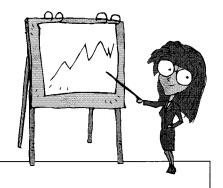
Section 3.1
Using Line Graphs
to Organize and Interpret Data



Pre-View 3.1

• Line graph – a visual representation of data showing how something has changed over a period of time

After data has been gathered, you must interpret the information and present it in such as way that it makes sense to others. One way you saw in Section 2.3 was to summarize the information in a table. Another way to represent data is to use one or more graphs or diagrams. Graphs and diagrams present information in a way that makes data easier to interpret visually. There are different types of graphs and diagrams that can be used to display data, and each type has a specific use. Remember, you always want to choose the best way to display your data that makes it easiest to interpret.

All graphs or diagrams have several important features in common. They should always have a *title* that describes the data being presented. They should also have *labels* that identify the different parts of the graph or diagram, and they may have a *legend* (sometimes called a *key*) to identify different types of data.

Line Graphs

Line graphs are frequently used to show how something changes over time. Line graphs have an x-axis and a y-axis. The horizontal, or x-axis, is used to show the time frame or some other independent variable. The vertical, or y-axis, is used to show the dependent variable. Line graphs have several features described below:

Title: The title of a graph should give an explanation of the data given by the graph.

Axes: The x-axis is a horizontal line that is usually labeled in some unit of time. The y-axis is a vertical line, normally on the left, that is labeled with the dependent variable.

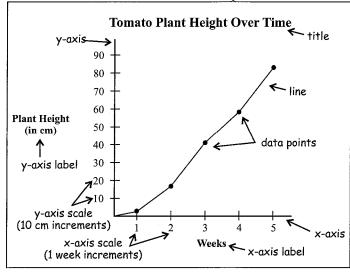
Labels: The x and y axes should be labeled to show what kind of data is being given. The units for the data should also be given.

Scale: The scale is shown by the numbers that are labeled on the x and y axes. The scale is the increment of the data given on the x and y axes.

Data points and Line(s): Data points are normally marked on a line graph to show where the experimental data falls on the graph. Data points are plotted from experimental data. For example, one data point may represent the plant height on a particular day. A line graph also has one or more lines that connect the data points. Sometimes the line connects from point to point. Other times, it is more appropriate to draw a straight or smoothly curved trend line that goes through the data points but does not connect each point.

Legend (or **Key**): If several lines are shown on the same graph, the data points may be shown using different types of symbols. The legend (sometimes called a key) will explain how the symbols correspond to the data.

Well-Constructed Graph



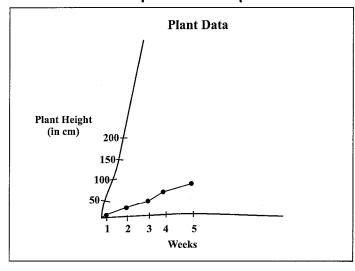
The graph on the left is a good example of how a line graph should be drawn.

Title: The title of a graph should give a general explanation of the data shown by the graph. In this example, the title is "Tomato Plant Height Over Time."

Axes and Labels: The x and y axes should be labeled to show what kind of data is being given. In this case, the x-axis represents "weeks" and the y-axis represents "plant height in centimeters."

Scale: The scale is shown by the numbers that are labeled on the x and y axes. In this example, the x-axis has a scale of one week per increment. The y-axis has a scale that is marked in 10-centimeter increments.

Poorly-Constructed Graph



Do you recognize all the reasons this graph is poorly constructed?

Title: Although this graph does have a title, it is not very descriptive of the data represented. For example, it doesn't tell what kind of plant.

Axes and Labels: The x-axis and the y-axis are correctly labeled, but they are crooked. Be sure that you use a straight edge when drawing graphs by hand, and you will probably want to use graph paper as well.

Scale: When constructing a graph, choose a scale so that your data fills the space. In this example, the poorly chosen scale causes the data to fill only a small corner of the graph. Also, increments should be equally spaced. Notice that the spacing between the weeks is not equal.

