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**QUESTION 1**

A man went to the store and bought pencils, pens, and erasers in the ratio of 2 : 4 : 3. If he bought 6 erasers then how many items total did he buy?

- A. 9
- B. 18
- C. 12
- D. 10

Correct Answer: B

The ratio can be expressed as:  $2x : 4x : 3x$ , where  $3x = 6$  represents the number of erasers bought. Solving for  $x$ :  $x = 2$ , and plugging this value into the ratio:  $2(2) : 4(2) : 3(2)$   $\rightarrow$  4 : 8 : 6. Find the total number of items purchased by combining these numbers:  $4 + 8 + 6 = 18$ .

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**QUESTION 2**

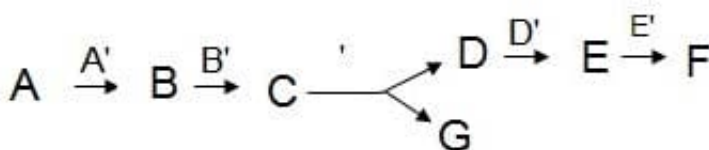
In photosynthesis, high-energy electrons move through electron transport chains to produce ATP and NADPH. Which of the following provides the energy to create high energy electrons?

- A.  $O_2$
- B. Light
- C. Water
- D.  $NADP^+$
- E. NADH

Correct Answer: B

Electrons trapped by the chlorophyll P680 molecule in photosystem II are energized by light. They are then transferred to electron acceptors in an electron transport chain.

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**QUESTION 3**

The diagram below depicts a metabolic pathway. When product D accumulates, the production of product C decreases, D is an inhibitor of which enzyme?



- A. C\\'
- B. B\\'
- C. A\\'
- D. D\\'
- E. E\\'

Correct Answer: B

This is an example of negative feedback, a process whereby an increase in an outcome causes a decrease or slowing in the pathways that led to the outcome.

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#### QUESTION 4

For most Americans, the words "Alzheimer\\'s disease" (AD) often mispronounced purposefully or accidentally as "old timers\\' disease" signify devastating memory loss and stigma. The information about AD often learned solely through the media may lead individuals to believe that AD is inevitable (it isn\\'t), and possibly think that all AD patients receive poor care (there are many remarkably good AD units). Many individuals may envision a future burdened with more dementia patients and fewer societal resources to help support them (a real possibility). In general, pharmacists are well aware of what AD is and isn\\'t. AD is complex and relentlessly progressive; it affects patients, loved ones, and caregivers adversely. Pharmacists can provide pertinent information about AD\\'s myths, realities, and available symptomatic treatments. AD\\'s harbinger is language difficulties, which include aphasia (language disturbance), apraxia (inability to carry out motor functions), and agnosia (failure to recognize or identify objects). Consequently, those with AD will often create new words for items. They may call a pencil a "list writer," or a key a "door turner." Clinicians stage AD as mild, moderate, or severe depending on the patient\\'s cognitive and memory impairment, communication problems, personality changes, behavior, and loss of control of bodily functions. People often dismiss mild AD as normal cognitive decline or senility in other words, "normal" aging. For this reason, most people don\\'t seek treatment and are diagnosed in the late-mild to early-moderate stage. In the severe stage, difficulty swallowing elevates the risk of aspiration pneumonia, which often marks the beginning of the downward spiral that ultimately ends with death; AD has no cure. A handful of pharmacologic treatments acetylcholinesterase inhibitors and N-methyl-D-aspartate antagonists alter the decline trajectory. These treatments slow disease progression, enhance cognitive function, delay cognitive decline, and decrease disruptive behaviors. Not all patients respond to these medications, but experts generally believe that those who do will show mild to moderate improvements for 6 months to a year. Although the drugs\\' effects are short-lived, they improve patients\\' quality of life and briefly enable independence. Determining when medications stop providing a therapeutic benefit and should be discontinued is challenging. Clinicians use various methods to monitor decline, including mental status tools, patient self-report, and loved ones\\' observations. Most clinicians continue drug treatment if the patient seems to tolerate the medication well, can afford it, and if there seems to be a benefit. With disease progression, specific behavioral symptoms including depression, agitation, hallucinations, and sleep disturbances become concerns. Antianxiety drugs, antipsychotics, and antidepressants are sometimes used to alleviate symptoms, but effective behavioral strategies are much preferred.

The author\\'s attitude toward Alzheimer\\'s disease is best summarized by which of the following?

- A. Pessimistic about the future prospects surrounding the disease and potential treatments.
- B. Accepting of the disease\\'s inevitabilities and forthright about the extent of different treatments\\' effectiveness.
- C. Critical of the treatment methods utilized by health care professionals.
- D. Apathetic toward developing new treatments for the disease.

Correct Answer: B



Senility, cognitive decline, and normal aging are all explicitly mentioned in the passage as things that AD is mistaken for in its early stages. The author mentions that "AD is complex and relentlessly progressive," and that "[AD] ends with death; AD has no cure." However, the author also mentions the different strategies health care professionals utilize to help patients and families deal with the difficulties associated with AD. The author treats the disease with seriousness and respect, with an acceptance of what the disease entails.

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**QUESTION 5**

Which of the following would increase the pH of the blood?

- A. severe damage to the kidneys
- B. the digestion of a big meal
- C. an increase in anaerobic respiration
- D. an increase of the blood  $p\text{CO}_2$

Correct Answer: B

During the digestion of a large meal, parietal cells in the stomach generate hydrochloric acid (HCl) in exchange for a bicarbonate ion which enters the blood plasma, increasing the pH.

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