

## ISEE-TEST<sup>Q&As</sup>

Independent School Entrance Examination

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#### **QUESTION 1**

As used in line 26, the word "pharmaceutical" most likely means:

1	Modern chemistry can seem like a	30
2	strange domain: mysterious chemicals are	31
3	manipulated and produced in massive,	32
4	expensive laboratories. Sometimes we even	33
5	use the word "chemical" as though it means	34
6	something artificial and dangerous — "Be sure	35
7	to wash your apples thoroughly, to get the	36
8	chemicals off!" It's true that there might be	37
9	some dangerous chemical pesticides on apples,	38
10	but it turns out that apples themselves are also	39
11	made of chemicals! Everything around us is	40
12	made of chemicals, some natural and some	41
13	synthetic. The practice of chemistry has a long	42
14	history, beginning with the observations of	43
15	simple chemical interactions with the natural	44
16	world.	45
17	In the ancient world, as far back as the	46
18	historical record extends, people made use of	47
19	medicinal plants. This is not quite the practice	48
20	of chemistry as we know it today: ancient	49

peoples did not know why the plants they used 50 21 worked as they did to treat pain, fever, or 23 other maladies. But through a process of trial 24 and error, they discovered many medicinal properties that would lay the groundwork for 25 26 pharmaceutical chemistry. We can examine the 55 27 case of willow bark, a raw plant substance that 56

28 has the useful property of relieving pain. At 29 first, people mostly chewed raw pieces of the

bark to relieve aches and pains, a practice which continues today. Over time, simple 31 herbal remedies were processed in many ways to create more potent medicines: extracts, 34 tinctures distillates.

By the 17th century, people gained a 36 better understanding of chemical properties, and began to isolate chemical compounds. In the early 19th century, efforts to isolate the active compounds in willow bark yielded salicylic acid, the chemical that was responsible for the bark's pain-relieving 42 effects. Unfortunately, salicylic acid in its raw 43 form was hard on the stomach, and for that 44 reason wasn't a practical medicine. But with 45 the active compound discovered, and with advancing knowledge of chemistry, another step could be taken: salicylic acid was eventually combined with other chemicals to 48 create a new synthetic chemical, acetylsalicylic acid, which retained its pain-relieving effects while being easier on the stomach. This became the drug which we now know as aspirin. Aspirin, like many other modern drugs, is produced in the laboratories of modern chemists using modern techniques, but its origins can be traced back to ancient herbal remedies. 57

A. menacing

B. ingenious

C. medicinal

D. ancient

Correct Answer: C



#### **QUESTION 2**

All of the following are true about Miller and Urey EXCEPT:

1	How could life possibly have gotten	27	network of glass flasks and tubes with water, to
2	started on Earth? How could so many and such	28	simulate the early ocean, and with the same
3	a stunning number and variety of organisms	29	gases believed to be present in the early
4	have come into existence? Few questions have	30	atmosphere. They applied heat, causing some
5	puzzled so many, for so long. Philosophers,	31	of the water to evaporate and begin to circulate
6	authors, and scientists have pondered,	32	through the tubes as vapor. They then created
7	discussed, and explored the issue for decades,	33	electrical sparks inside the apparatus to
8	and numerous hypotheses have been proposed	34	simulate lightning. As the experiment
9	over time: maybe the first organic molecules	35	proceeded, the mixture began to change color.
10	were formed in the deep ocean, from chemicals	36	After a few days, when the contents were
11	spewed out by volcanic vents. Maybe the	37	analyzed, the scientists found what they were
12	earliest life was actually made of simple	38	looking for: the very same organic compounds
13	molecules, and these simple organisms created	39	that are the building blocks of all life on Earth.
14	the molecules used by complex living	40	While the Miller-Urey experiment did not
15	organisms today. Maybe life came to Earth	41	finally answer the question of life's origins, it
16	from outer space. But in 1952, in a laboratory	42	provided support for the hypothesis that
17	in Chicago, one hypothesis was about to be put	43	conditions on the early Earth could generate
18	to the test.	44	the necessary components of life, and showed
19	For decades, Alexander Oparin and J.B.S.	45	that natural chemical processes could well
20	Haldane had proposed that conditions on the	46	have been all that was required to strike the
21	early Earth favored chemical reactions that	47	spark of life. One of the most meaningful steps
22	could produce organic compounds - the	48	in the quest for an answer to the question of
23	building blocks of life - from inorganic	49	life, the Miller-Urey experiment, over the
24	precursors. At the University of Chicago,	50	course of a few days, revolutionized a
25	Stanley Miller and Harold Urey had devised an	51	conversation which has been taking place for
26	experiment to test the idea. The team filled a	52	thousands of years.