When constructing line graphs, remember the following: Use a descriptive title that explains the data. Label the x and y axes and give the units. In the examples above, labeling the y-axis as "Plant Height" is useless unless you also give the units. Likewise, labeling the x-axis as "Time" would not be an appropriate label. No one would know what the 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 represented — days, weeks, months, etc. Use an appropriate scale so that your data is spread out over the length and width of the graph. And of course, be very neat by drawing straight lines to represent your axes.

Practice 1Use the data given in the table below to answer the given questions and to construct a line graph.

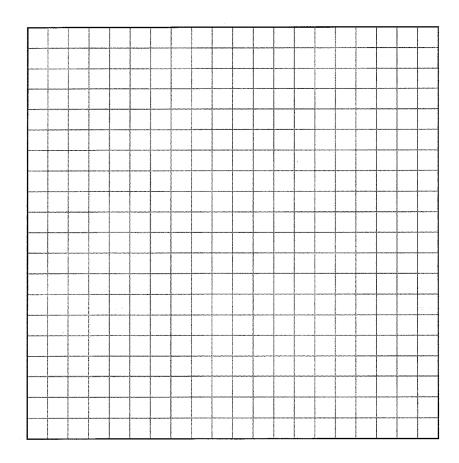
The Effects of Temperature on Oxygen Production of Elodea

Temperature °C	Oxygen Bubbles per minute
18	10
20	17
22	29
24	52
26	70
28	94
30	96

1. What is the independent variable in this experiment?

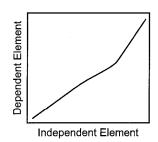
2. What is the dependent variable?

Use your answers above and the table to the left to construct a line graph below. Remember to title the graph and to label the axes.



Trends

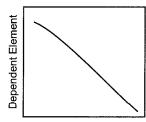
One of the most important features of line graphs is to be able to see *trends*. You can often take a trend and match it to the graph that represents the data. Take a look at five types of trends: an upward trend, a downward trend, a peaking trend, an unstable trend with ups and downs, and an unchanging data trend. The general type of line for each trend is given below. Make sure you read each example, which shows the type of data that would give that type of trend.



Upward Trend

The dependent element increases as the independent element increases.

Example: A simple example of an upward trend would be the height of plants over time. As the time increases, the height of the plants also increase. This type of data would fit the pattern of an upward trend graph.

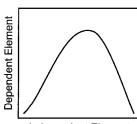


Independent Element

Downward Trend

The dependent element decreases as the independent element increases.

Example: A downward trend in data would be like the decrease in a bacteria population as an antibiotic increases. The line would go down as the bacteria population decreases over time.

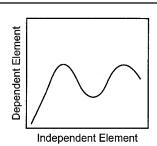


Independent Element

Peaking Trend

The dependent element increases to a point and then begins to decrease as the independent element increases.

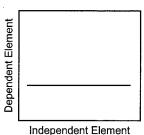
Example: A peaking trend would fit data like pain medication effectiveness. The effectiveness increases for awhile and then begins to decrease as the time increases.



Unstable Trend

The dependent element increases and decreases several times as the independent element increases.

Example: An unstable trend might be seen in a deer population during a year. The population may go up and down each season based on the births of offspring, the abundance of food, populations of predators that eat deer, and deer season for hunters.



independent Element

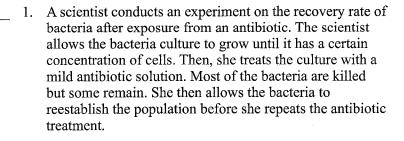
Unchanging Data Trend

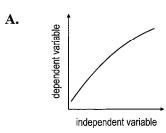
The dependent element does not change (stays constant) as the independent element increases.

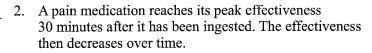
Example: An unchanging data trend would be seen in the height of most adults over time. As years go by, height stays the same.

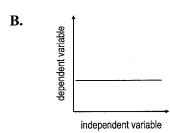
Practice 2

Match the data descriptions given below with the graph that would BEST show the trend for that data. You will use some graphs more than once.

