

**A) MCQ:**

1. Which of the following is true about the dissociative substitution mechanism?

- A) The intermediate has a higher coordination number than the starting complex.
- B) The rate of substitution depends primarily on the concentration of the entering ligand.
- C) The leaving group departs after the incoming ligand forms a bond with the metal center.
- D) It involves the formation of a stable intermediate complex.

Answer: B) The rate of substitution depends primarily on the concentration of the entering ligand.

2. Which of the following best describes the associative substitution mechanism?

- A) The intermediate complex has a lower coordination number than the starting complex.
- B) The entering ligand forms a bond with the metal center before the leaving group departs.
- C) It does not involve an intermediate.
- D) The rate of substitution is independent of the concentration of the incoming ligand.

Answer: B) The entering ligand forms a bond with the metal center before the leaving group departs.

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3. What distinguishes the interchange mechanism from the associative and dissociative mechanisms?

- A) It always involves a stable intermediate complex.
- B) It involves no intermediate but may have various transition states.
- C) It occurs only in complexes with high-spin metal centers.
- D) The rate of substitution is not influenced by the incoming ligand's concentration.

Answer: B) It involves no intermediate but may have various transition states.

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4. Which of the following describes a labile complex?

- A) A complex where ligand exchange occurs very slowly.
- B) A complex where ligands are exchanged quickly, often with  $t_{1/2} \leq 1$  min.
- C) A complex that can only undergo inner-sphere electron transfer reactions.
- D) A complex that forms stable intermediates in substitution reactions.

Answer: B) A complex where ligands are exchanged quickly, often with  $t_{1/2} \leq 1$  min.

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5. Which of the following complexes is considered kinetically inert?

- A)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$
- B)  $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$
- C)  $[\text{CuCl}_4]^{2-}$
- D)  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5]$

Answer: B)  $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$

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6. In an outer-sphere electron transfer reaction, what occurs between the reductant and oxidant?

- A) New bonds are formed between the two species.
- B) The coordination spheres of the complexes change during the transfer.
- C) The electron transfer occurs without any significant change in the coordination spheres.
- D) The electron transfer is coupled with ligand substitution.

Answer: C) The electron transfer occurs without any significant change in the coordination spheres.

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7. In an inner-sphere electron transfer reaction, what is required for the reaction to occur?

- A) The complexes must share a common ligand in their coordination spheres.
- B) The coordination spheres of both complexes must remain intact.
- C) Only one of the complexes needs to undergo substitution.
- D) The electron transfer occurs via the solvent, not through any direct bonding interaction.

Answer: A) The complexes must share a common ligand in their coordination spheres.

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8. Which of the following is an example of a biological redox reaction involving a metal center?

- A) Conversion of glucose to ethanol in fermentation.
- B) Oxidation of NADH to  $\text{NAD}^+$  in cellular respiration.
- C) Reduction of oxygen to water in the electron transport chain.
- D) Conversion of light energy into chemical energy in photosynthesis.

Answer: C) Reduction of oxygen to water in the electron transport chain.

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9. Which of the following factors does NOT affect the reduction potential in biological systems?

- A) Ionization energy.
- B) Ligand environment.
- C) Hydrogen-bonding interactions.
- D) The temperature of the system.

Answer: D) The temperature of the system.

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10. Which of the following metal-containing electron transfer centers is most commonly associated with high oxidation potentials?

- A) FeS clusters
- B) Cytochromes
- C) Copper-containing proteins (Cu sites)
- D) Zinc-containing proteins

Answer: C) Copper-containing proteins (Cu sites)

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11. Which of the following metal centers in biological redox processes uses the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$  redox couple?

- A) FeS clusters
- B) Cytochromes
- C) Cu sites
- D) Zinc proteins

Answer: B) Cytochromes

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12. Which of the following redox reactions most likely occurs via the outer-sphere mechanism?

