

# AQA A Level Biology

## Summer Independent Learning

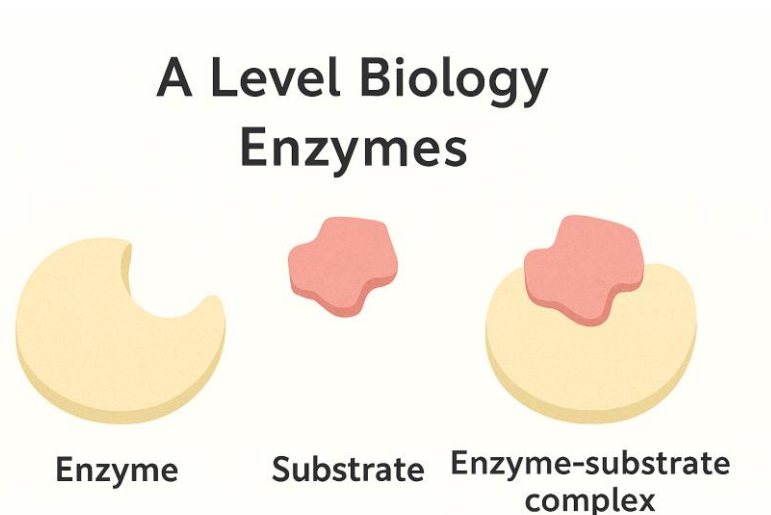
### A Level Biology Summer Independent Learning Activity.

Welcome to A Level Biology, please complete **ALL** of the following tasks ready for your first day at New College.

There are 2 things we are expecting of you from your SIL. Teachers will be checking that this has been completed in the first week back in September.

1. Complete the questions, and self-mark (mark scheme at the back of the paper)
2. Test yourself on the content, in preparation for an **assessment** in your first week of college

You can print the booklet, write on the PDF file or answer the questions on paper. The Mark Scheme follows the sections at the end of the document.



## **Overview of the tasks**

### **Part 1: Structure of Carbohydrates, Lipids and Proteins**

Task 1: Carbohydrate Structure

Task 2: Lipid Structure

Task 3: Protein Structure

### **Part 2: Enzymes**

Task 4: Enzyme definitions.

Task 5: Interpreting enzyme graphs.

Task 6: Enzyme inhibition.

### **Part 3: Maths**

Task 7: Calculating percentage change.

Task 8: Calculating rates.

## **Part 1**

### **Task 1: Structure of carbohydrates**

Use the following video links to support with your answers:



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSJGCGQ\\_9vA&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=7&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSJGCGQ_9vA&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=7&t=0s)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuDxoneoPnY&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=5>

**What is a monomer?**

**What is a polymer?**

**Can you describe what a condensation reaction is?**

**Can you describe what a hydrolysis reaction is?**

**Can you describe how larger carbohydrates are made from monosaccharide monomers?**

**Can you list some common monosaccharides?**

**Can you describe how disaccharides are formed?**

**What are maltose, sucrose and lactose formed from?**

**Draw a diagram to show how a condensation reaction occurs between two monosaccharides to form maltose. Label the bond that forms.**

**Can you explain how glycogen and starch are formed?**

## **Task 2: Lipid Structure**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOFjqpzbMZU&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=3>

Video 2 from **10:50 to 12:50**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFq9o72Qal8&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=7>



**Can you explain how triglycerides are formed? Draw a diagram to show this happening. Label the molecules involved, the type of reaction and the types of bonds formed.**

**Can you explain that the R-group of a fatty acid may be saturated or unsaturated? What do these terms mean?**

### **Task 3: Protein structure**

Watch the video:

**From 7:20 – 10:50**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFq9o72Qal8&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=7>

**What is the general structure of an amino acid?**

**How do two amino acids form a dipeptide?**

**Describe the following protein structures:**

**Primary Structure**

**Secondary Structure**

## **Tertiary Structure**

**Can you describe the role of hydrogen bonds, ionic bonds and disulfide bridges in the structure of proteins?**

## **Part 2: Enzymes**

### **Task 4: Enzyme definitions.**

This section revises many of the key terms for GCSE to do with enzyme structure and function. A GCSE level question follows to assess your understanding. Whilst most of the definitions are from the GCSE specification you may find that some are unfamiliar to you.

**Define these key words.**

Enzyme:

Active site:

Substrate:

Activation energy:

Denature:

**Q1.** (a) Enzymes are used in body cells.

(i) What is an enzyme?

Draw a ring around the correct answer.

|                 |                            |                |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| <b>antibody</b> | <b>biological catalyst</b> | <b>hormone</b> |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|

**(1)**

(ii) All enzymes are made of the same type of substance.

What is this substance?

Draw a ring around the correct answer.

|                     |            |                |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| <b>carbohydrate</b> | <b>fat</b> | <b>protein</b> |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|

**(1)**

(iii) Where is the enzyme amylase produced in the human body?  
 Draw a ring around the correct answer.

|       |                 |         |
|-------|-----------------|---------|
| liver | salivary glands | stomach |
|-------|-----------------|---------|

(1)

(b) Enzymes are sometimes used in industry.

Draw **one** line from each enzyme to the correct industrial use of that enzyme.

| Enzyme       | Industrial use                            |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Carbohydrase | Changes starch into sugars                |
| Isomerase    | Removes grease stains from clothes        |
| Protease     | Pre-digests proteins in some baby foods   |
|              | Changes glucose syrup into fructose syrup |

### Task 5: Interpreting enzyme graphs.

This section requires you to explain how different conditions affect enzyme activity.

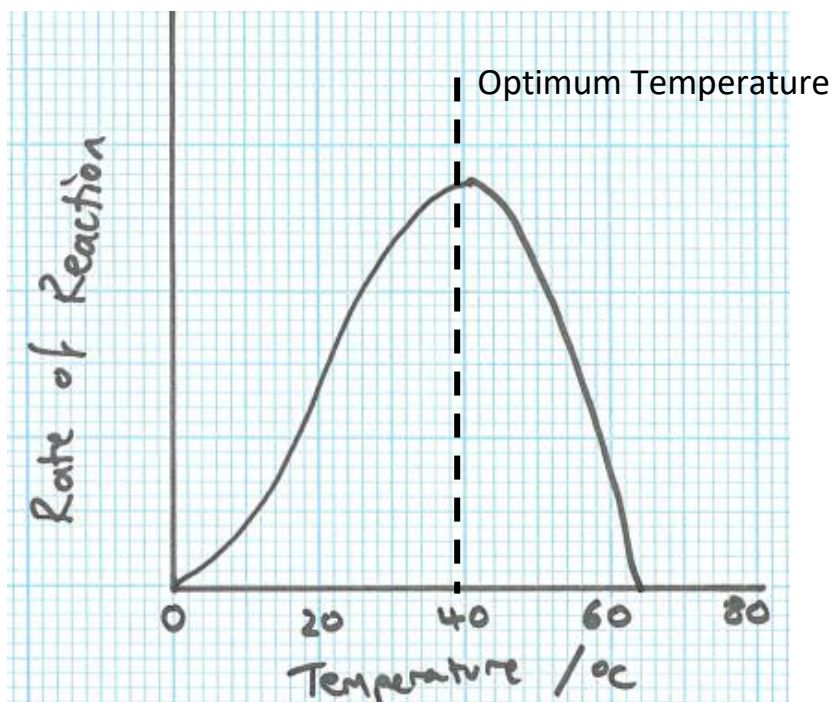
Using the following link from our YouTube channel, watch the video and annotate each of the graphs.

You need to **explain** the shape of each graph in terms of enzyme activity.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pk3Lb2UHVcA&list=PL0Mjub5NT755dp8xUfC-yoXlbPTcjVM1i&index=9&t=0s>

#### Q1. Change in temperature.



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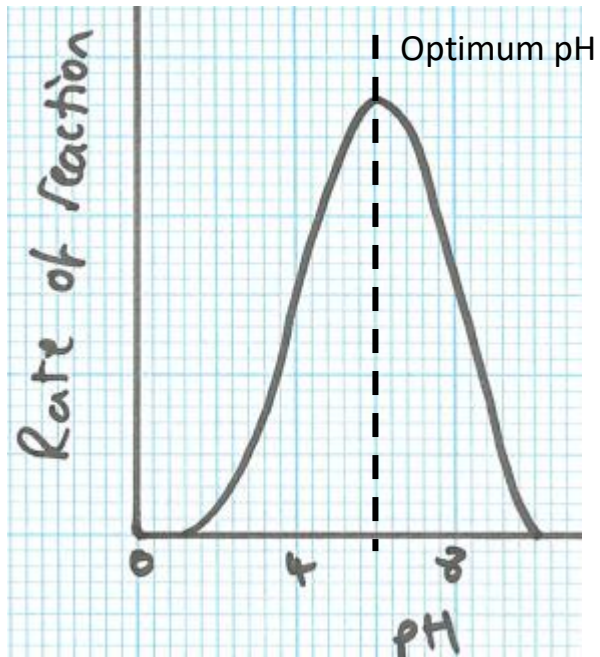
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## Q2. Change in pH.



