Macromolecule Structure – Option 1

<u>PART 1</u> – Color in the molecules listed below according to the key and answer the questions.



QUESTIONS:

- 1. Glucose is the monomer for which macromolecule?____
- 2. Amino acids are the monomer for which macromolecule?
- 3. Nucleotides are the monomer for which macromolecule?
- 4. Glycerol and fatty acids are the building blocks of which macromolecule?
- 5. What element do all three molecules have in common?
- 6. What elements are bonded to carbon in glucose?
- 7. What elements are bonded to carbon in an amino acid?
- 8. What elements are bonded to carbon in a nucleotide?_____
- 9. What is the ratio of Carbon:Hydrogen:Oxygen (count them) in a carbohydrate?
- 10. What elements exist in proteins and nucleic acids but not in carbohydrates or lipids?
- 11. What element exists in nucleic acids that is not found in the other macromolecules?
- 12. Which macromolecule is made up of long chains of carbon and hydrogen?_
- 13. Correctly label the polymers below: protein, nucleic acid, carbohydrate, lipid.



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Part 2 – Read the passages and answer the questions.

Macromolecules

Many of the molecules in living cells are so large that they are known as macromolecules, which means "giant molecules." Macromolecules are made from thousands or even hundreds of thousands of smaller molecules.

Macromolecules are formed by a process known as polymerization (pah-lih-mur-ih-ZAY-shun), in which large compounds are built by joining smaller ones together. The smaller units, or **monomers**, join together to form polymers. The monomers in a polymer may be identical, like the links on a metal watch band; or the monomers may be different, like the beads in a multicolored necklace.

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Chemistry of Life

The compounds in living things are studied in the field organic chemistry. This field studies compounds with bonds to carbon. Is carbon so interesting that a whole branch of chemistry should be set aside just to study carbon compounds? It is indeed, for two reasons. First, carbon atoms have four valence electrons. Each electron can join with an electron from another atom to form a strong covalent bond. Carbon can bond with many elements, including hydrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, sulfur, and nitrogen.

- 1. Up to how many elements can one carbon bond to?
- 2. List 5 elements carbon commonly bonds to.

Second, and even more important, a carbon atom can bond to other carbon atoms, which gives carbon the ability to form chains that are almost unlimited in length. These carbon-carbon bonds can be single, double, or triple covalent bonds. Chains of carbon atoms can even close upon themselves to form rings. Carbon has the ability to form millions of different large and complex structures. No other element even comes close to matching carbon's versatility.