- A) A reaction where a ligand from one complex is transferred to another, with no change in coordination number.
- B) A reaction where a ligand is substituted by another, with an intermediate complex forming.
- C) A reaction where the electron transfer occurs between complexes with shared ligands.
- D) A reaction involving a concerted process without a distinct intermediate.

Answer: A) A reaction where a ligand from one complex is transferred to another, with no change in coordination number.

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13. Which of the following best describes the role of ATP in biological energy metabolism?

- A) ATP is synthesized from NADH and  $\text{FADH}_2$  during glycolysis.
- B) ATP provides chemical energy for cellular processes by hydrolysis to ADP and inorganic phosphate.
- C) ATP is a substrate in photosynthesis to produce glucose.
- D) ATP is used to store energy as a secondary messenger in redox reactions.

Answer: B) ATP provides chemical energy for cellular processes by hydrolysis to ADP and inorganic phosphate.

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14. Which of the following is true about the reduction of  $\text{NADP}^+$  to NADPH in photosynthesis?

- A) It is coupled with the oxidation of glucose.
- B) It involves the transfer of two electrons and one proton.

- C) It occurs during the dark reactions of photosynthesis.
- D) It is catalyzed by dehydrogenases.

Answer: B) It involves the transfer of two electrons and one proton.

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15. What is the role of dehydrogenases in biological redox processes?

- A) They catalyze the reduction of  $\text{NADP}^+$  to NADPH.
- B) They facilitate the transfer of electrons without forming any bonds.
- C) They catalyze oxidation reactions that involve the loss of hydrogen atoms.
- D) They are involved in the reduction of oxygen in the electron transport chain.

Answer: C) They catalyze oxidation reactions that involve the loss of hydrogen atoms.

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16. Which of the following processes does NOT occur during light-dependent reactions in photosynthesis?

- A) Excitation of electrons by light energy.
- B) Formation of ATP from ADP and inorganic phosphate.
- C) Reduction of  $\text{NADP}^+$  to NADPH.
- D) Fixation of carbon dioxide into sugars.

Answer: D) Fixation of carbon dioxide into sugars.

**B) true and false:**

1. The dissociative substitution mechanism involves an intermediate complex with a higher coordination number than the starting complex.

Answer: False

Explanation: The dissociative substitution mechanism involves an intermediate with a lower coordination number than the starting complex.

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2. In the associative substitution mechanism, the incoming ligand forms a bond with the metal center before the leaving group departs.

Answer: True

Explanation: In associative substitution, the incoming ligand forms a bond with the metal before the departure of the leaving group.

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3. The interchange mechanism involves the formation of a stable intermediate complex with a clear coordination number change.

**Answer: False**

Explanation: The interchange mechanism does not involve a stable intermediate and does not result in a clear coordination number change.

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**4. Kinetically inert complexes exchange ligands very quickly, with a substitution rate constant ( $t_{1/2}$ ) less than 1 minute.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: Kinetically inert complexes exchange ligands very slowly, with  $t_{1/2}$  much longer than 1 minute.

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**5. The redox reaction between two complexes involving no bond formation or breaking is an example of an inner-sphere mechanism.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: The described reaction is an example of an outer-sphere mechanism, where electron transfer occurs without bond formation or breaking.

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**6. In an inner-sphere redox mechanism, at least one of the complexes must be labile to allow the formation of a bridging ligand.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: In an inner-sphere mechanism, one of the complexes must be labile to facilitate the formation of a bridging ligand for electron transfer.

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**7. The energy for life on Earth comes directly from the Sun, primarily through photosynthesis in plants, algae, and some bacteria.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: The primary energy source for life on Earth is sunlight, which is captured by photosynthesis.

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**8. NADP<sup>+</sup> is reduced to NADPH during the light-independent reactions of photosynthesis.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: NADP<sup>+</sup> is reduced to NADPH during the light-dependent reactions of photosynthesis.

