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QUESTION 1

It is most likely that you have never had diphtheria. You probably don't even know anyone who has suffered from this disease. In fact, you may not even know what diphtheria is. Similarly, diseases like whooping cough, measles, mumps, and rubella may all be unfamiliar to you. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, these illnesses struck hundreds of thousands of people in the United States each year, mostly children, and tens of thousands of people died. The names of these diseases were frightening household words. Today, they are all but forgotten. That change happened largely because of vaccines.

You probably have been vaccinated against diphtheria. You may even have been exposed to the bacterium that causes it, but the vaccine prepared your body to fight off the disease so quickly that you were unaware of the infection. Vaccines take advantage of your body's natural ability to learn how to combat many disease-causing germs, or microbes. What's more, your body remembers how to protect itself from the microbes it has encountered before. Collectively, the parts of your body that remember and repel microbes are called the immune system. Without the proper functioning of the immune system, the simplest illness ?even the common cold ?could quickly turn deadly.

On average, your immune system needs more than a week to learn how to fight off an unfamiliar microbe. Sometimes, that isn't enough time. Strong microbes can spread through your body faster than the immune system can fend them off. Your body often gains the upper hand after a few weeks, but in the meantime you are sick. Certain microbes are so virulent that they can overwhelm or escape your natural defenses. In those situations, vaccines can make all the difference.

Traditional vaccines contain either parts of microbes or whole microbes that have been altered so that they don't cause disease. When your immune system confronts these harmless versions of the germs, it quickly clears them from your body. In other words, vaccines trick your immune system in order to teach your body important lessons about how to defeat its opponents.

Which statement is not a detail from the passage?

- A. Vaccines contain microbe parts or altered microbes.
- B. The immune system typically needs a week to learn how to fight a new disease.
- C. The symptoms of disease do not emerge until the body has learned how to fight the microbe.
- D. A hundred years ago, children were at the greatest risk of dying from now-treatable diseases.

Correct Answer: C

This passage does not state that the symptoms of disease will not emerge until the body has learned to fight the disease. On the contrary, the passage implies that a person may become quite sick and even die before the body learns to effectively fight the disease.

QUESTION 2

Kevin throws 3 dice. What is his probability of rolling 3 fours?

- A. $\frac{1}{6}$
- B. $\frac{1}{36}$
- C. $\frac{1}{216}$

D. 1/12

E. 1/3

Correct Answer: C

Rolling 3 fours is an independent event. Chance of rolling 1 four is 1/6. So chance of rolling 3 fours is: $1/6 \times 1/6 \times 1/6 = 1/216$

QUESTION 3

Which of the following types of muscles possesses striations?

A. Skeletal

B. Smooth

C. Cardiac

D. A and B

E. A and C

Correct Answer: E

Both skeletal and cardiac muscles do possess striations, but skeletal have more defined striations.

QUESTION 4

Which of the following is defined by the 2nd law of thermodynamics?

A. In any spontaneous process, the entropy of the universe always increases.

B. Energy cannot be created or destroyed.

C. The entropy of a perfect crystal approaches 0 as temperature approaches absolute 0.

D. Any object in motion will remain in motion unless a force is acted upon it.

E. For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Correct Answer: A

Answer choice [Energy cannot be created or destroyed.] is the 1st law of thermodynamics and [The entropy of a perfect crystal approaches...] is the 3rd law. Choices [Any object in motion will remain in...] and [For every action, there is...] are part of Newton's laws of motion.

QUESTION 5

Which of the following functions to collect and focus the light from the illuminator on to the specimen?

- A. Illuminator
- B. Condenser
- C. Nosepiece
- D. Ocular
- E. Diaphragm

Correct Answer: B

Knowing the compound microscope anatomy and its functions is important for the biology section as it can and is tested.

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