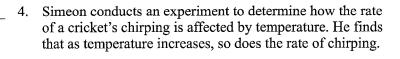


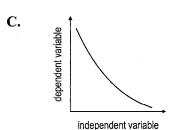




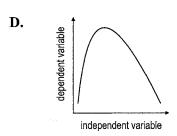


3. An alligator is introduced into a non-native area. As a result, the squirrel population begins to decrease.



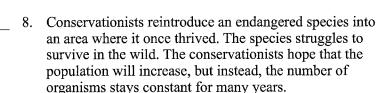


5. A medical university does research on human digestion that takes place in the stomach. One experiment adjusts pH levels in the stomach and measures the resulting pepsin enzyme activity. Data shows that the optimum pH level for pepsin activity is around 2.0. The enzyme activity for pH's above or below that point are not as great.

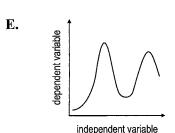


6. A student studies reaction times of students during different times of the day. The student finds that as the day progresses, reaction time decreases.

Jackie records the number of flower blooms on her azalea plant during the spring months. The number of blooms increases until mid-spring, and then the number of

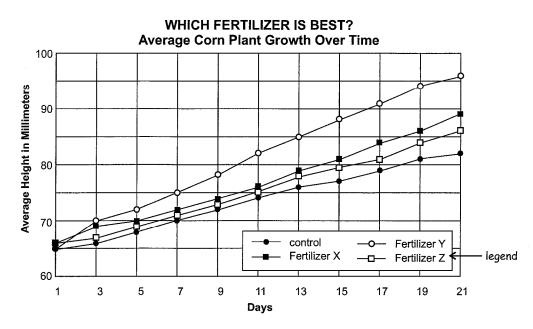


blooms begin to decrease.



Analyzing Line Graphs

Do you remember Waldo's corn plant experiment in Section 2? A line graph would be an excellent way for Waldo to present the results from his experiment. His graph might look something like the following.



Can you see that this line graph is easier to interpret than the summary table given in Section 2.3? By graphing the lines, the data is easier to visualize.

In Waldo's experiment, Waldo has four different groups of data, one for each experimental group plus one more for the control group. Notice that in the graph above, Waldo uses a different symbol for each group's data points. For example, black dots represent the control group data points, but the data points for the Fertilizer Y group are represented by open circles. Waldo uses a legend to show which symbols he uses for each group.

You should be able to see that one line is consistently above all the others, and that line indicates the group with the greatest growth. Likewise, one line is below all the others and represents the group with the least growth. Look at this graph and see if you can answer the following questions.

All the lines show an upward trend. What does that upward trend indicate?

The upward trend shows that each group of plants is increasing in height. In other words, the plants are growing. If one of the lines was sloping down, you'd notice that perhaps that group was dying. A straight line would indicate no growth.

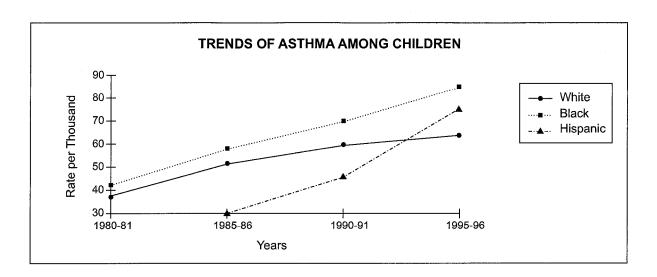
Which group is showing the greatest increase in height? Which shows the least increase? The line marked with open circles shows the greatest increase in height. The legend shows that the open circles represent the Fertilizer Y group. The control group represented by the bottom line shows the least growth.

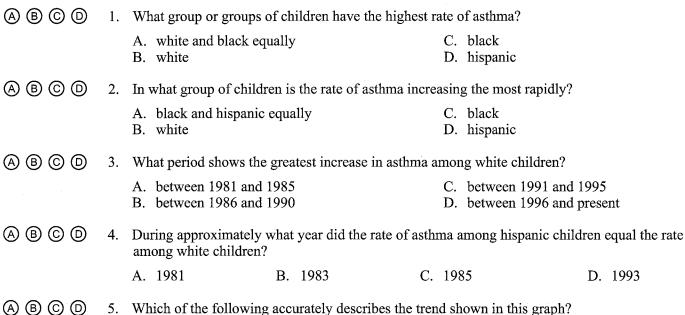
On what day were the average heights of the Fertilizer X group and the Fertilizer Y group the same? The heights are the same at any point where the lines cross. Look at the lines representing Fertilizer X and Fertilizer Y. They intersect (cross) on day 2. On day 2, these two groups were the same height.