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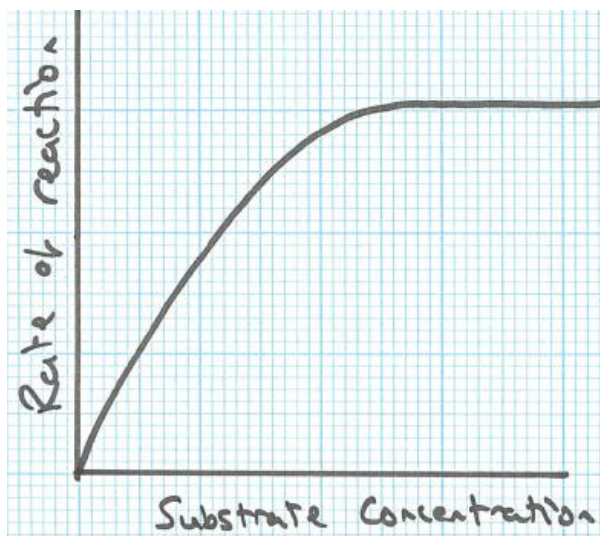
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### Q3. Change substrate concentration.



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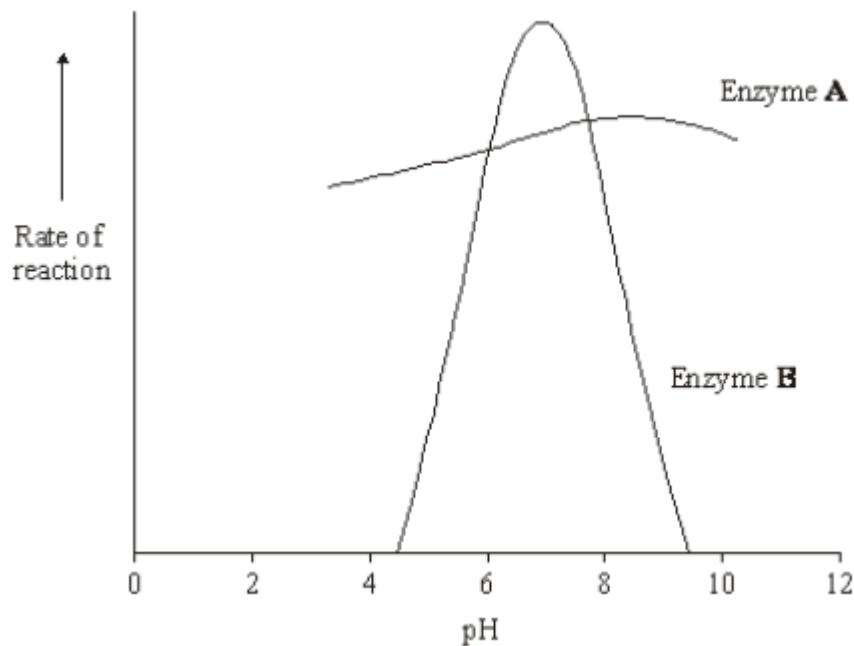
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(5)

**Q3.** Enzymes **A** and **B** digest protein. The graph shows the effect of pH on the rates of reaction of these enzymes.



(a) Pepsin is a protein-digesting enzyme found in the stomach. It has an optimum pH of 2 and is fully denatured at pH 6. Sketch a curve on the graph to show the effect of pH on the rate of reaction of pepsin.

**(1)**

(b) Explain why the rate of reaction of enzyme **B** is low at pH 5.

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**(3)**

## Task 6: Enzyme inhibition.

This section requires you to explain how different inhibitor molecules affect enzyme activity, together with how you can identify which type of inhibition is present.

A Level exam questions follow to assess your understanding.

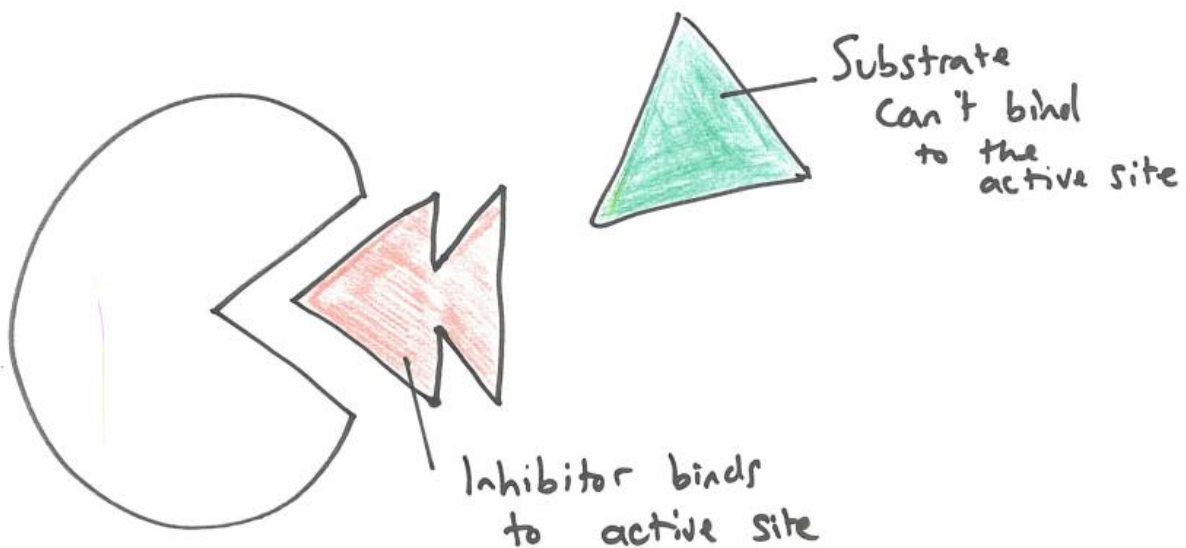
Using the following link watch the video and annotate each of the diagrams.

You need to **explain** how each inhibitor affects enzyme activity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJF6yIYahAQ>



### Competitive inhibitors



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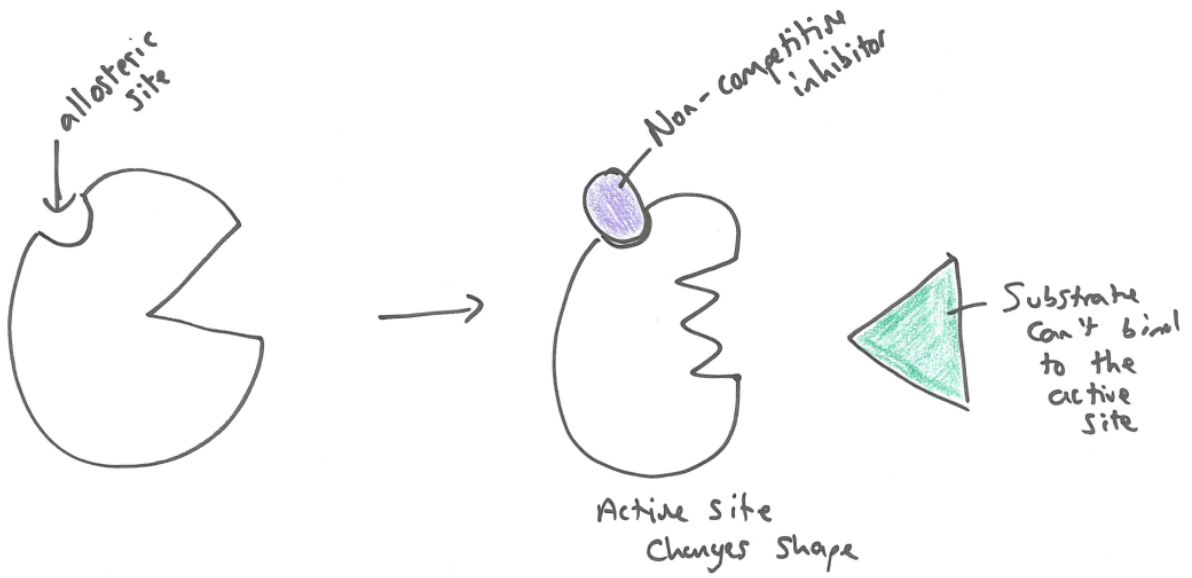
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## Non-competitive inhibitors



