

## SOLUTION KEY- SECTION 8

### Questions:

1. Assume that the sequence of DNA below is a short protein-encoding gene; the sequences in between the transcription start and stop sites are shown. The entire DNA sequence of the very short gene is:

5' CGCTTATAGAACCCATCTCTCATAGGC 3'  
3' GCGAATATCTTGGGTTAGAGAGTATCCG 5'

- iv. What would the resulting mRNA be if the top strand of this DNA molecule were used as a template in transcription? Label the 5' and 3' ends of your molecule.

5' GCCU AUGAGAGAUUGGGUUCUAUAAGCG 3'

- v. What is the full sequence of the protein that would be translated from this RNA? Label the N and C termini of your molecule.

*N-met-arg-asp-trp-val-leu-C*

- vi. What would happen to the encoded protein if the underlined nucleotide C were mutated to a T?

*N-met-arg-asp-C* (This creates a premature stop codon resulting in a truncated protein).

2. Drawn below is part of a wild-type gene. The DNA sequence shown encodes the last amino acids of a protein that is normally 380 amino acids long. The **bold & underlined** codon indicates the correct reading frame of this gene. The lower strand of the gene is used as the template during the transcription of mRNA from this gene.

...**GCT**AAGTATTGCTCAAGATTAGGATGATAAATAACTGG-3'  
...CGATTCATAACGAGTTCTAATCCTACTATTTATTGACC-5'

- iii. In the copy of the sequence drawn below, circle one base pair that you could change to make a mutant form of the gene that produces a protein that is now 381 amino acids long. Indicate the identity of one new base pair that could take its place.

*You should change the stop codon immediately after the codon for 380<sup>th</sup> amino acid to get a protein that is 381 amino acids long. Please note that the codon immediately after the first stop codon is also a stop codon.*

- iv. In the copy of the sequence drawn below, draw a slash between two base pairs where you could add one extra base pair in order to make a single mutant form of the gene that produces a protein that is 373 amino acids long. Indicate the identity of the one new base pair you are adding.

*You should add a "T" before the 1st base in the 374<sup>th</sup> codon so that you get a stop codon.*

3. For each of the following types of mutations, state whether they can cause a loss-of-function of the gene product, a gain-of-function of the gene product, either, or neither:

- i. Silent: *It changes a codon but does not change the amino acid encoded by that codon neither*
- ii. Missense: *It changes the identity of the amino acid at one position (either)*
- iii. Frameshift: *It change that either inserts or deletes a single nucleotide from the coding region of a gene, leading to a change in the reading frame of that gene (usually a loss-of-function)*
- iv. Nonsense: *It results in a truncated protein due to a premature stop codon (usually a loss-of-function)*

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