Does this graph support Waldo's hypothesis?

Waldo's hypothesis is that plants fertilized with Fertilizer Y would grow the fastest. This data supports his hypothesis.

Practice 3 Study the line graph below and answer the questions that follow.





- 5. Which of the following accurately describes the trend shown in this graph?
 - A. The rate of asthma in all children is increasing each year.
 - B. The rate of asthma in black and hispanic children is increasing each year, but the rate of asthma in white children is on the decline.
 - The rate of asthma in black and white children is increasing faster than the rate of asthma in hispanic children.
 - D. The rate of asthma in all children is decreasing each year.

Section 3.2
Using Bar Graphs
to Organize and Interpret Data



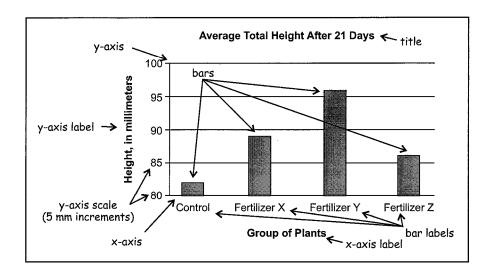
Pre-View 3.2

• Bar graph – a visual representation of data used to show different quantities between different groups especially when data is not continuous

Bar graphs are best used to present groups of data that are not continuous. They are used to show different amounts or quantities between different groups.

Like a line graph, a bar graph should also have a descriptive title. A bar graph also has an x-axis and a y-axis that is labeled, but usually only one of the axes has a scale. The other axis normally has each bar labeled. Instead of data points and a line shown on a line graph, a bar graph contains bars that represent quantities. Look at an example.

Example 1: If Waldo wanted to compare the total average height of each group of corn plants, a bar graph would be a good graph to use.



This is a simple bar graph, but it quickly gives the reader some important information about Waldo's experiment.

First, what is this graph showing?

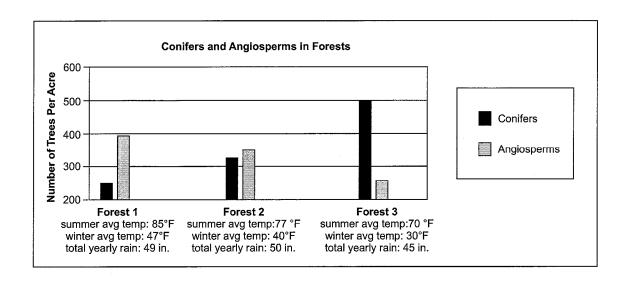
The title tells the reader what data the graph is giving. Waldo had four groups of plants, each group having 5 plants. Waldo averaged the final heights of the 5 plants in each group to create this graph.

Which group averaged the greatest height? Which averaged the lowest?

From this graph, you can quickly and easily see that the control group had the shortest plants, and Fertilizer Y group had the tallest plants.

Bar graphs can also compare more than one factor or variable. A legend is usually needed for these types of bar graphs to show how the different bars represent the data. Consider one more example below.

Example 2: An ecologist counts the average number of conifer trees versus the average number of angiosperm trees growing on an acre in three different forests in the United States. He researches and notes the climate of each forest.



Which forest had the greatest number of conifers growing per acre?

From the legend, you see that the black bars represent conifers. The tallest black bar is shown for Forest 3, so Forest 3 has the greatest number of conifers per acre.

Which forest had the greatest number of trees growing per acre?

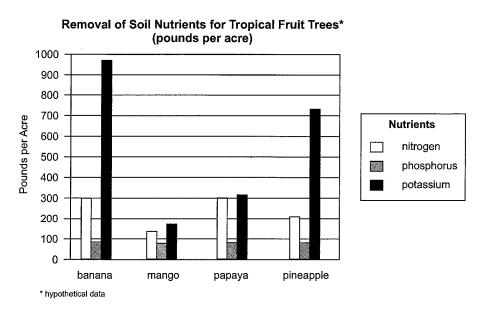
To answer this question, you must estimate the number of conifers and the number of angiosperms for each forest and add the two numbers together. Forest 1 has about 390 angiosperms and 250 conifers for a total of 640 trees. Forest 2 has about 675 trees. Forest 3 has about 750 trees, so Forest 3 has the greatest number of trees growing per acre.