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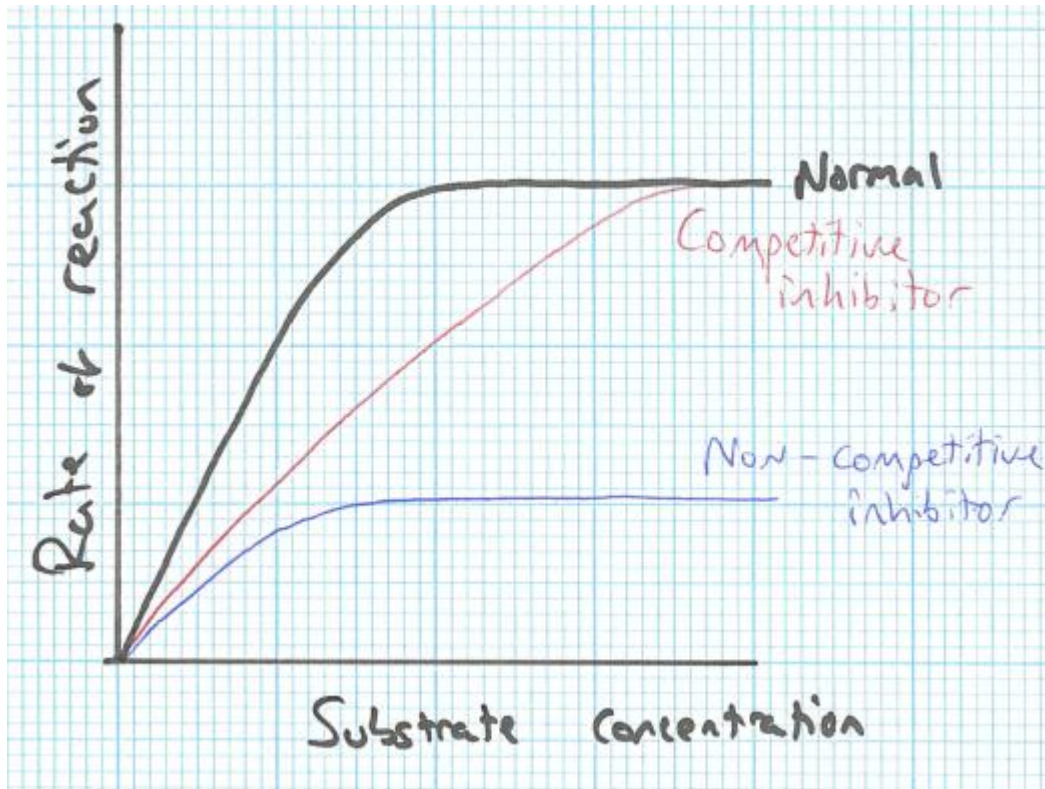
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Graph showing how high concentrations of substrate can overcome competitive inhibitors, but not non-competitive.



**Q1.** Scientists have investigated the effects of competitive and non-competitive inhibitors of the enzyme maltase.

Describe competitive and non-competitive inhibition of an enzyme.

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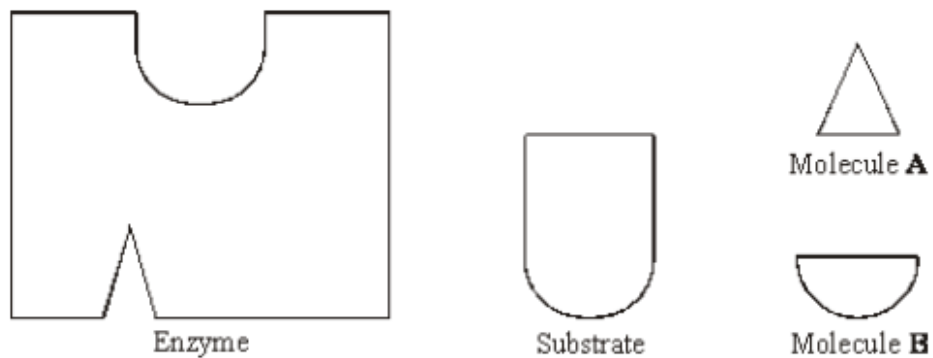
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(5)

**Q2.** The diagrams represent an enzyme, its substrate and two other molecules, **A** and **B**.



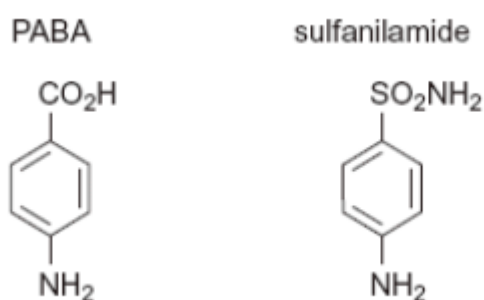
The addition of a non-competitive inhibitor will prevent the formation of an enzyme-substrate complex. Draw a labelled diagram based on relevant molecules selected from the diagram above to explain how this occurs.

**(2)**

**Q3.** Folic acid is a substance required by bacteria for cell growth. Bacteria produce folic acid by the following reaction.



The diagram shows the structure of a molecule of PABA. It also shows the structure of a molecule of a drug called sulfanilamide, which can be used to treat bacterial infections. Sulfanilamide prevents bacteria producing folic acid.



Use the diagram and your knowledge of enzymes to explain how sulphanilamide prevents bacteria producing folic acid.

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**(Total 3 marks)**

## Part 3: Maths

### Task 7: Calculating percentage change.

This section requires you to understand how to calculate percentage change from given data. This is a common skill required in A Level Biology exams. Read the worked examples and complete the questions.

You **MUST** show your working.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbfxFBfB7kk&list=PL0Mjub5NT756MyHeWhXhdRSlygaFwoF3&index=4&t=0s> **from 2:10** on the NCP Biology You tube channel in order to help you with the follow section.

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{\text{Change} \times 100}{\text{Original}}$$

### Worked example.

The mean height of some seedlings is 12mm at day 6 and 18mm at day 12.  
What is the % change in height?

$$\% \text{ change} = \frac{(18-12)}{12} \times 100 = 50\%$$

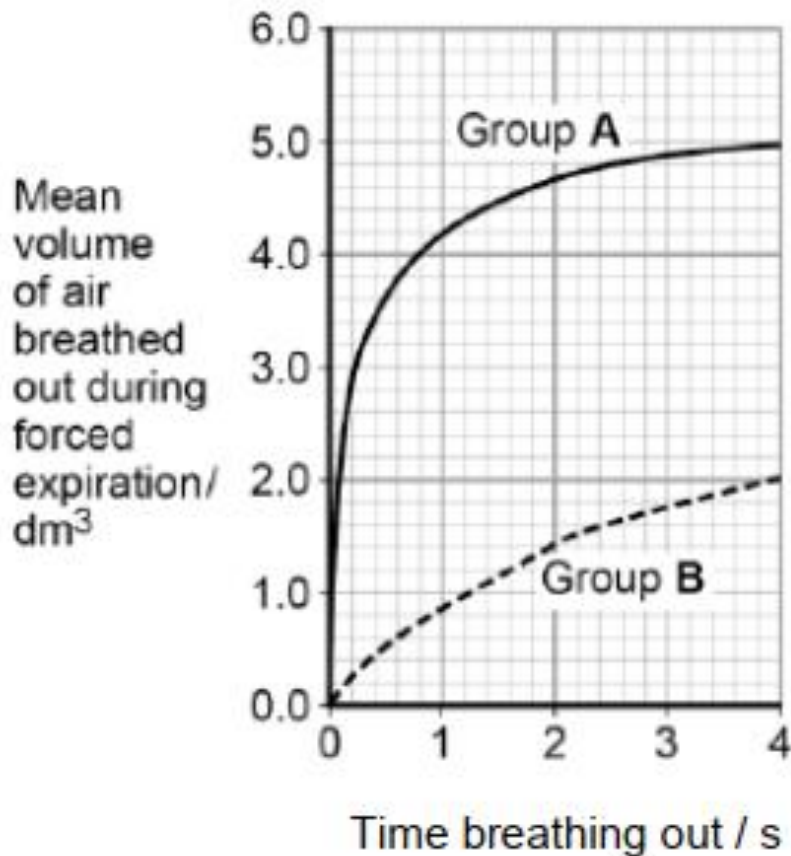
1. The table shows how environmental temperature affects the food intake, water intake and milk production of cows in a fixed period of time.

| Environment<br>al<br>temperature<br>/ °C | Food<br>intake<br>/ kg | Water<br>intake<br>/ dm <sup>3</sup> | Milk<br>production<br>/ dm <sup>3</sup> |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 20                                       | 18.2                   | 81.8                                 | 27.0                                    |
| 25                                       | 17.7                   | 88.6                                 | 25.0                                    |
| 30                                       | 17.0                   | 95.0                                 | 22.9                                    |
| 35                                       | 16.7                   | 144.1                                | 18.0                                    |

Calculate the percentage decrease in milk production between the temperatures of 30 °C and 35 °C. Show your working. Answer  
..... %

**Q2.** Forced expiration volume (FEV) is the volume of air a person can breathe out in 1 second.

Using data from the **first** second of forced expiration, calculate the percentage decrease in the FEV for group **B** compared with group **A**.



