

2023

BASIC MICROBIOLOGY

Full Marks: 100

Time: Three hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.*Answer any five questions.

1.	a)	Describe ABC transporter system of microbial nutrition uptake using an appropriately labeled schematic diagram.	12
	b)	What are “prions”? What is the structural difference between healthy and infectious prions?	2+2
	c)	List four major differences between Gram positive and Gram negative cell wall structures.	4
2.	a)	Use an appropriate microbial growth curve to describe “lag”, “log”, “stationary” and “death” phases of microbial lifecycle.	10
	b)	What are “plasmids” – Give an Example? What are their primary functions?	2+2
	c)	Describe magnification principle of a compound light microscope using a simple, appropriately labeled schematic diagram.	6
3.	a)	Describe DNA double-helix structure with an appropriately labeled schematic diagram showing the sugar, the phosphate bridges and the nucleic acids.	12
	b)	Show that microbial cell doubling time (T_D) can be mathematically calculated by the equation $T_D = T / [\log_2(N_T) - \log_2(N_0)]$, where N_0 = initial microbial count, N_T = Microbial count at time T, and T = Time for n times doubling of microbial counts.	6
	c)	What are archaea? Give an example.	2
4.	a)	Describe lytic cycle of bacteriophage using an appropriately labeled schematic diagram.	10
	b)	How did Louis Pasteur proved germ theory using his “goose neck” / “swan neck” experiment?	8
	c)	Who is considered as the “father of microscopy”? What did he study / observe under microscope?	2
5.	a)	Elaborate contribution of microbial changes in carbon cycle in nature. Use a schematic diagram to enrich your description.	12
	b)	Write short-notes on any two of the following: (i) Basidiomycota, (ii) Capsid of a bacteriophage, (iii) Eukaryotic vs prokaryotic cells	2×4
6.	a)	Describe the cell wall structure of a yeast cell using an appropriately labeled schematic diagram. What is the “powerhouse” of a yeast cell?	11+1
	b)	List three major characteristics desirable in an antibiotic. Describe how penicillin and cephalosporin group of antibiotics work against bacteria.	3+5