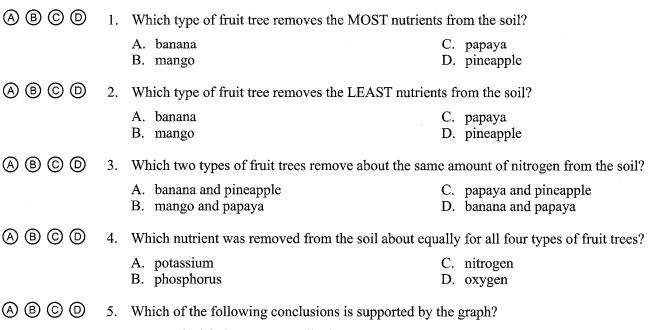
Can you draw any conclusions about conifer and angiosperm growth based on the climate information given? Forest 1 has more angiosperms than conifers and has the warmest climate. Forest 3 has more conifers than angiosperms and has the coldest climate. Based on this observation, you might conclude that more angiosperms than conifers tend to grow in warmer climates, and more conifers grow in colder climates.

Now look at the total number of trees growing in each forest. Forest 1 has the fewest trees per acre, and Forest 3 has the most trees. Forest 2 is in the middle. From this observation, you may conclude that conifers can grow closer together than angiosperms. Or you may conclude that colder climates have more trees per acre than warmer climates.

Practice

Study the bar graph below and answer the questions that follow.





- A. Tropical fruit trees generally do not require fertilization to supplement nutrients in the soil.
- B. Tropical fruit trees require a proportionately larger amount of phosphorus in the soil than other nutrients.
- C. Tropical fruit trees generally remove more potassium from the soil than they do nitrogen or phosphorus.
- D. Tropical fruit trees remove more potassium from the soil than other types of fruit trees.

Section 3.3
Using Pie Graphs
to Organize and Interpret Data

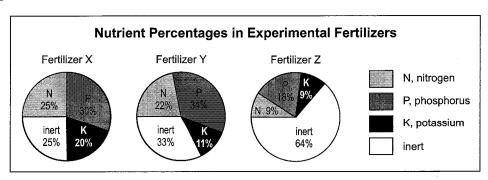


Pre-View 3.3

• Pie graph (or circle graph) – a visual representation of data used to show parts (or percentages) of a whole

Pie graphs, also known as **circle graphs**, are used to show percentages of a whole. The size of each "slice" is proportional to the percentage of that item, and all of the "slices" in the pie can be added together to equal 100 percent. A single pie graph will emphasize the percentages of items as compared to other items. Multiple pie charts can be used to compare the percentages of items in different sets of data.

The fertilizers that Waldo used in his corn growth experiment were composed of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and inert ingredients. If he wanted to show the percentages of each ingredient in each fertilizer, he could use the following pie graphs.



Notice that the set of pie graphs have a title, and each pie graph also has a title or label that identifies the fertilizer. Also notice that the segments, or pieces of pie, are labeled with the percentage that each segment represents. For example, Fertilizer X is labeled as 25% N, 30% P, 20% K, and 25% inert. If you add these percentages, they equal 100%. Finally, notice that the legend identifies the nutrient represented by each color.

Consider the following questions about the pie graphs given above.

Look at just Fertilizer X. Which component makes up the greatest percentage? The "slice" that represents P, phosphorus, is the largest, so it represents the greatest percentage.

Look at just Fertilizer Y. Which nutrient is present in the least percentage? Potassium, K, is the smallest sector of the pie graph and makes up the smallest percentage of nutrients in Fertilizer Y.

Look at just Fertilizer Z. Which two components are equal in percentages? You should notice that nitrogen, N, and potassium, K, are equal in size, so they have equal percentages in Fertilizer Z.