..... %

## Task 8: Calculating Rate

This section requires you to understand how to calculate rates change from given data. This is a common skill required in A Level Biology exams. Read the worked examples and complete the questions.

You **MUST** show your working.

You may wish to watch the

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbfxFBfB7kk&list=PL0Mjub5NT756MyHewhXhdRSlygaF\\_woF3&index=4&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbfxFBfB7kk&list=PL0Mjub5NT756MyHewhXhdRSlygaF_woF3&index=4&t=0s) **from 3:55** video on the NCP Biology YouTube channel in order to help you with the follow section.

Rate just means 'change per unit time'. To calculate rate, you divide by time.

### Worked Examples:

A. A heart beats 3240 times in 45 minutes. Calculate the heart rate in beats/min.

$$\text{Heart rate} = \frac{3240}{45} = 72 \text{ beats/min}$$

B. In an experiment to demonstrate water uptake by a leaf, volume of water taken up over a 12 hour period was measured over 5 days. The results were: 24 cm<sup>3</sup>; 21 cm<sup>3</sup>; 30 cm<sup>3</sup>; 28 cm<sup>3</sup> and 26 cm<sup>3</sup>. Calculate the mean rate of water uptake per hour.

Mean rate of water uptake = total volume taken up / time

$$= (24 + 21 + 30 + 28 + 26) / (5 \times 12) = 21.5 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ hour}^{-1}$$

<sup>-1</sup> means per. So hour<sup>-1</sup> means per hour

## Calculating the rate when the line is a curve

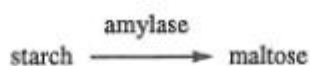
Sometimes the rate of a reaction changes **over time** eg. as substrate is used up in an enzyme controlled reaction. To calculate rate at a point on a curve we need to draw a tangent to the curve at that point. We can then calculate rate using the tangent line

*Draw a tangent to the curve. To calculate the gradient, change in Y axis divided by change in time (shown on the X axis).*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbfxFBfB7kk&list=PL0Mjub5NT756MyHewhXhdRSlygaF\\_woF3&index=4&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CbfxFBfB7kk&list=PL0Mjub5NT756MyHewhXhdRSlygaF_woF3&index=4&t=0s) **from 19:30**

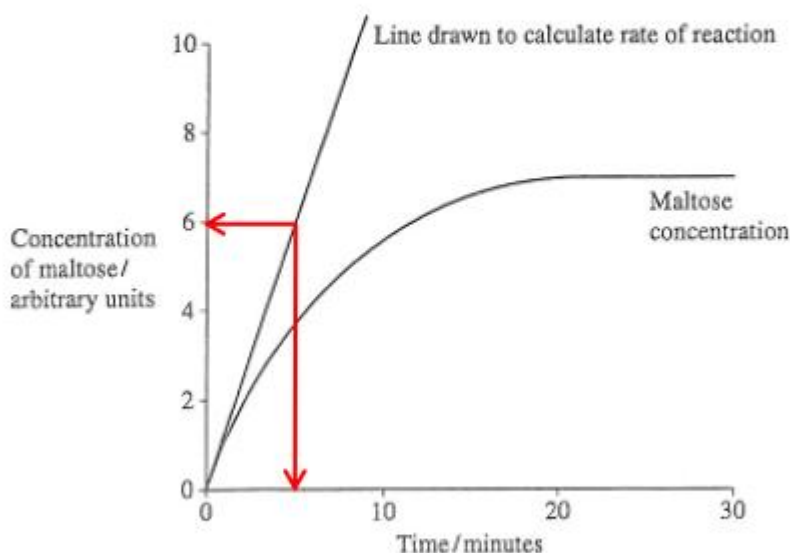
### Example

8 Amylase is an enzyme. It catalyses the reaction



Students mixed a starch solution with amylase. They recorded the concentration of maltose at intervals for 30 minutes. Figure 1 shows their results.

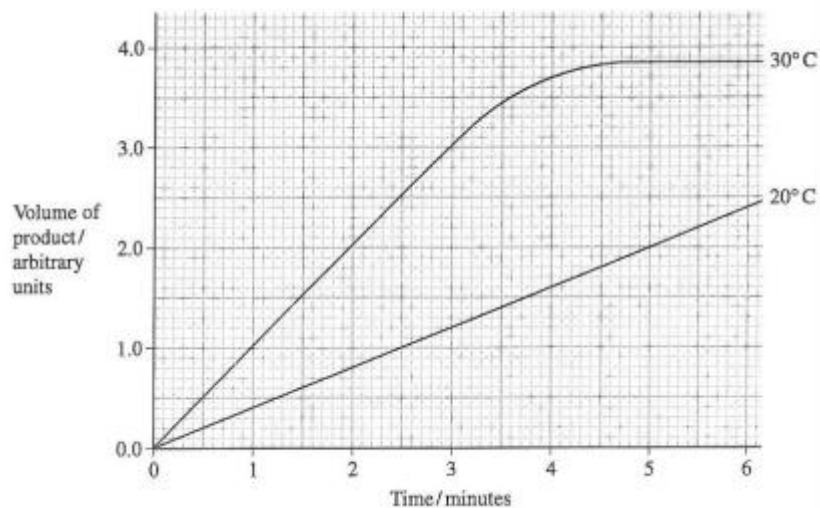
Figure 1



$$\text{Rate} = \frac{\text{value on y axis}}{\text{time on x axis}} = \frac{6 \text{ AU}}{5 \text{ mins}} = 1.2 \text{ AUmin}^{-1}$$

## Practise Questions

Q1.



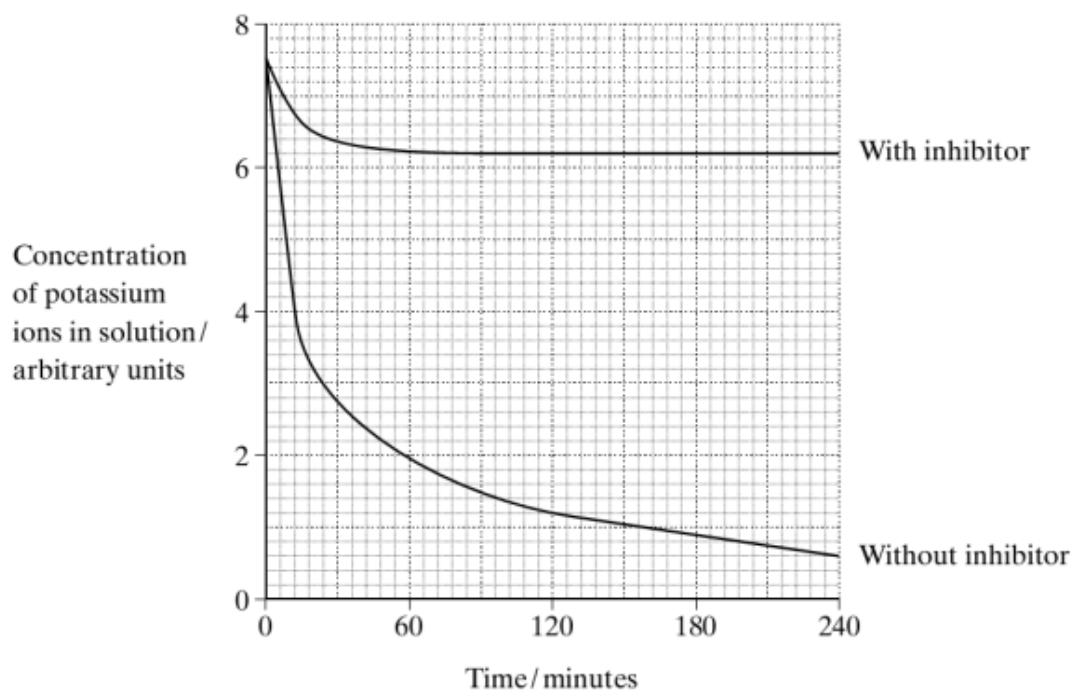
Calculate the rate of reaction of the enzyme at 4 minutes at

i) 20°C

ii) 30°C

**Q2.**

Two samples of the roots of pea plants were placed in solutions containing potassium ions. An inhibitor to prevent respiration was added to one solution. The concentrations of potassium ions in the two solutions were measured at regular intervals. The graph shows the results.



i) Calculate the initial rate of uptake of potassium ions without inhibitor.

