

1. Propose and explain a plausible mechanism for the following catalytic cycle. Draw the structure of the catalyst employed. What is the name of this transformation? (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2023, 145, 7763−7767). [★]

2. Draw the structure of the intermediate, and propose a plausible mechanism for the following transformation (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2023**, *145*, 7763–7767). [★★]

3. Identify the product and propose a plausible mechanism (R. Soc. Open Sci. 2018, 5, 171988). [★★]

4. Identifying the product of the following transformation and propose a plausible mechanism. What is the role of DBU? Are you able to name the reactions involved? (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2023, 145, 7763−7767). [★★★]

5. Propose a plausible mechanism for the following transformation. What is the role of oxygen in this reaction? (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2023, 145, 7763–7767). [★★]



6. **(Endgame)** Propose a plausible mechanism for the final step in the Total Synthesis of this episode. What is the name of this transformation? (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2023**, *145*, 7763–7767). [★★★]

6.1. **BONUS:** Now that you have identified the above transformation, draw the structure of the missing intermediate and propose a plausible for the second step. These steps have been extracted from the Total Synthesis of Isoedunol and β-Araneosene reported by Kingsbury and Corey in 2005. Rationalize why the Swern oxidation step is necessary to afford this product. (J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2005**, 127, 13813–13815).