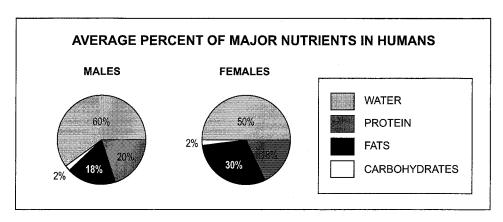
Now consider all of the graphs. Which fertilizer has equal percentages of nitrogen, N, and inert ingredients? Fertilizer X does; it has 25% nitrogen and 25% inert ingredients. Notice that the "slices" of these two ingredients are equal in size for Fertilizer X. Also notice that 25% is one-quarter of the pie.

All the fertilizers shown above (X, Y, and Z) are recommended for vegetable gardens. What might you conclude about vegetables from this data?

To answer this question, study each graph to see what they have in common. All of the fertilizers have a higher percentage of phosphorus than the other two nutrients. Therefore, you might conclude that vegetables generally need a greater amount of phosphorus than they do nitrogen and potassium.

Practice

Study the pie graphs below and answer the questions that follow.



- (A) (B) (C) (D) 1. On average, which major nutrient is found in the same percent in males and females?
 - A. water

C. fats

B. protein

- D. carbohydrates
- (A) (B) (C) (D) 2. According to the pie graphs given, what percent of the average female is made up of water?
 - A. 2%

C. 60%

B. 50%

- D. 30%
- (A) (B) (C) (D) 3. Which major nutrient is almost double in the average female as compared to the average male?
 - A. water

C. fats

B. protein

D. carbohydrates

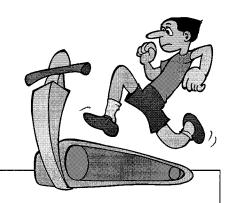
A B C D 4. Read the following information.

Marathon runners run in 26-mile races. Ultra-marathon runners, on the other hand, may run 100 miles or more in a single race that may last days. While men and women compete separately in regular marathons, men and women routinely compete against one another in ultra-marathons, and at very long distances, women have successfully won over their male competitors. Researchers have begun analyzing why women may have an advantage over men in running extremely long distances.

Using the pie graphs above, which of the following findings might best support the idea that women have an advantage over men when running extremely long distances?

- A. Females burn more fat and less carbohydrates when they run than males.
- B. Extra fat acts as "dead weight" and tends to slow down a runner.
- C. The fat in females is concentrated in the hips and thighs and is difficult to metabolize (use for energy).
- D. Men and women equally destroy muscle when running long distances, so adequate protein is needed in both genders to rebuild muscle mass.

Section 3.4
Using Diagrams
to Organize and Interpret Data

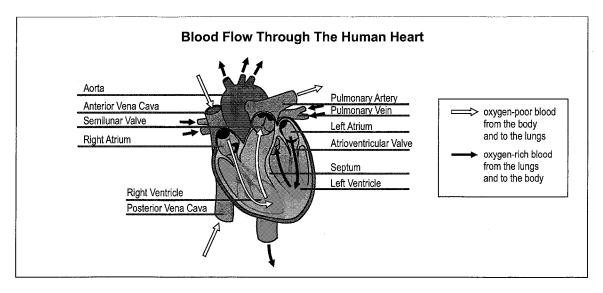


Pre-View 3.4

• Diagrams – labeled pictures that show relationships between objects or parts

Diagrams are labeled pictures that show relationships between objects or parts. Diagrams can be used to communicate data in an experiment or to give general information about a biology topic.

Example: A research scientist is studying the effects of Vitamin E on oxygen levels in the blood. The scientist includes the following diagram of the heart to explain the terms used in his report and to show the path of blood through the heart.



By studying the diagram above, you should be able to answer the following questions.

After blood enters the right atrium, where does it travel next?

From the diagram, you can see that blood goes from the right atrium to the right ventricle.

Which valve is located between the left atrium and the left ventricle?

The diagram shows that the atrioventricular valve is between the left atrium and left ventricle.

Through which vein or artery does oxygen-poor blood leave the heart?