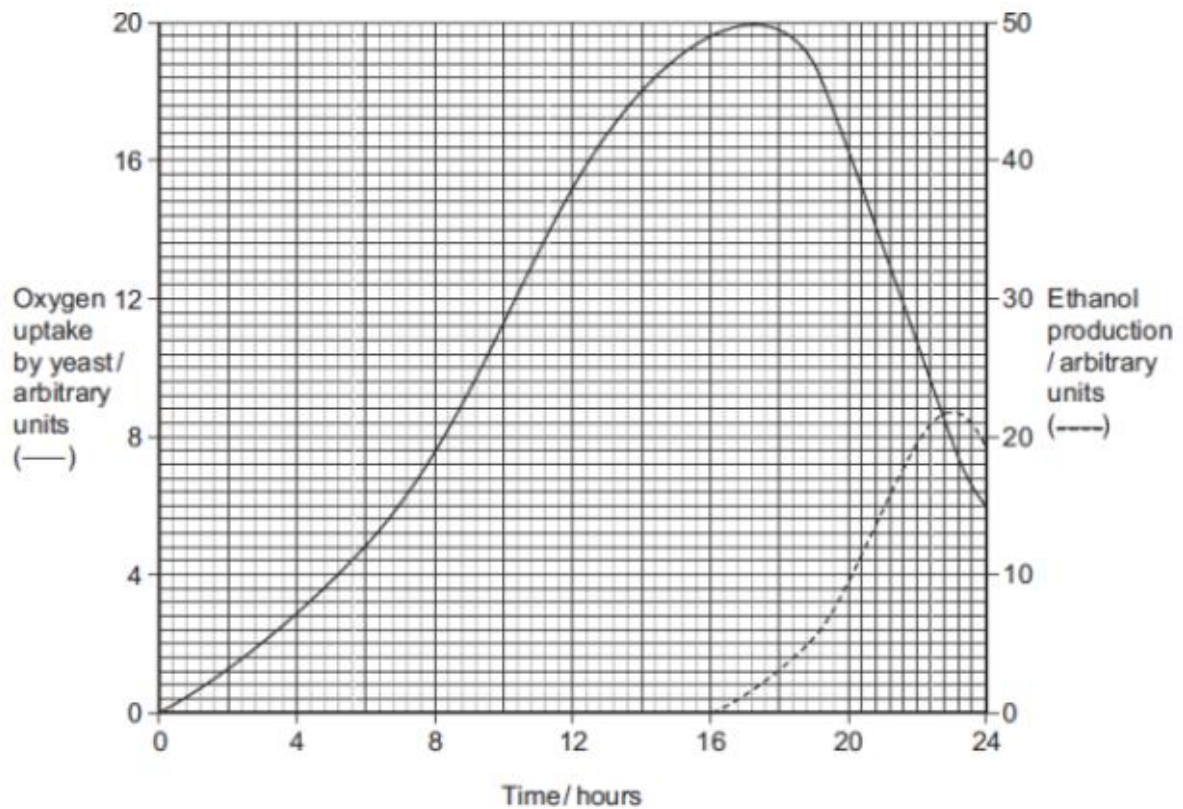
(1)

ii) Calculate the rate of uptake of potassium ions without inhibitor at 60 minutes.

(1)

**Q3.**

Yeast is a single-celled organism. A student investigated respiration in a population of yeast growing in a sealed container. His results are shown in the graph.



(a) Calculate the rate of oxygen uptake in arbitrary units per hour between 2 and 4 hours.

Answer ..... arbitrary units per hour  
**(1)**

## **A Level Biology Summer Independent Learning Activity – Answers**

### **Part 1**

#### **Task 1: Structure of carbohydrates**

**What is a monomer?**

- **Single subunit. Many are joined together to form a polymer.**

**What is a polymer?**

- **Made from many monomers joined together**

**Can you describe what a condensation reaction is?**

- **Formation of a bond with the removal of water**

**Can you describe what a hydrolysis reaction is?**

- **Breaking a bond using water**

**Can you describe how larger carbohydrates are made from monosaccharide monomers?**

- **Condensation of monosaccharides forming a glycosidic bond**

**Can you list some common monosaccharides?**

- **Glucose, Fructose, Galactose**

**Can you describe how disaccharides are formed?**

- **2 monosaccharides join by a glycosidic bond together via condensation reaction.**

**What are maltose, sucrose and lactose formed from?**

**Maltose made from: 2 x alpha glucose monomers**

**Sucrose made from: 1 x glucose and 1 x fructose**

**Lactose made from: 1 x glucose and 1 x galactose**

**Draw a diagram to show how a condensation reaction occurs between two monosaccharides to form maltose. Label the bond that forms.**

See video

**Can you explain how glycogen and starch are formed?**

- **Many alpha glucose monomers join by a glycosidic bond together via condensation reaction.**
- **Starch forms a helix held together by hydrogen bonds**
- **Glycogen is branched**

## **Task 2: Lipid Structure**

**Can you explain how triglycerides are formed? Draw a diagram to show this happening. Label the molecules involved, the type of reaction and the types of bonds formed.**

**See the video**

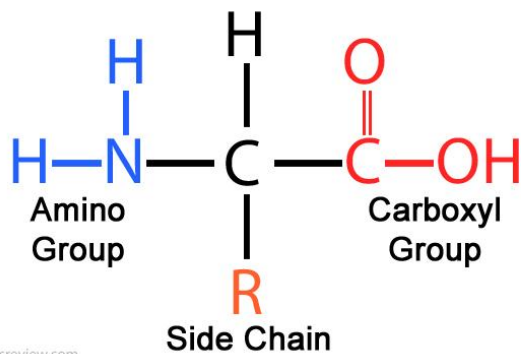
**Can you explain that the R-group of a fatty acid may be saturated or unsaturated? What do these terms mean?**

**Saturated – when there are no C=C bonds in the hydrocarbon chain (i.e. the R group part)**

## **Task 3: Protein structure**

**What is the general structure of an amino acid?**

### **Amino Acid Structure**



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**How do two amino acids form a dipeptide?**

- **2 amino acids join via condensation reactions. Held together by a peptide bond**

## **Describe the following protein structures:**

Primary structure: The sequence/order of amino acids that makes up the polypeptides of a protein.

Secondary structure: The way in which the chain of amino acids in a protein is folded. This forms alpha helix and Beta sheets. Structure held in place by hydrogen bonds

Tertiary structure: The further folding and coiling of the secondary structure to give the protein its 3D shape. Held in place by hydrogen, ionic and disulphide bonds. The tertiary structure is important e.g. the shape of an enzymes active site must be complementary shape to the substrate so they can fit.

## **Can you describe the role of hydrogen bonds, ionic bonds and disulfide bridges in the structure of proteins?**

- Hydrogen bonds hold the alpha helix and Beta sheets in place in the secondary structure.
- **hydrogen bonds, ionic bonds and disulfide bridges hold the tertiary structure in place (keeps the protein in that shape)**

#### **Task 4: Enzyme definitions.**

This section revises many of the key terms for GCSE to do with enzyme structure and function. A GCSE level question follows to assess your understanding. Whilst most of the definitions are from the GCSE specification you may find that some are unfamiliar to you.

#### **Define these key words.**

**Enzyme:** A protein that acts as a biological catalysts lowering the activation energy of a reaction to alter its speed.

**Active site:** The shape specific region of an enzyme that is complimentary to the substrate.

**Substrate:** A substance that is acted on by an enzyme. It is complimentary to the enzymes active site.

**Activation energy:** The energy required to bring about a reaction.

**Denature:** Permanent change in a proteins 3D shape due to unravelling of the amino acid chain.

**Q1. (a)** Enzymes are used in body cells.

(i) What is an enzyme?

Draw a ring around the correct answer.

**an antibody**

**a catalyst**

**a hormone**

**(1)**

(ii) All enzymes are made of the same type of substance.

What is this substance?

Draw a ring around the correct answer.

**carbohydrate**

**fat**

**protein**

**(1)**

- (iii) Where is the enzyme amylase produced in the human body?

Draw a ring around the correct answer.

**liver**

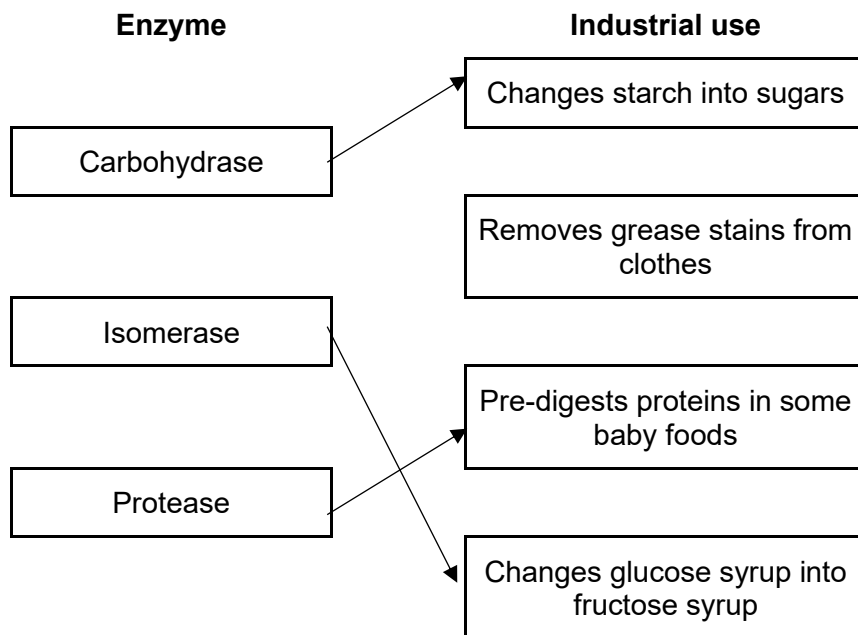
**salivary glands**

**stomach**

**(1)**

- (b) Enzymes are sometimes used in industry.

