

REVIEW UNIT 3: Biochemistry
Key Concepts from this unit

AP Biology

1. All living matter is made up of CHONPS
 - a. Relative amounts
 - b. Trace elements
2. Bonds
 - a. covalent bonds are strong
 - b. hydrogen bonds are weak
 - c. polar molecules (water) vs. non-polar molecules (hydrocarbons, lipids)
 - d. reaction with water (cytoplasm & extracellular solution) vs. cell membrane
 - i. hydrophobic vs. hydrophilic
3. Reactions of life
 - a. dehydration synthesis
 - i. releases water
 - ii. synthesis: builds covalent bonds
 - iii. anabolic, endergonic
 - b. hydrolysis
 - i. uses water
 - ii. digestion: break covalent bonds
 - iii. catabolic, exergonic
4. Water
 - a. polar molecule leads to special properties
 - i. cohesion, adhesion == transpiration
 - ii. high specific heat == evaporative cooling. moderates local temperatures
 - iii. less dense as solid == sustain life in frozen ponds & lakes
 - iv. good solvent == water-based cellular fluids
5. Macromolecules
 - a. carbohydrates
 - i. sugar monomer
 - ii. short term energy, structure
 - iii. examples: glucose, starch, cellulose, chitin
 - b. lipids
 - i. phospholipids (cell membrane)
 - ii. energy storage (fat, oils)
 - iii. steroid hormone
 - iv. examples: phospholipids, fat, cholesterol, testosterone, estrogen
 - c. proteins (amino acids)
 - i. amino acid monomer

- ii. 4 levels of structure
 - iii. bonding at each level: covalent, H bonds, hydrophobic interactions, van der Waals forces, ionic bonds, disulfide (covalent) bridges
 - iv. many functions: enzymes, structure, regulatory molecules
 - v. examples: pepsin, myosin, actin, hemoglobin, insulin, ATP synthase, aquaporin
- d. nucleic acids
 - i. nucleotide monomers
 - ii. genetic information storage
 - iii. examples: DNA, RNA

6. Excretory system

- a. function:
 - i. water balance, filtration of blood, excretion of cellular nitrogenous waste (protein digestion)
- b. structure:
 - i. kidney, glomerulus, nephron, Bowman's capsule, Loop of Henle, collecting duct
- c. adaptations / evolutionary trends:
 - i. based on osmosis, diffusion & active transport
 - ii. reclaim water & solutes as needed, excrete urea
 - iii. ammonia vs. urea vs. uric acid = type of waste product vs. habitat & type of organism
- d. regulation:
 - i. ADH = reduces blood osmolarity (high solutes); osmoreceptors in hypothalamus
 - ii. aldosterone = increases low blood pressure; monitored by JGA (near kidney)