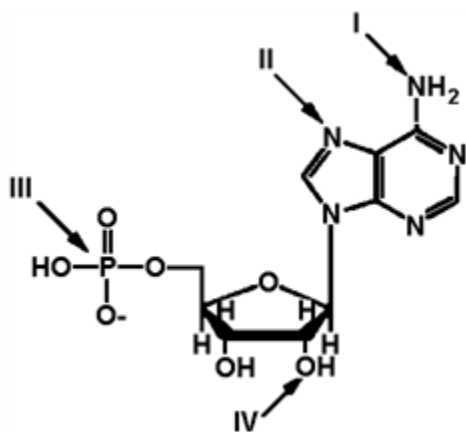
- a. most substances contract when they freeze.
- b. water expands when it freezes.
- c. hydrogen bonding is related to water's tendency to expand as it freezes.
- d. all of these are true

ANSWER: d

Exhibit 2A

The structure of ATP with various groups labeled.

Group III is the entire phosphate group.



38. Refer to Exhibit 2A. Which of the functional groups **cannot** function as a hydrogen donor to water?

- a. I
- b. II
- c. III
- d. IV
- e. All can donate a hydrogen to water.

ANSWER: b

39. Refer to Exhibit 2A. Which of the functional groups is the most electrophilic?

- a. I
- b. II
- c. III
- d. IV
- e. The answer cannot be determined without further information.

ANSWER: c

40. Refer to Exhibit 2A. Which of the groups could **not** act as a proton acceptor in a hydrogen bond?

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- a. I
- b. II
- c. III
- d. IV
- e. All can accept a hydrogen in a hydrogen bond.

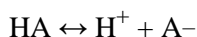
ANSWER: e

41. Is water an acid or a base?

- a. Water is an acid.
- b. Water is a base.
- c. Water is both an acid and a base.
- d. Water is neither an acid nor a base.

ANSWER: c

42. For an acid that undergoes this reaction:



$K_a =$

- a. $[\text{H}^+][\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}]$
- b. $[\text{H}^+][\text{HA}]/[\text{A}^-]$
- c. $[\text{HA}][\text{A}^-]/[\text{H}^+]$
- d. $[\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}][\text{H}^+]$
- e. $[\text{H}^+]/[\text{HA}][\text{A}^-]$

ANSWER: a

43. Which will dissociate most in water, a weak acid or a strong acid?

- a. A weak acid.
- b. A strong acid
- c. They should dissociate about the same.
- d. It's impossible to predict.

ANSWER: b

44. Bases are

- a. proton donors.
- b. proton acceptors.
- c. hydrogen bond donors.
- d. hydrogen bond acceptors.

ANSWER: b

45. Which has the greater K_a , a weak acid or a strong acid?

- a. A weak acid.

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- b. A strong acid
- c. They should dissociate about the same.
- d. It's impossible to predict.

ANSWER: b

46. Which has the greater pK_a , a weak acid or a strong acid?

- a. A weak acid.
- b. A strong acid
- c. They should dissociate about the same.
- d. It's impossible to predict.

ANSWER: a

47. The dissociation constant for an acid with a pK_a value of 6.0 is

- a. 1×10^{-6}
- b. -1×10^6
- c. 1×10^6
- d. -1×10^{-6}

ANSWER: a

48. A buffer solution at pH 10 has a ratio of $[HA]/[A^-]$ of 10. What is the pK_a of the acid?

- a. 8
- b. 9
- c. 10
- d. 11
- e. 12

ANSWER: d

49. The dissociation constant for an acid is 1×10^{-6} . What is its pK_a ?

- a. -6
- b. 6
- c. 0.6
- d. -0.6

ANSWER: b

50. The pH of a solution of 0.04 M HCl is:

- a. 4
- b. 1.4
- c. 0.4
- d. 0.04
- e. The pH cannot be determined

ANSWER: b

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

51. The pOH of a solution of 0.04 M HCl is:

- a. 1.4
- b. 10
- c. 12.6
- d. 13.6
- e. The pOH cannot be determined

ANSWER: c

52. An HCl solution has a pH = 3. If you dilute 10 mL of the solution to 1000mL, the final pH will be:

- a. 1.0
- b. 2.0
- c. The pH does not change.
- d. 4.0
- e. 5.0

ANSWER: e

53. If a solution has a pH = 9.6, the $[H^+]$ is

- a. 2.5×10^{10}
- b. 9.6 M
- c. 2.5 M
- d. 2.5×10^{-10} M
- e. 9.6×10^{-10} M

ANSWER: d

54. What is the pH of a solution with $[H^+] = 10$ mM?

- a. 10
- b. 1
- c. 2
- d. -2

ANSWER: c

55. Calculate the final pH of a solution made by the addition of 10 mL of a 0.5 M NaOH solution to 500 mL of a 0.4 M HA originally at pH = 5.0 ($pK_a = 5.0$) Neglect the volume change.