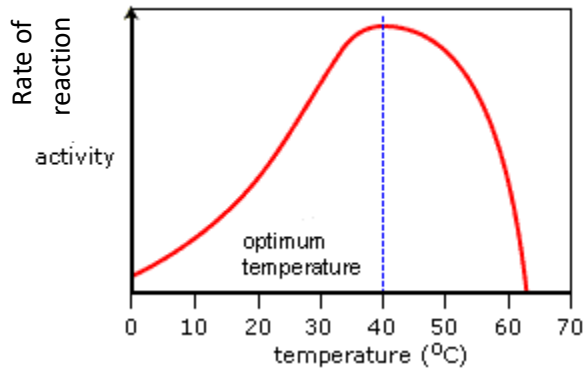
Draw **one** line from each enzyme to the correct industrial use of that enzyme.



**(3)(Total  
6 marks)**

## Task 5: Interpreting enzyme graphs.

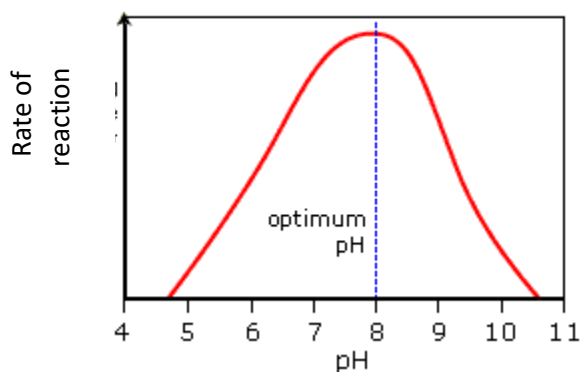
**Q1.**



### Change in temperature.

As temperature increase the enzyme & substrate gain more kinetic energy. There are more frequent successful collision, this increases the rate of reaction to its optimum at 40°C. After this the increase in temperature causes H bonds to break. This means both the secondary and tertiary structures are lost and the enzymes active site is no longer complimentary to the substrate. The enzyme is denatured and the rate of reaction drops. No Enzyme substrate complexes can form.

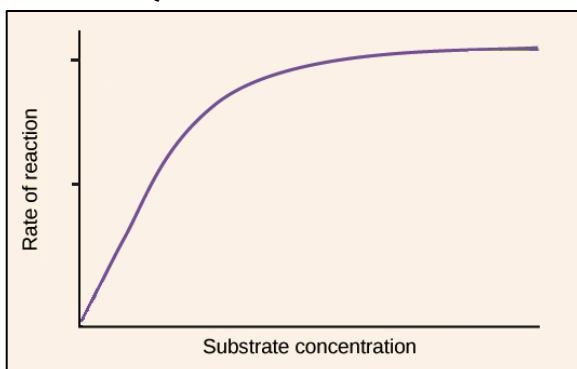
**Q2.**



### Change in pH.

Any change in pH causes H bonds to break. This means both the secondary and tertiary structures are lost and the enzymes active site is no longer complimentary to the substrate. The enzyme is denatured and the rate of reaction drops. No Enzyme substrate complexes can form.

**Q3.**

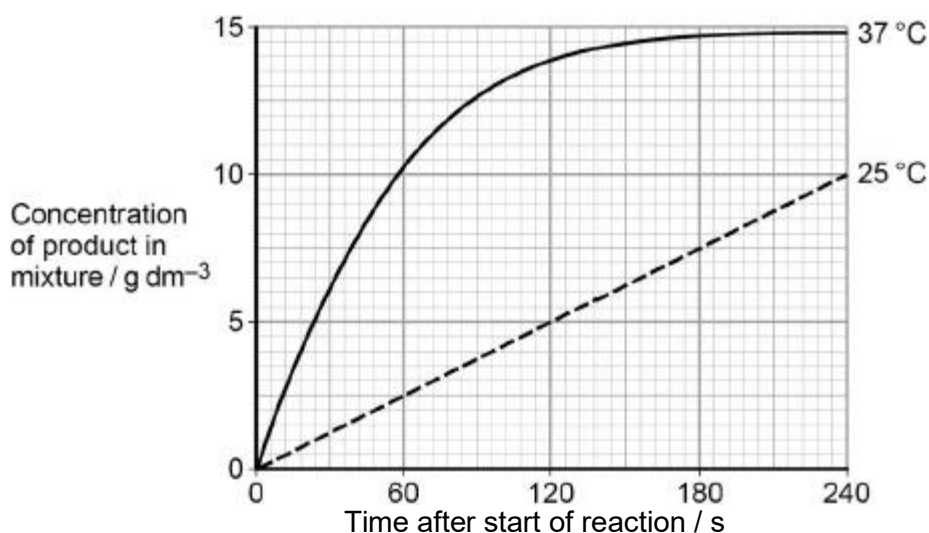


### Change substrate concentration.

An increase in substrate increases rate of reaction as there is an increased chance in enzymes substrate complexes forming. At a certain substrate concentration the rate of reaction plateaus. This is due to the enzymes active sites becoming saturated with substrate.

**Q2.** A technician investigated the effect of temperature on the rate of an enzyme-controlled reaction. At each temperature, he started the reaction using the same volume of substrate solution and the same volume of enzyme solution.

The figure below shows his results.



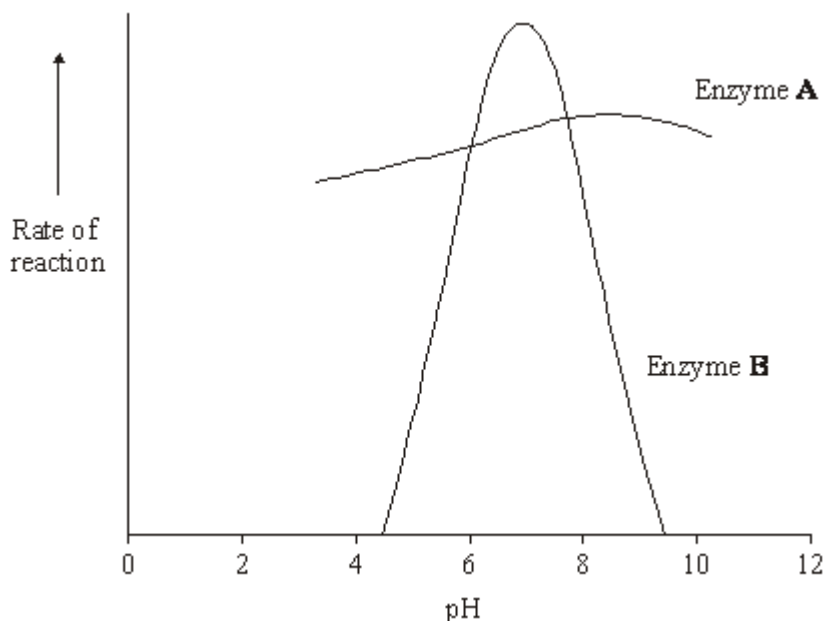
(a) Describe and explain the differences between the two curves.

1. Initial rate of reaction faster at 37 °C;
2. Because more kinetic energy;
3. So more E–S collisions / more E–S complexes formed;
4. Graph reaches plateau at 37 °C;
5. Because all substrate used up.

*Allow converse for correct descriptions and explanations for curve at 25 °C*

(5)

**Q3.** Enzymes **A** and **B** digest protein. The graph shows the effect of pH on the rates of reaction of these enzymes.



- (a) Pepsin is a protein-digesting enzyme found in the stomach. It has an optimum pH of 2 and is fully denatured at pH 6. Sketch a curve on the graph to show the effect of pH on the rate of reaction of pepsin.

curve rising to peak at pH 2 and falling to zero by pH 6;

**(1)**

- (b) Explain why the rate of reaction of enzyme **B** is low at pH 5.  
(change in pH) leads to breaking of bonds holding tertiary structure / changes charge on amino acids;  
enzyme / protein / active site loses shape / denatured; substrate will not bind with / fit active site / fewer / no ES complexes formed;

**(3)**

## Task 6: Enzyme inhibition.

This section requires you to explain how different inhibitor molecules affect enzyme activity, together with how you can identify which type of inhibition is present.

A Level exam questions follow to assess your understanding.

