

Applied Practice

***Inheritance, Genetic
Mutations, and
DNA Technology***
STAAR Biology EOC

RESOURCE GUIDE

Volume 4

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APPLIED PRACTICE
Resource Guide
Inheritance, Genetic Mutations, and DNA Technology
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Glossary of Terms

Allele – one version of a gene, which may differ in the specific nucleotide sequence from other versions of the same gene

Amniocentesis – a medical procedure in which fetal cells are collected from the amniotic sac surrounding a developing fetus for analysis of genetic abnormalities

Anneal – to stick together

Autosomes – chromosomes which do not carry traits for determining sex of the organism

Chromosomal mutation – a change in an organism's DNA involving a large portion of a chromosome

Codominance – both alleles for a trait are expressed

Crossing over – during Prophase 1 of meiosis, homologous chromosomes exchange genetic material

Deletion mutation – a mutation in which genetic material is lost

Dihybrid cross – a genetic cross between two individuals that differ in two traits

Diploid (2n) – a cell that contains two copies of every chromosome

DNA fingerprinting – a technique that examines the banding patterns of an individual's DNA

Dominant – a trait that is always expressed when the allele is present

F1, or First filial – the first generation offspring of a cross between two purebred parents, homozygous for opposite traits

Frame-shift mutation – deletion or insertion of a single nucleotide in a gene results in a shift of reading frame of the DNA triplets

Gamete – the reproductive cells; eggs or sperm

Gel electrophoresis – a technique used to separate DNA fragments by size in a gel matrix

Gene – a region of DNA that encodes a protein

Gene mutation – a change in the DNA of a specific gene

Genome – the entirety of all the DNA of an organism

Genotype – the genetic makeup of an organism; the combination of alleles for one or more traits

Haploid (n) – a cell that contains one copy of each chromosome

Choose the best answer to each question.

Use the codon chart below to help you answer questions 1-2.

		Second Base								Third Base
		U		C		A		G		
		code	Amino Acid	code	Amino Acid	code	Amino Acid	code	Amino Acid	
First Base	U	UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys	U
		UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC		C
		UUA	Leu	UCA		UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop	A
		UUG		UCG		UAG	Stop	UGG	Trp	G
	C	CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg	U
		CUC		CCC		CAC		CGC		C
		CUA		CCA		CAA	CGA	A		
		CUG		CCG		CAG	CGG	G		
	A	AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser	U
		AUC		ACC		AAC		AGC		C
		AUA		ACA		AAA	AGA	A		
		AUG	Met	ACG		AAG	Lys	AGG	Arg	G
G	GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly	U	
	GUC		GCC		GAC		GGC		C	
	GUA		GCA		GAA	GGA	A			
	GUG		GCG		GAG	GGG	G			

1 The DNA strand A-G-C-T-C-**A**-G is exposed to harmful UV radiation in the environment, causing the placement of a Thymine (T) nucleotide instead of the Adenine nucleotide (A) in position 6. The mutated strand, A-G-C-T-C-**T**-G is then transcribed and translated. The most likely outcome of this mutation is —

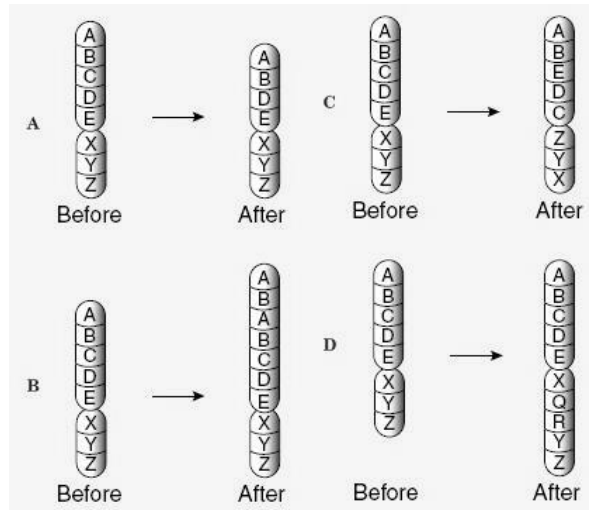
- A the amino acid Ser will be placed in the protein instead of Arg
- B the amino acid Arg will be placed in the protein instead of Ser
- C the protein will be unaffected
- D the protein will not be synthesized

2 This type of mutation could best be described as a(n) —

- F frame-shift mutation
- G point mutation
- H insertion mutation
- J deletion mutation

- 3 During crossing over in meiosis, part of a chromosome breaks off and is reattached upside down. This event is known as an inversion mutation and is best represented by —

- A picture A
- B picture B
- C picture C
- D picture D



- 4 The mutation described in question 3 is classified as a chromosomal mutation because —

- F only one gene is affected on the chromosome
- G many genes on a single chromosome are affected
- H several chromosomes are affected
- J none of these

- 5 Gene mutations which could potentially have no effect on the proteins produced by the organism include —

- A point mutations
- B frame-shift mutations
- C insertion mutations
- D deletion mutations

6 A large section of several hundred base-pairs from chromosome 13 is lost during a crossing over event of meiosis. Compared to a point mutation, the effect of this deletion on the organism would be —

- F no different
 - G slightly less severe
 - H slightly more severe
 - J much more severe
-

7 The best example of the “wobble base” phenomenon is —

- A there are 3 different STOP codons, UAG, UAA, UGA
 - B there is only one START codon
 - C a mutation in the 3rd base of a codon encoding the amino acid GLY has no effect
 - D a mutation in the 2nd base of CAA could result in producing either HIS or GLN
-

8 Mutations in DNA can be caused by —

- F exposure to UV radiation
- G exposure to certain chemical substances
- H errors in DNA replication
- J all of these