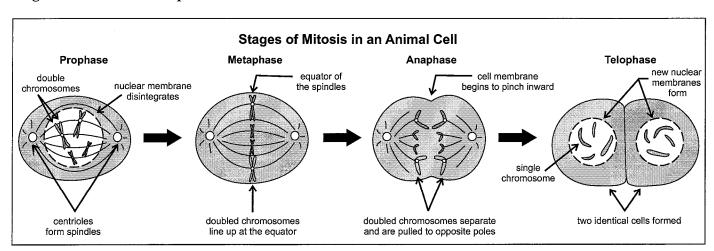
To answer this question, first you must recognize that the white arrows represent oxygen-poor blood. Next, look for the white arrow going from the heart, and identify the name of that part. From the diagram, you should see that oxygen-poor blood leaves the heart through the pulmonary artery.

You learn that "pulmonary" means "relating to the lungs." Knowing this, which structure takes blood from the lungs and into the heart?

The pulmonary vein brings blood from the lungs back into the heart.

Practice

A college student observes the cells of animal tissue under a high-powered microscope. He notices that one of the cells is undergoing division (called mitosis). He takes photographs of each stage of division and then diagrams the main components of each stage and labels them. His diagrams are shown below. Study the diagrams and answer the questions that follow.



A B © D	1.	During which stage of mitosis do the chromosome A. prophase B. metaphase	C.	up at the spindle equator? anaphase telophase
A B © D	2.	During which stage does the nuclear membrane disintegrate?		
	۵.	A. prophase B. metaphase	C.	anaphase telophase
A B © D	3.	What is the difference between the chromosomes in prophase and the chromosomes in telophase?		
		 A. The chromosomes in prophase are lined up at the center of the cell, but the chromosomes in telophase are at opposite ends of the cell. B. The chromosomes in prophase are inside the cell, but the chromosomes in telophase are outside the cell. C. The chromosomes in prophase are doubled, but the chromosomes in telophase are single. D. The chromosomes in prophase are not visible, but the chromosomes in telophase are visible. 		
A B © D	4.	According to this diagram, how many chromosomes are present in a single cell at the end of telophase?		
		A. 1 B. 2		4 8
(A (B) (C) (D)	5.	Which of the following organelles is responsible for forming spindles?		
		A. centriole	C.	nucleus

D. nuclear membrane

B. chromosome

Section 3 Review

Answer the following questions on analyzing scientific experiments.

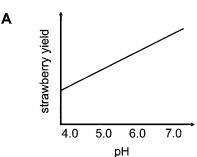
- 1. Marissa conducts an experiment to measure the nutrient value of organically grown carrots versus the nutrient value of non-organically grown carrots. She wants to show her results as a comparison of percentages making up each group of carrots. Which of the following would be the BEST way for her to present her data?
 - A in a line graph with one line representing the organically grown carrots and another line representing non-organically grown carrots
 - **B** in a diagram that labels parts of a carrot plant
 - **C** in a table that lists the nutrients of each group of carrots and their amounts in micrograms
 - **D** in two pie graphs, one for each group of carrots, showing the percentages of each nutrient

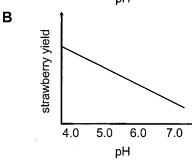


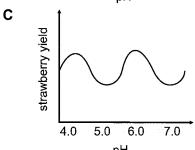
- 2. Lauren filled a jar with sterile water and added 3 ml of pond sediment, several grains of white rice, and 5 grams of grass clippings. After mixing the contents of the jar, she made a wetmount slide of the water. She observed and recorded the number of living organisms seen on low power. She then repeated her observations every 72 hours for 3 weeks. What would be the BEST way to present her data if she wants to show how the number of organisms changed over time?
 - **F** in a line graph using the x-axis for the time and the y-axis for the number of organisms observed
 - **G** in a bar graph that uses a different color of bar for each day that she made observations.
 - **H** in a table that lists the days she made observations and her descriptive research
 - **J** in a diagram that labels each type of organism viewed under the microscope

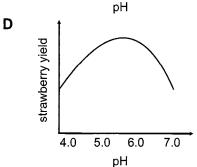
 $\mathbb{F} \oplus \mathbb{H} \cup$

3. Romine performed an experiment on strawberry plants. He wanted to know what soil pH would result in the greatest strawberry production. He tested pHs between 4.0 and 7.0. In his experiment, he found maximum strawberry production occurred at a pH of 5.8. Which of the following graphs BEST represents his results?