Using the following link watch the video and annotate each of the diagrams. You need to **explain** how each inhibitor affects enzyme activity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJF6yIYahAQ>

### Competitive inhibition

The inhibitor molecule is a SIMILAR shape to the substrate and is also complementary to the active site. The inhibitor binds to the active site, preventing the substrate from binding meaning enzyme substrate complexes are unable to form. This decreases the rate of reaction. This can be overcome by adding more substrate, which will increase the rate of reaction as there is more chance of enzyme substrate complexes forming rather than the inhibitor binding to the active site.

### Non-competitive inhibition.

The inhibitor molecule binds away from the active site on the enzyme. This changes the shape of the active site so that it is no longer complementary to the substrate. The substrate is unable to bind with the enzymes active site and no enzyme substrate complexes form. The rate of reaction decreases. This is a reversible reaction. Adding more substrate will not increase the rate of reaction as the active site is not complementary to the substrate.

**Q1.** Scientists have investigated the effects of competitive and non-competitive inhibitors of the enzyme maltase.

Describe competitive and non-competitive inhibition of an enzyme.

1. Inhibitors reduce binding of enzyme to substrate / prevent formation of ES complex;

*Max 3 if only one type of inhibition dealt with.  
Accept maltase and maltose as examples of enzyme and substrate (and others)  
Only once, for either inhibitor*

**(Competitive inhibition),**

2. Inhibitor similar shape (idea) to substrate;
3. (Binds) in to active site (of enzyme);  
*Accept allows max rate of reaction to be reached / max product will eventually be formed  
Accept complementary to active site*
4. (Inhibition) can be overcome by more substrate;

**(Non-competitive inhibition),**

5. Inhibitor binds to site on enzyme other than active site;
6. Prevents formation of active site / changes (shape of) active site;  
*Accept does not allow max rate of reaction to be reached / max product will not be formed*
7. Cannot be overcome by adding more substrate; **(5)**

**Q2.** The diagrams represent an enzyme, its substrate and two other molecules, **A** and **B**.

The addition of a non-competitive inhibitor will prevent the formation of an enzyme-substrate complex. Draw a labelled diagram based on relevant molecules selected from the diagram above to explain how this occurs.

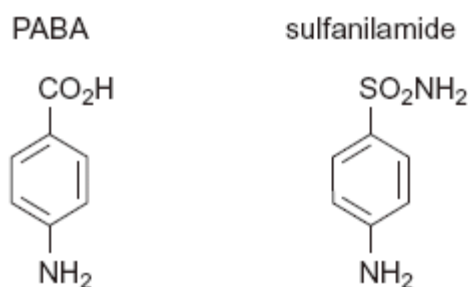
diagram showing molecule **A** fitting in inhibition site; distortion of active site;

**(2)**

**Q3.** Folic acid is a substance required by bacteria for cell growth. Bacteria produce folic acid by the following reaction.



The diagram shows the structure of a molecule of PABA. It also shows the structure of a molecule of a drug called sulfanilamide, which can be used to treat bacterial infections. Sulfanilamide prevents bacteria producing folic acid.



Use the diagram and your knowledge of enzymes to explain how sulphanilamide prevents bacteria producing folic acid.

Similar structure / shape (to PABA) / both complementary;

Competes for / binds to active site / competitive inhibitor;

Less PABA binds / less E-S complexes;

**OR**

Specific reference to different structure / shape (to PABA) using the diagram;

Binds to position other than active site / binds to allosteric site / binds to inhibitor site / non-competitive inhibitor;

Changes the active site so substrate cannot bind / less PABA binds / less E-S complexes  
**(Total 3 marks)**

## Task 7: Calculating percentage change.

This section requires you to understand how to calculate percentage change from given data. This is a common skill required in A Level Biology exams. Read the worked examples and complete the questions.

You **MUST** show your working.

You may wish to watch the “**General maths you need to know**” video on the NCP Biology You tube channel in order to help you with the follow section.

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{\text{Change} \times 100}{\text{Original}}$$

### Worked example.

*The mean height of some seedlings is 12mm at day 6 and 18mm at day 12.  
What is the % change in height?*

$$\% \text{ change} = \frac{(18-12)}{12} \times 100 = 50\%$$

**1.** The table shows how environmental temperature affects the food intake, water intake and milk production of cows in a fixed period of time.

| Environmental temperature / °C | Food intake / kg | Water intake / dm <sup>3</sup> | Milk production / dm <sup>3</sup> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 20                             | 18.2             | 81.8                           | 27.0                              |
| 25                             | 17.7             | 88.6                           | 25.0                              |
| 30                             | 17.0             | 95.0                           | 22.9                              |
| 35                             | 16.7             | 144.1                          | 18.0                              |

Calculate the percentage decrease in milk production between the temperatures of 30 °C and 35 °C. Show your working.

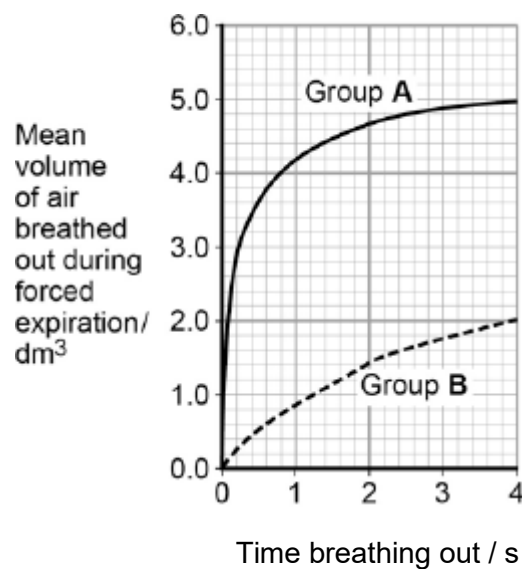
$$\frac{18-22.9}{22.9} \times 100 = 21.4\%$$

Answer

..... %

**Q2.** Forced expiration volume (FEV) is the volume of air a person can breathe out in 1 second.

Using data from the first second of forced expiration, calculate the percentage decrease in the FEV for group **B** compared with group **A**.



$$\frac{0.8-4.2}{4.2}$$

$$4.2 \times 100 = 80\%$$

## Task 8: Calculating Rate

This section requires you to understand how to calculate rates change from given data. This is a common skill required in A Level Biology exams. Read the worked examples and complete the questions.

You **MUST** show your working.

You may wish to watch the “**General maths you need to know**” video on the NCP Biology You tube channel in order to help you with the follow section.

Rate just means ‘change per unit time’. To calculate rate, you divide by time.

### Worked Examples:

A. A heart beats 3240 times in 45 minutes. Calculate the heart rate in beats/min.

$$\text{Heart rate} = \frac{3240}{45} = 72 \text{ beats/min}$$

B. In an experiment to demonstrate water uptake by a leaf, volume of water taken up over a 12 hour period was measured over 5 days. The results were: 24 cm<sup>3</sup>; 21 cm<sup>3</sup>; 30 cm<sup>3</sup>; 28 cm<sup>3</sup> and 26 cm<sup>3</sup>. Calculate the mean rate of water uptake per hour.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mean rate of water uptake} &= \frac{\text{total volume taken up}}{\text{Time}} = \frac{24 + 21 + 30 + 28 + 26}{5 \times 12} \\ &= \frac{129}{60} = 21.5 \text{ cm}^3 \end{aligned}$$

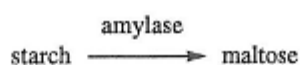
## Calculating the rate when the line is a curve

Sometimes the rate of a reaction changes **over time** eg. as substrate is used up in an enzyme controlled reaction. To calculate rate at a point on a curve we need to draw a tangent to the curve at that point. We can then calculate rate using the tangent line

*Draw a tangent to the curve. To calculate the gradient, change in Y axis divided by change in time (shown on the X axis).*

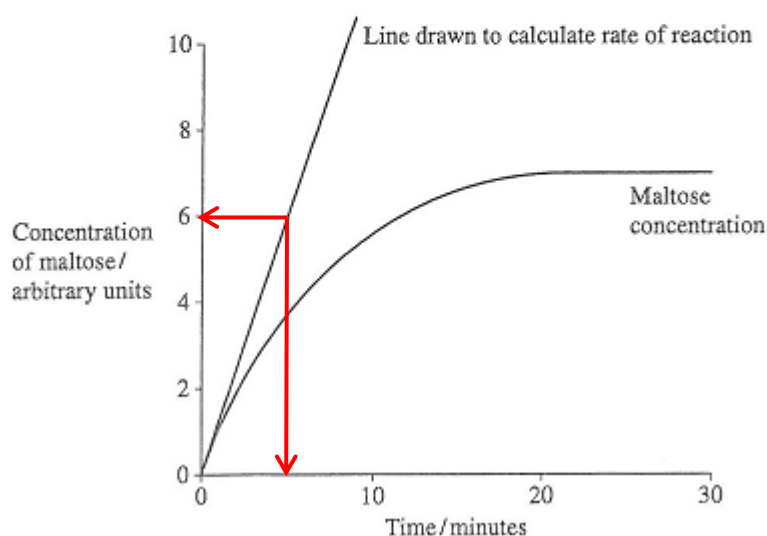
### Example

8 Amylase is an enzyme. It catalyses the reaction



Students mixed a starch solution with amylase. They recorded the concentration of maltose at intervals for 30 minutes. **Figure 1** shows their results.