- a. 6.10
- b. 5.09
- c. 7.00
- d. 5.55

ANSWER: d

56. If a solution has a pH = 6, the $[H^+]$ is

- a. 6 M
- b. 10^6 M

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

c. 10^{-6} M

d. 0.6 M

ANSWER: c

57. What is the pH of an acetic acid solution where the concentration of acetic acid is 2 mM and the concentration of sodium acetate is 20 mM. The pK_a of acetic acid is 4.76.

a. 5.76

b. 10.6

c. 12.6

d. 8.8

ANSWER: a

58. The ion product constant for water (K_w) is equal to:

a. 10^{14}

b. 10^7

c. 10^0

d. 10^{-7}

e. 10^{-14}

ANSWER: e

59. In a titration of a weak acid by a strong base

a. two equivalents of base are always needed to neutralize all the acid present

b. the equivalence point cannot be defined exactly

c. there is a region in which the pH changes slowly

d. the equivalence point depends on the nature of the added base

ANSWER: c

60. A solution at pH 7 contains a weak acid, HA. The pK_a of the acid is 6.5. What is the ratio of $[A^-]:[HA]$?

a. 1:3

b. 1:1

c. 3:1

d. 10:1

ANSWER: c

61. When does a weak acid buffer best?

a. From one pH unit below its pK_a to its pK_a .

b. From its pK_a to one pH unit above its pK_a .

c. Within one pH unit of its pK_a , both above and below.

d. Weak acids do not make good buffers at all.

ANSWER: c

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

62. The inflection point of the titration curve for a weak monoprotic acid is equal to its pK_a

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: a

63. Which of the following is true?

- a. The pH of a solution where the A^- to HA ratio is 1 has a $pH = pK_a$.
- b. If the pH does not equal the pK_a , the solution is not a buffer.
- c. The best buffer for any experiment will always have a pH equal to the pK_a .
- d. If a buffer has more weak acid than conjugate base, the pH will be higher than the pK_a .

ANSWER: a

64. Using the Henderson-Hasselbalch equation, calculate the pH of an ammonia buffer when the $NH_3:NH_4^+$ ratio is 0.4 moles:0.6 moles. ($pK = 9.75$)

- a. 7.40
- b. 9.07
- c. 9.25
- d. 9.43
- e. 11.05

ANSWER: b

65. An ammonia buffer contains $NH_3:NH_4^+$ in a ratio of 0.4 moles:0.6 moles ($pK = 9.75$). What will be the pH if you add 0.01 moles of HCl to this buffer?

- a. 8.98
- b. 9.04
- c. 9.25
- d. 9.46
- e. 9.52

ANSWER: a

66. The ratio of a weak acid and its conjugate base at the point of maximum buffering capacity is

- a. 1/1
- b. 1/10
- c. 10/1
- d. no definite ratio is needed

ANSWER: a

67. Which substance would be the best buffer at pH 8 if it had to be able to buffer against either acid or base?

- a. one with a pK_a of 7
- b. one with a pK_a of 8
- c. one with a pK_a of 9

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- d. The pK_a of a substance doesn't tell you whether it would be a good buffer at this pH.

ANSWER: b

68. Buffering capacity refers to

- a. the effectiveness of commercial antacids
- b. the extent to which a buffer solution can counteract the effect of added acid or base
- c. the pH of a buffer solution
- d. the molecular weight of the substance used as a buffer

ANSWER: b

69. If the pH of 1 liter of a 1.0 M carbonate buffer is 7.0, what is the molar ratio of H_2CO_3 to HCO_3^- ? ($pK = 6.37$)

- a. 0.234
- b. 4.27
- c. 6.37
- d. 7.00
- e. 10.20

ANSWER: b

70. Consider a reaction that produces a significant amount of hydrogen ion and is to be carried out at a pH 7. Only two acids are available for making the buffer solution. The pK_a values for acids A and B are 6.3 and 7.3, respectively. Which acid would serve as the optimum buffer for this reaction? Or would carrying out the reaction in water simply serve as well?

