introduction

Organic compounds were historically believed to originate from plants and animals. This belief started to change in 1828 when Wöhler converted ammonium cyanate into urea. For the first time a compound from a living organism was created from inorganic materials. The carbon atom (C) together with hydrogen (H) and the heteroatoms nitrogen (N), oxygen (O) and sulfur (S), are the main elements from the Periodic table of Elements, of which common organic compunds and materials are formed.

With the developent of organic synthesis came the possibility to create a lot of new materials with properties that cannot be associated with living organisms. These different properties are interesting when creating materials that may be used in a variety of new applications.