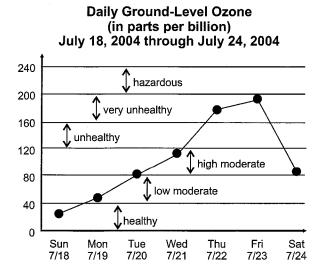






Read about the following experiment, study the graph, and answer the questions that follow.

Jessica's home town weather report gives the maximum level of ground ozone present each day. Jessica knows that ground level ozone is caused by automotive and industrial emissions, so she reasons that ozone levels are probably highest during the work week. To test her hypothesis, she records the reported ozone level each day for one week. The graph below shows her results.



4. How many days during the week had a healthy ozone air quality?

- $\mathbf{F} = 0$
- **G** 1
- **H** 4
- **J** 7



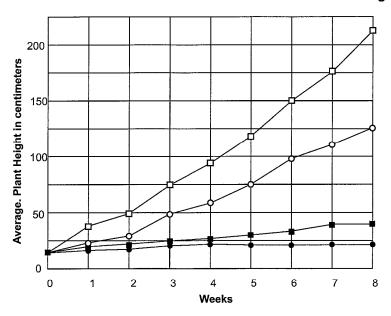
5. Which of the following conclusions is supported by the data?

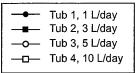
- A Ground level ozone is healthiest during the work week (Monday through Friday) but becomes increasingly unhealthy on the weekends.
- **B** Ground level ozone increases during the work week (Monday through Friday) and decreases on the weekend.
- **C** Ground level ozone is constant during the week.
- **D** Ground level ozone rises steadily throughout the week.

Read about the following experiment, study the graph, and answer the questions that follow.

The Beefmaster tomato plant is a variety that produces large tomatoes ideal for slicing and using on sandwiches. An experiment is performed to determine how the amount of rain, or watering, affects the height of Beefmaster tomato plants. Seedlings of equal height were planted in four large tubs. Each tub contained three plants, and all plants received the same amount of sunlight and fertilizer. The only difference was the amount of water that each tub received. The data from the experiment is summarized in the graph below.

Effect of Water Amount on Beefmaster Tomato Plant Height





6. Which of the following conclusions is supported by the graph?

- **F** Rain helps tomato plants produce healthy, firm tomatoes.
- **G** Beefmaster tomato plants grow taller than other varieties.
- **H** Beefmaster tomato plants die when they are over-watered.
- **J** Beefmaster tomato plants grow taller when they receive more water.

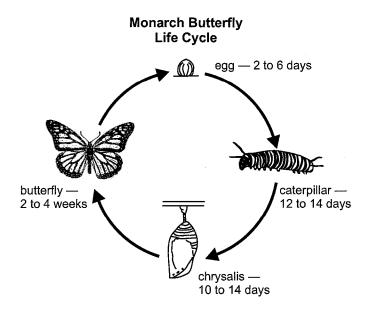


7. Based on the graphed data, which of the following would be a logical prediction?

- A Beefmaster tomato plants will thrive in gardens that are consistently watered.
- **B** Beefmaster tomato plants will grow taller when they are planted in tubs.
- **C** Beefmaster tomato plants will need more sunlight and fertilizer when planted in a garden.
- **D** Beefmaster tomato plants will grow well during a drought.



Gavin is interested in the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly, which is abundant in his area. He knows that Monarchs eat and lay eggs on milkweed. He carefully monitors the milkweed plants in his yard and collects eggs the day they are laid. He then monitors the Monarch's life cycle. His data is summarized in the diagram that he drew below.



- 8. From the time that a Monarch butterfly egg is laid to the time the adult butterfly dies, what is the average life span of the butterfly?
 - **F** 1 to 2 weeks
 - **G** 2 to 3 weeks
 - H 3 to 5 weeks
 - J 5 to 9 weeks

F G H J

- 9. During which stage of the Monarch's life does it spend the MOST time, on average?
 - A egg stage
 - **B** caterpillar stage
 - C chrysalis stage
 - **D** butterfly stage

(A) (B) (C) (D)