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**9. Dehydrogenases are enzymes that catalyze reductions by adding hydrogen to substrates.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: Dehydrogenases catalyze oxidation reactions, which involve the loss of hydrogen atoms (dehydrogenation).

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**10. ATP is the primary molecule for storing and transferring chemical energy in cells.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: ATP (adenosine triphosphate) is the energy currency of the cell, used in many cellular processes that require energy.

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**11. In biological redox reactions, strong donor ligands tend to stabilize high oxidation states and lower the reduction potential.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: Strong donor ligands stabilize higher oxidation states and lower the reduction potential, making electron transfer more favorable.

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**12. FeS clusters, cytochromes, and Cu sites are all types of metal-containing electron transfer centers involved in biological redox processes.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: FeS clusters, cytochromes, and copper-containing sites are all essential components in biological electron transfer chains.

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**13.  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$  couples are primarily found in cytochromes, which are typically six-coordinate and involve low-spin iron in both oxidation states.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: Cytochromes use the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$  redox couple, and iron is typically low-spin in both oxidation states.

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**14. Copper-containing proteins, such as those with blue Cu centers, have reduction potentials that are generally more oxidizing than cytochromes.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: Copper-containing proteins (with blue Cu centers) have higher reduction potentials than cytochromes, making them more oxidizing.

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**15. The reduction potential of a metal ion in a biological system is unaffected by the ionization energy of the metal.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: The reduction potential is influenced by several factors, including ionization energy, which affects the tendency of the metal to gain or lose electrons.

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**16. In photosynthesis, the light-dependent reactions capture sunlight and convert it into chemical energy stored in glucose.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: The light-dependent reactions capture sunlight and store energy in ATP and NADPH, not directly in glucose, which is synthesized in the light-independent reactions (Calvin cycle).

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**17. ATP is used by cells in both anabolic (energy-consuming) and catabolic (energy-releasing) processes.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: ATP is used in both anabolic processes (which require energy) and catabolic processes (which release energy).

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**18. The electron transport chain in cellular respiration and photosynthesis always involves a single, continuous flow of electrons from one molecule to the next.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: The electron transport chain involves multiple steps and the transfer of electrons between various carriers, often involving proton gradients and coupling to other processes like ATP synthesis.

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**19. The reduction potential of a redox couple is determined only by the metal ion involved, and not by the surrounding environment or ligands.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: The reduction potential is influenced by several factors, including the surrounding environment, the ligands, and other neighboring charges, not just the metal ion.

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**20. In a dissociative substitution reaction, the intermediate complex has a higher coordination number than the starting complex.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: In a dissociative substitution reaction, the intermediate has a lower coordination number than the starting complex.

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**21. The exchange of ligands in a kinetically inert complex occurs rapidly, with a substitution rate constant ( $t_{1/2}$ ) much less than 1 minute.**

**Answer: False**

Explanation: Kinetically inert complexes have a slow ligand exchange rate, and their substitution rate constant ( $t_{1/2}$ ) is much longer than 1 minute.

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**22. In a redox reaction, the outer-sphere mechanism involves electron transfer where the coordination spheres of both the reductant and oxidant stay intact.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: In the outer-sphere mechanism, electron transfer occurs without any change in the coordination spheres of the reactants.

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**23. In an associative substitution mechanism, the intermediate complex has a higher coordination number than the starting complex.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: In the associative mechanism, the intermediate complex has a higher coordination number because the incoming ligand bonds to the metal before the departing ligand leaves.

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**24. The interchange mechanism is a combination of the dissociative and associative mechanisms, but it does not involve the formation of a stable intermediate.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: The interchange mechanism shares characteristics with both dissociative and associative mechanisms but does not form a stable intermediate.

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**25. Copper (Cu) centers in proteins typically have reduction potentials in the range of 0.15–0.8 V, making them more oxidizing than iron-containing cytochromes.**

**Answer: True**

Explanation: Copper (Cu) centers have higher reduction potentials than cytochromes, meaning they are generally more oxidizing.