**Figure 1**



$$\text{Rate} = \frac{\text{value on y axis}}{\text{time on x axis}} = \frac{6 \text{ AU}}{5 \text{ mins}} = 1.2 \text{ AUmin}^{-1}$$

## Practise Questions

**Q1.** Calculate the rate of reaction of the enzyme at 4 minutes at

i) 20°C

1.6

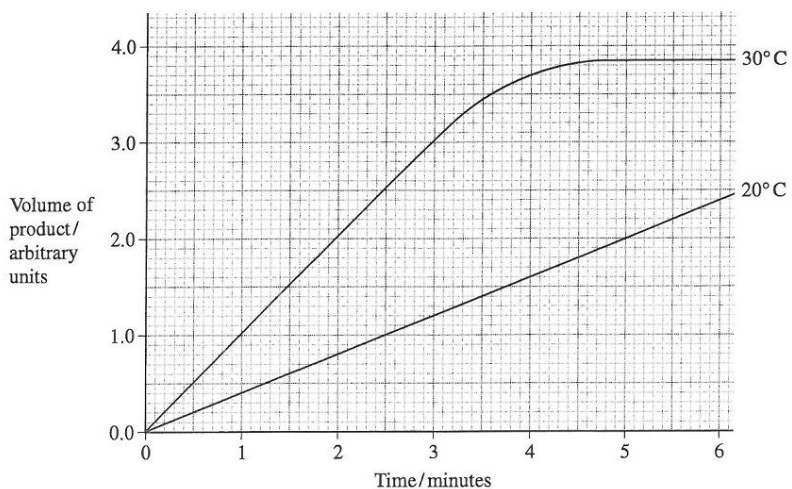
4 = 4 au min<sup>-1</sup>

ii) 30°C

3.7 – 2.2

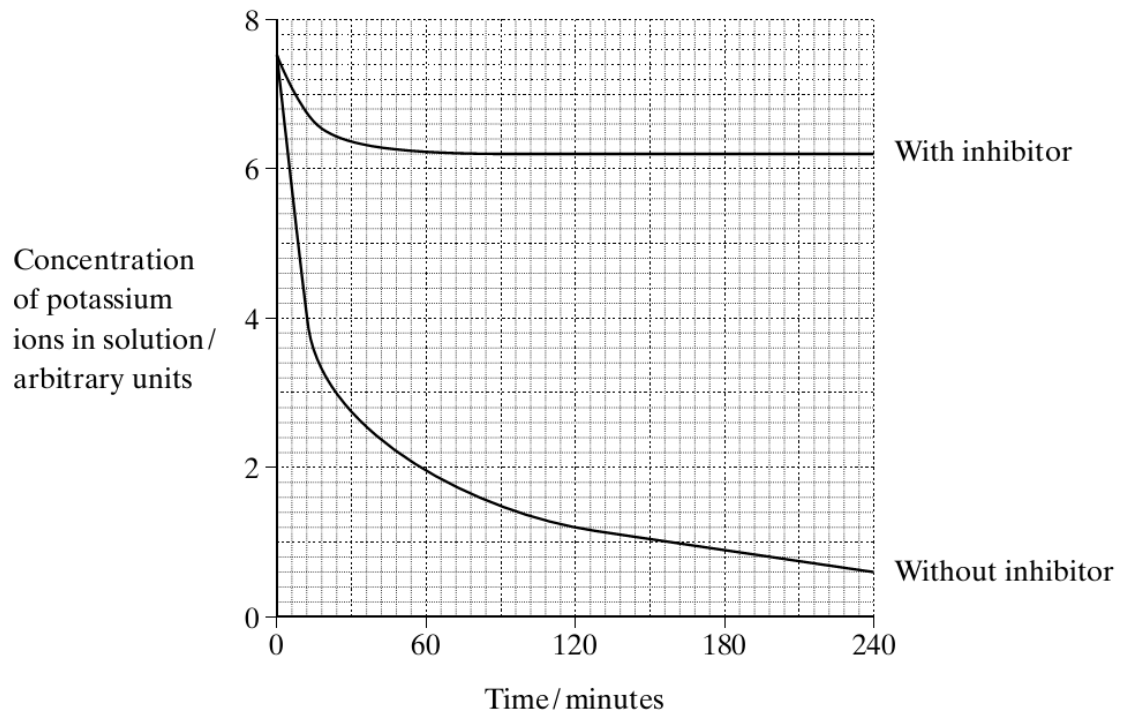
4 = 0.37 au min<sup>-1</sup>

- 4 (a) A student carried out an investigation into the volume of product formed in an enzyme-controlled reaction at two different temperatures. Temperature was the only variable that was changed. The graph shows the results.



**Q2.**

Two samples of the roots of pea plants were placed in solutions containing potassium ions. An inhibitor to prevent respiration was added to one solution. The concentrations of potassium ions in the two solutions were measured at regular intervals. The graph shows the results.



- i) Calculate the initial rate of uptake of potassium ions without inhibitor.

$$\frac{7.4 - 0}{12} = 0.62 \text{ AUmin}^{-1}$$

12

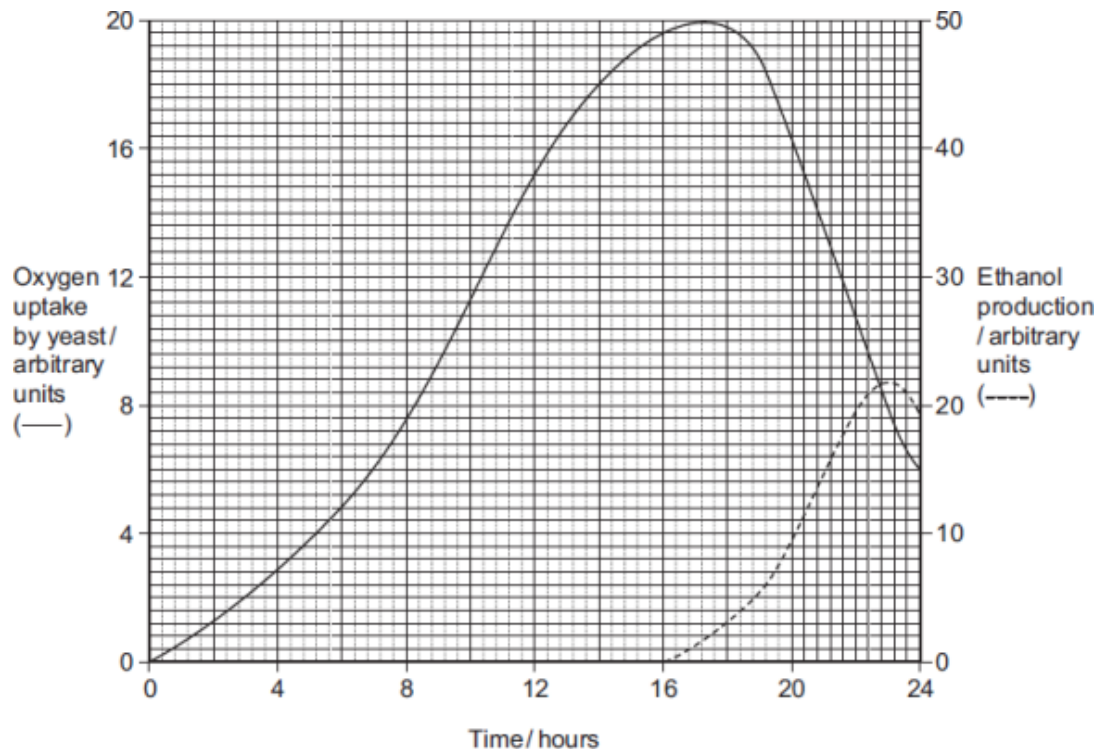
(1)

- ii) Calculate the rate of uptake of potassium ions without inhibitor at 60 minutes.

$$\frac{3-0}{156} = 0.02 \text{ AUmin}^{-1}$$

(1)

**Q3.** Yeast is a single-celled organism. A student investigated respiration in a population of yeast growing in a sealed container. His results are shown in the graph.



- (a) Calculate the rate of oxygen uptake in arbitrary units per hour between 2 and 4 hours.

$$\frac{2.8 - 1.2}{2} = 0.8 \text{ au hour}^{-1}$$

$$2 \quad = 0.8 \text{ au hour}^{-1}$$

Answer ..... arbitrary units per hour

(1)

