

2001 AP[®] BIOLOGY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

3. A biologist measured dissolved oxygen in the top 30 centimeters of a moderately eutrophic (mesotrophic) lake in the temperate zone. The day was bright and sunny, and the wind was calm. The results of the observations are presented below.

<u>Hour</u>	<u>[O₂]</u>
6:00 A.M.	0.9 mg/L
8:00 A.M.	1.7 mg/L
10:00 A.M.	3.1 mg/L
12:00 noon	4.9 mg/L
2:00 P.M.	6.8 mg/L
4:00 P.M.	8.1 mg/L
6:00 P.M.	7.9 mg/L
8:00 P.M.	6.2 mg/L
10:00 P.M.	4.0 mg/L
12:00 midnight	2.4 mg/L

- (a) Using the graph paper provided, **plot** the results that were obtained. Then, using the same set of axes, draw and label an additional line/curve representing the results that you would predict had the day been heavily overcast.
- (b) **Explain** the biological processes that are operating in the lake to produce the observed data. **Explain** also how these processes would account for your prediction of results for a heavily overcast day.
- (c) **Describe** how the introduction of high levels of nutrients such as nitrates and phosphates into the lake would affect subsequent observations. **Explain** your prediction.
4. Proteins—large complex molecules—are major building blocks of all living organisms. Discuss the following in relation to proteins.
- (a) The chemical composition and levels of structure of proteins
- (b) The roles of DNA and RNA in protein synthesis
- (c) The roles of proteins in membrane structure and transport of molecules across the membrane

END OF EXAMINATION

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Question 3

3. (a) 4 points possible

1 point for proper orientation of graph (independent variable on x-axis)

1 point for graph (all of the elements below must be present)

- Uniform spacing of units
- Correct labeling of axes
 - proper numbering (a minor error acceptable)
 - X-axis label: “Time”/ “Hour”/a.m., p.m. labels/a conversion to integers requires unit label as well
 - Y-axis: oxygen label **and** mg/L Unit

1 point for correct plot of data points

- No connecting line necessary
- No point if more than one data point is misplotted
- No point if there is a **solid** extrapolation line beyond the 6:00 a.m. data point to the origin **or** the 12 midnight data point

1 point for drawing the cloudy day prediction Line/Curve (all of the elements below must be present)

- Distinguish between the two curves with a legend or direct labeling of one curve
- Position completely under the bright-day curve (may touch toward the tails)
- There must be some curve to the line (no flat lines)

3. (b) 5 points possible

1 point Photosynthesis: production of O₂ correlated with light changes (i.e., explains changes in shape of bright-day curve). The student must link **photosynthesis** to **increase in light** to **increase in O₂** production. The student must use the term “photosynthesis” or an excellent replacement such as the chemical equation for the process.

1 point Respiration: consumption of O₂. Must link **respiration** to **decrease in O₂**. The student must use the term “respiration” or an excellent replacement such as the chemical equation for the process or the name of another appropriate process such as “decomposition.”

1 point Description of the **interaction** of the above: photosynthetic rate changes while respiration rate remains relatively constant.

1 point Overcast prediction curve explanation

- Reduced light leads to decreased photosynthetic O₂ production, etc.
- No point given if there is no prediction line/curve on the graph.

1 elaboration point (maximum) for any one of the above. Examples of elaboration may include, but are not limited to:

- Water split/photolysis to produce O₂ in the light phase, etc.
- **Balanced** equation for photosynthesis or respiration (unless used as a substitute for the term above)
- Description of “light phase” processes (photosystem II, etc.)
- Gross vs. net productivity

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Question 3 (cont.)

3. (c) 3 points possible

1 point for describing (predicting) a change in lake conditions such as (must be related to the question)

- increased/decreased O₂
- increased/decreased biomass or numbers of organisms
- increased/decreased CO₂,
- long-term or short-term changes
- no change

1 point for an explanation of the prediction above (may include toxic effects due to significant changes in pH, altered osmolarity, etc.)

1 elaboration point for the explanation of the prediction above **or** long term ecological consequences to lake.