Overview: What Is Organic Chemistry

Semester Overview

Bonding and Shape (review from General Chemistry)

- Electron configuration
- Lewis structures
- Bonding
- Shapes of molecules
- Polarity
- Resonance (new)

Acids and Bases (review from General Chemistry) Functional Groups

- Naming
- Structure
- · Physical properties

Reactions and Mechanisms

- Reactants
- Products
- Reagents
- Mechanisms
- · Reaction intermediates

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Overview: What Is Organic Chemistry

What is Organic Chemistry?

Modern organic chemistry is the study of the structure and reactivity of compounds consisting mainly of carbon

The main components of organic chemistry are the following:

- Structure determination: How to determine the structure of newly synthesized or isolated organic molecules which may be available only in invisibly small quantities
- **Theoretical organic chemistry:** How to understand those structures in terms of atoms and the electrons that bind them together
- Reaction mechanisms: How to find out how organic molecules react with each other and how to predict their reactivity
- Synthesis: How to design new molecules and then how to make them
- Biological Chemistry: How to find out what nature does and how the structures of biologically active molecules are related to their function

>95% of all known compounds contain carbon

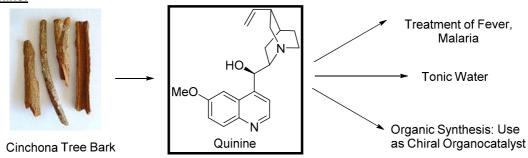
Overview: What Is Organic Chemistry

Organic Chemistry is Crucial to Our Way of Life

Dyes, Perfumes, Glues, Paints, Materials (Polymers), Petroleum, Pesticides, Medications, a Molecular Understanding of the Human Body. For example:



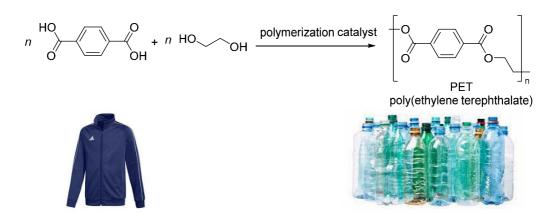
Quinine:



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PET & Polyester:



Aspirin & Salicylic Acid:

