

4.1 Biological molecules

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 9 marks

KEY WORDS bases 碱基 • starch 淀粉 • molecule 分子 • glucose 葡萄糖 • proteins 蛋白质

Objective

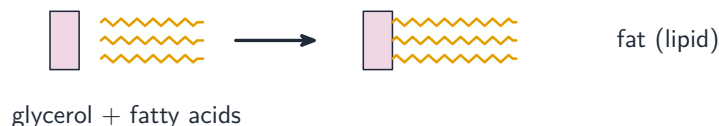
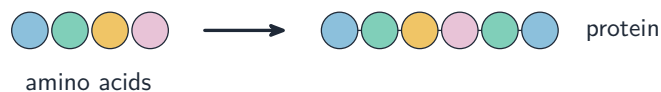
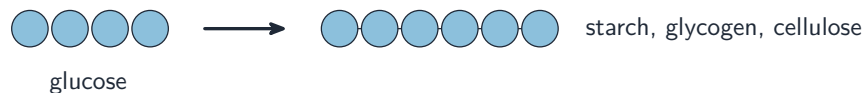
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **biological molecules** 生物分子 — the elements in food, building large molecules from small units, **food tests** 食物检验, and DNA.

You must be able to:

- give the elements in carbohydrates, fats and proteins
- state the small units that build starch, proteins and fats
- carry out the food tests and recall the DNA base pairs

1 Worked examples

■ Building blocks and food tests



Starch ← glucose; protein ← amino acids; fat ← 3 fatty acids + glycerol

Food substance (test)	start	positive result
Starch (iodine)		 blue-black
Reducing sugar (Benedict's, heat)		 brick-red
Protein (biuret)		 purple
Fat (ethanol emulsion)		 cloudy white
Vitamin C (DCPIP)		 colourless

*Starch + iodine → blue-black; reducing sugar + Benedict's (heat) → brick-red;
protein + biuret → purple*

- carbohydrates/fats = C, H, O; proteins also contain N. DNA bases pair A–T, C–G.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the elements found in a protein. [1]

2.2 Name the small units that join to make a protein. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The test for a reducing sugar uses Benedict's solution and: [1]

- **A** cooling
 - **B** heat
 - **C** iodine
 - **D** no change
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3.2 A student tests a food sample.

(a) Describe the test for starch and its positive result. [2]

(b) Describe the test for protein and its positive result. [2]

3.3 One strand of DNA has the base sequence A–C–G–T. Write the sequence of the matching strand. [2]

Solutions

2.1 carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen.

2.2 amino acids.

3.1 B. Benedict's test needs heat.

3.2 (a) add iodine solution; it turns from orange-brown to blue-black.

(b) add biuret solution; it turns from blue to purple.

3.3 T–G–C–A — each base pairs A–T and C–G.