A. their experiment was based on the ideas of Oparin and Haldane.

- B. they attempted to simulate the conditions of early earth.
- C. they used sparks to simulate lightning.
- D. they used some organic compounds to start the experiment.

Correct Answer: D

#### **QUESTION 3**



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Select the word that is most nearly the same in meaning as the word in capital letters. CASTIGATE

A. berate

B. muddle

C. remove

D. perfume

Correct Answer: A

#### **QUESTION 4**

The theory described in lines 24-29 proposed that: A. the effects of the sun\\'s gravity are different in the outer solar system.

1	An early 19th century understanding of	25	to be the case took the position that some as-
2	the laws of gravitation predicted certain orbits	26	yet-undiscovered object in the outer solar
3	for each of the planets, and as a general rule the	27	system was perturbing the orbit of Uranus, and
4	seven planets known at that time politely	28	that the discovery of that object would explain
5	observed these orbits. Yet there was an	29	the eccentric orbit of Uranus.
6	exception: Uranus, at the far outer reaches of	30	If this theory was correct, it meant that
7	the solar system, refused to behave as	31	there was a large orbiting body waiting to be
8	predicted. The irregularity of Uranus's orbit	32	discovered in the outer solar system, and at
9	posed a problem for scientists: the data did not	33	least two scientists - John Adams Couch and
10	match their models for how the planets should	34	Urbain Jean-Jospeh Le Verrier - worked
11	behave.	35	separately to calculate the position of such a
12	Some believed the model must be	36	body. By 1846, they had calculated the mass,
13	modified, speculating that the effect of the	37	orbit, and position of what would soon be
14	sun's gravity simply changed at such extreme	38	recognized as the newest planet, using only
15	distances. Others were convinced that the data	39	theories of gravitation and observations of the
16	was flawed; they believed it was more likely	40	orbit of Uranus. With the calculations done,
17	that astronomers had botched their	41	astronomers pointed their telescopes to the
18	observations than that current models of	42	location in the night sky where Couch and Le
19	gravitation and planetary orbits - which so	43	Verrier had predicted the planet could be
20	elegantly predicted the motions of other	44	found, and in a dramatic confirmation of their
21	orbiting bodies - were wrong. Still, it was	45	work, Neptune could be observed directly in its
22	possible that the model was correct and the	46	distant orbit at the outer edge of our solar
23	observations had been accurate, but that the	47	system.
24	data was incomplete. Those who believed this		

B. some other object was altering the orbit of Uranus.

C. observations of the orbit of Uranus must be wrong.

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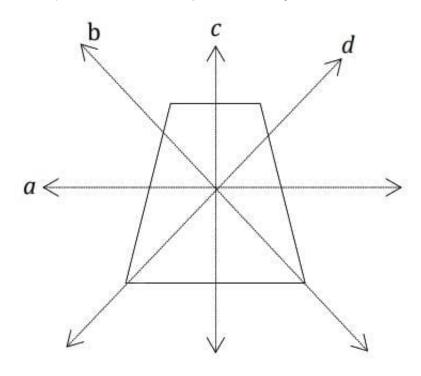
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D. the seven known planets had predictable orbits.

Correct Answer: B

#### **QUESTION 5**

The trapezoid shown below may be folded along the dotted lines.



Which line, when folded, will cause the sides of the trapezoid to overlap exactly?

- A. line a
- B. line b
- C. line c
- D. line d

Correct Answer: C

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