- a. acid A
- b. acid B
- c. water
- d. both acids would be equally effective

ANSWER: a

71. Which of the following acids would serve as a good buffer for a reaction at pH = 8.0?

| | K_a |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| I. acetic acid | 1.76×10^{-5} |
| II. $H_2PO_4^-$ | 6.31×10^{-8} |
| III. bicarbonate | 5.6×10^{-11} |
| IV. TRIS | 5.01×10^{-9} |
| a. I | |
| b. II | |
| c. III | |
| d. IV | |

ANSWER: d

72. If the pH of 1 liter of a 1.0 M carbonate buffer is 7.0, what is actual number of moles of H_2CO_3 and HCO_3^- ? ($pK = 6.37$)

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

| | moles of H_2CO_3 | moles of HCO_3^- |
|--------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| I. | 0.86 | 0.14 |
| II. | 0.81 | 0.19 |
| III. | 0.76 | 0.24 |
| IV. | 0.19 | 0.81 |
| V. | 0.14 | 0.86 |
| a. I | | |
| b. II | | |
| c. III | | |
| d. IV | | |
| e. V | | |

ANSWER: d

73. A buffer solution

- a. is used to control the pH of a solution
- b. contains at least 100 times more of a weak acid than its conjugate base
- c. contains at least 100 times less of a weak acid than its conjugate base
- d. always has a pH of 7

ANSWER: a

74. The main intracellular buffer system is

- a. $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$
- b. $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-/\text{HPO}_4^{2-}$
- c. $\text{HPO}_4^{2-}/\text{PO}_4^{3-}$
- d. $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4/\text{PO}_4^{3-}$

ANSWER: b

Exhibit 2B

Contains information on the pK's of some common buffers.

| Buffer | pK1 | pK2 | pK3 |
|-----------------|------|-------|------|
| Acetate | 4.75 | | |
| Ammonia | 9.25 | | |
| Carbonic acid | 6.37 | 10.20 | |
| Citric acid | 3.09 | 4.75 | 5.41 |
| Formic Acid | 3.75 | | |
| Phosphoric acid | 2.14 | 7.20 | 12.4 |
| Pyruvic acid | 2.50 | | |
| Tris | 8.3 | | |

75. Refer to Exhibit 2B. The enzyme lysozyme has an optimum pH close to 5. A suitable buffer would be:

- a. Acetate
- b. Carbonate
- c. Phosphate
- d. Pyruvate

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

- e. None of these is a suitable buffer for this reaction.

ANSWER: a

76. **Refer to Exhibit 2B.** An ammonium buffer would work well at this pH:

- a. 5.6
- b. 7.0
- c. 9.0
- d. 11.0
- e. None of these

ANSWER: c

77. **Refer to Exhibit 2B.** A carbonate buffer would work well at this pH:

- a. 4.0
- b. 6.0
- c. 8.0
- d. 10.0
- e. 6.0 and 10.0

ANSWER: e

78. **Refer to Exhibit 2B.** A phosphate buffer would work well at this pH:

- a. 5.0
- b. 7.0
- c. 8.0
- d. 10.0
- e. 7.0 and 8.0

ANSWER: e

79. **Refer to Exhibit 2B.** Which of the following would make the best buffer at pH =10.0?

- a. Acetic acid and sodium acetate
- b. Tris and its acid form
- c. H_2CO_3 and NaHCO_3
- d. Na_2HPO_4 and NaH_2PO_4
- e. NaHCO_3 and Na_2CO_3

ANSWER: e

80. Which of the following is important to know when deciding if a given buffer will be effective for an experiment?

- a. the pK_a of the buffer compound
- b. the buffer capacity
- c. the concentration of the buffer
- d. whether the experiment is likely to generate hydrogen ions or hydroxide ions
- e. all of these are important considerations

ANSWER: e

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Chapter 2—Water: The Solvent for Biochemical Reactions

81. Nonphysiological buffers such as HEPES and PIPES have come into common use because
- they are inexpensive
 - they can be prepared much more easily than other buffers
 - they have less tendency to interfere with reactions
 - they contain nitrogen

ANSWER: c

82. Buffers which lack biological activity and are unlikely to interfere with any biochemical reactions include:
- Tris.
 - Hepes.
 - Phosphate.
 - Both Tris and HEPES.
 - All of these.

ANSWER: d

83. Which of the following is **not** true?
- A buffer is a solution which maintains a solution at a neutral pH
 - Buffer solutions are made to resist change in pH
 - Zwitterion buffers are less likely to interfere with biological reactions than non-zwitterions
 - HEPES is a zwitterion buffer

ANSWER: a

84. The main blood buffer system is
- $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3/\text{HCO}_3^-$
 - $\text{HCO}_3^-/\text{CO}_3^{2-}$
 - $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3/\text{CO}_3^{2-}$
 - none of the above

ANSWER: a

85. Buffers work to maintain pH because
- they obey LeChatlier's principle
 - weak acids cannot change the pH of a solution
 - weak bases added to strong bases neutralize each other
 - they destroy the hydrogen ion that is added

ANSWER: a