

Use the genetic code (on page 12 of the Gene Expression notes) to answer the following questions. To answer these correctly, it is important to understand the following:

1. the difference between the DNA **template (anti-sense) strand** and the DNA **sense strand**,
2. during transcription, the DNA *template* strand is read from the 3' to 5' direction in order to produce a mRNA molecule from its 5' to 3' end. The mRNA molecule will be identical to the *sense* strand except *U* replaces *T* in mRNA.
3. translation produces a polypeptide by reading a mRNA from its 5' to 3' end.

Assume that unless otherwise indicated, DNA sequences do *not* contain introns. Note that for this exercise, not all transcripts will begin with a start codon, or end with a stop codon. However, translation should stop (no more amino acids are produced) when a stop codon is present, and “translation” of a stop codon should be indicated with an **X**.

Note: You may use a translation tool such as <http://web.expasy.org/translate/> to check your work, though **your answers must use the 3 letter amino acid abbreviation codes** (<http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp/sub/ref2-e.html>). Note that the Expasy tool translates DNA *sense* strands and mRNA sequences only. Also, note that you will be asked to complete similar questions using only the Genetic Code table on the 1<sup>st</sup> exam.

1. What is the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide produced from translation of the following mRNA molecule?

5' — AUGAUUCCAUAUUGA — 3'

2. What is the mRNA sequence and amino acid sequences of the polypeptide produced following transcription and translation of the DNA sequence on the *sense* strand of the DNA molecule?

5' — ATGATTCATAGA — 3'

3. What is the mRNA sequence and amino acid sequences of the polypeptide produced following transcription and translation of the DNA sequence on the *sense* strand of the DNA molecule? **Hint:** remember that the mRNA is produced from its 5' to 3' end.

3' — TACAGTCCATTTGTA — 5'

4. What is the mRNA sequence and amino acid sequences of the polypeptide produced following transcription and translation of the DNA sequence on the *template* strand of the DNA molecule?

5' — GTATTAGCCAGGCAT — 3'

5. What is the mRNA sequence and amino acid sequence of the polypeptide produced from the following DNA sequence on the *sense* strand of the DNA molecule, with exons and introns as indicated?

Exon	intron	exon	Intron	Exon
5' — ATGA	ACGATG	AGGAA	TTGACTATGTCA	GAGTGA — 3'

6. Consider the DNA sequence on the sense strand

5' – ATGTGTCACAACGAGTGA – 3'

that will express the following polypeptide:

Met-Cys-His-Asn-Glu-X

The DNA sequences below each contain a mutation relative to the above sequence. Identify the *type(s)* of mutations (silent, missense, nonsense, insertion, deletion, frameshift) and the polypeptide sequence that will be produced.

- a. wild-type sequence: 5' – ATGTGTCACAACGAGTGA – 3'  
 mutated sequence: 5' – ATGTGCCAAACGAGTGA – 3'

b. wild-type sequence: 5' - ATGTG**T**CACAACGAGTGA - 3'  
mutated sequence: 5' - ATGTG**C**CATAACGAGTGA - 3'

c. wild-type sequence: 5' - ATGTG**T**CACAACGAGTGA - 3'  
mutated sequence: 5' - ATGTG**A**CACAACGAGTGA - 3'