

## **2017 AP® BIOLOGY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

- (a) The researchers made the following claims about the effect of KAR and the effect of TMB on seed germination relative to the control treatment.

- KAR alone affects the timing of seed germination.
- KAR alone affects the percentage of seeds that germinate.
- TMB alone affects the timing of seed germination.
- TMB alone affects the percentage of seeds that germinate.

**Provide support** using data from Figure 1 for each of the researchers' claims.

- (b) **Make a claim** about the effect of rinsing on the binding of KAR to the receptor in the seed and about the effect of rinsing on the binding of TMB to the receptor in the seed. Identify the appropriate treatment groups and results from the table that, when compared with the controls, **provide support** for each claim.
- (c) There is intense competition by plants to successfully colonize areas that have been recently cleared by a fire. **Describe** ONE advantage of KAR regulation and ONE advantage of TMB regulation to plants that live in an ecosystem with regular fires.

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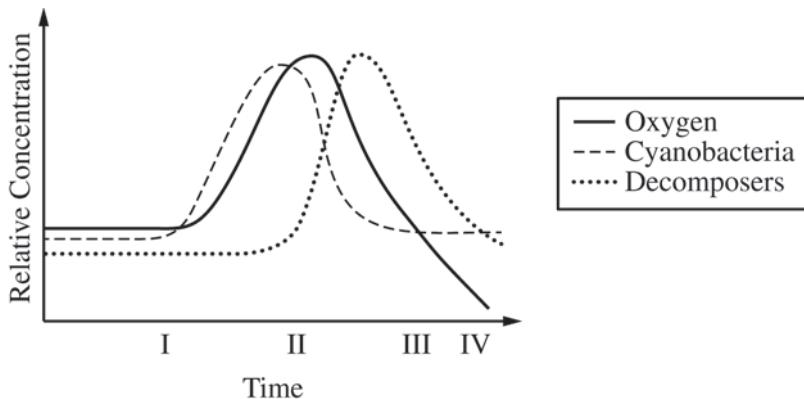


Figure 1. Characteristics of a pond community over time

5. *Microcystis aeruginosa* is a freshwater photosynthetic cyanobacterium. When temperatures increase and nutrients are readily available in its pond habitat, *M. aeruginosa* undergoes rapid cell division and forms an extremely large, visible mass of cells called an algal bloom. *M. aeruginosa* has a short life span and is decomposed by aerobic bacteria and fungi. Identify the metabolic pathway and the organism that is primarily responsible for the change in oxygen level in the pond between times I and II AND between times III and IV.

**AP<sup>®</sup> BIOLOGY  
2017 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 5**

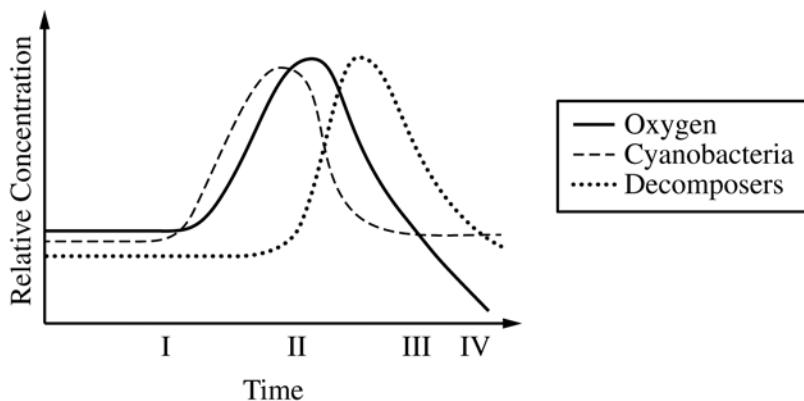


Figure 1. Characteristics of a pond community over time

*Microcystis aeruginosa* is a freshwater photosynthetic cyanobacterium. When temperatures increase and nutrients are readily available in its pond habitat, *M. aeruginosa* undergoes rapid cell division and forms an extremely large, visible mass of cells called an algal bloom. *M. aeruginosa* has a short life span and is decomposed by aerobic bacteria and fungi. **Identify** the metabolic pathway and the organism that is primarily responsible for the change in oxygen level in the pond between times I and II AND between times III and IV.

**Identification (2 points per row; 4 points maximum)**

Time Period	Metabolic pathway ( <b>1 point per box</b> )	Organism ( <b>1 point per box</b> )
I – II	Photosynthesis	Cyanobacteria ( <i>M. aeruginosa</i> )
III – IV	Cellular respiration	Decomposers/fungi/bacteria