

Contents

Part I Essentials of Life

1	Water	3
1.1	How Does Water Behave?.....	4
1.2	Acid–Base and pH.....	9
1.3	Natural Water.....	12
1.4	Water Pollution.....	13
1.5	Why Is Seawater Blue?.....	14
2	Air	15
2.1	Where Did “Air” Come From?.....	15
2.2	Biological Functions of Oxygen.....	17
2.3	Toxicity of Oxygen.....	17
2.4	Biological Strategies Against Oxygen Toxicity: Antioxidants, Etc.....	19
2.5	Air Pollution.....	20
2.5.1	Acid Rain and Smog.....	21
2.5.2	Greenhouse Effect.....	22
2.5.3	Ozone Depletion.....	24
3	Life Itself (A): How Do We Get Energy to Live by?	27
3.1	Reactions of “Acid–Base” Type.....	28
3.2	Reactions of Oxidation–Reduction Type.....	31
3.2.1	Oxidative Metabolism (Catabolism).....	31
3.2.2	Reduction.....	34
3.3	Chemical Logic of Life on Earth.....	35
4	Life Itself (B): Why Are We Like Our Parents?	39
4.1	Structure of DNA.....	39
4.2	How Is a DNA Replicated?.....	43
4.3	What Do DNAs Do?: Protein Synthesis.....	44
4.4	Chicken–Egg Issue Regarding the Origin of Life.....	47

5	Clothing and Shelters: Polymeric Material	51
5.1	Necessity for High Molecular Weight: What Makes a Compound a Solid?.....	51
5.2	Natural Polymeric Material.....	55
5.2.1	Cellulose, Starch, and Chitin.....	55
5.2.2	Lignin.....	58
5.2.3	Proteins: Silk, Keratin, Etc.....	59
5.2.4	Natural Rubber.....	62
5.3	Synthetic Polymers.....	63
5.3.1	Nylon.....	63
5.3.2	Polyesters.....	65
5.3.3	Polymers Obtained by Addition Polymerization.....	66
5.3.4	A Story of Vinyl Chloride.....	68

Part II Enhancing Human Health

6	Mineral Nutrition	73
6.1	What Elements Are Necessary for Our Health?.....	73
6.2	Iron.....	75
6.2.1	Chemistry of Iron.....	75
6.2.2	Heme Iron.....	76
6.2.3	Iron–Sulfur Proteins.....	79
6.2.4	Other Types of Iron-Containing Enzymes and Proteins.....	79
6.3	Copper, Manganese, and Molybdenum.....	80
6.4	Zinc.....	81
6.5	Calcium.....	83
6.6	Other Elements.....	84
6.6.1	Cobalt and Vitamin B ₁₂	84
6.6.2	Selenium.....	85
7	Stories of Drug Developments	87
7.1	Penicillin and Similar Antibiotics: Human Battle with Bacteria.....	87
7.2	AIDS Drugs: AZT and Protease Inhibitors.....	91
7.2.1	AZT and Its Analogues.....	91
7.2.2	Protease Inhibitors.....	93
7.3	Viagra and Others.....	95
7.4	Taxol and Related Compounds: Anticancer Drugs.....	97
7.5	Story of Cis-platin: A Unique Cancer Drug.....	101
7.6	Curry, Another Anticancer Agent?.....	102
7.7	PILLS: Controls of Reproductive Systems by Hormones and Their Analogues.....	103
7.7.1	The Pills.....	105
7.7.2	RU-486.....	106

Part III For the Fun of Life

8	Fireworks: A Carnivals of Chemicals	111
8.1	Firework: A Chinese Invention	111
8.2	Basic Ingredients and Principle of Firework	112
8.3	Color of Firework	113
8.4	Oxidation Reactions Involved in Firework	115
8.5	Nitrate and the World History	116
9	Light Stick, Firefly, and Color TV	119
9.1	Absorption of Light and Emission of Light	119
9.2	Color Sticks	120
9.3	Fireflies and Other Bioluminescence	121
9.4	Color TV and Color Monitor of Computer	123
10	Ceramics	125
10.1	Chemicals that Make Up Ceramics/Pots, and What Happens to Them When Fired in a Kiln?	126
10.2	Glaze	128
10.3	Colors	128
	10.3.1 Red and Pink Colors	129
	10.3.2 Blue Colors	130
	10.3.3 Green Colors	130
10.4	Chemistry of Colors (of Inorganic Compounds)	131
10.5	High-Tech Ceramics	133
11	Diamond, Graphite, Graphene, Bucky Ball and Nanotube (Fun with Carbon)	137
11.1	Diamond and Graphite	137
11.2	Graphene	143
11.3	Buckminsterfullerene and Nanotubes	144
	11.3.1 Buckminsterfullerenes	144
	11.3.2 Nanotubes	146
12	Perfumes	149
12.1	What Kinds of Compound Give Odor?	149
12.2	Perfumes	152

Part IV What Are the Earth and the Universe Made of?

13	Chemistry of the Universe: What Is It Made of?	157
13.1	Introduction	157
13.2	Formation of the Elements	157
13.3	Formation of Molecules and Dusts in Interstellar Space	161

14	Chemistry of the Earth	165
14.1	How Was the Earth Formed?.....	165
14.2	Chemistry of the Earth: Its Mantle and Upper Crust.....	166
14.3	Igneous Rocks.....	166
	14.3.1 Silicates.....	166
	14.3.2 Aluminosilicates.....	169
14.4	Clay and Soil.....	171
14.5	Sedimentary Rocks and Metamorphic Rocks.....	171
14.6	The Story of Iron.....	172
Part V	Chemicals that May Cause Problems: Poisons, Pollutants, and Others	
15	Environmental Issues: Heavy Metal Pollutants and Others	177
15.1	Story of Mercury Pollution/Toxicity.....	177
	15.1.1 Anthropogenic Sources of Mercury in the Environment.....	178
	15.1.2 Toxicity of Mercury.....	179
	15.1.3 Mercury in the Natural Environment and the Biological Defense Against It.....	180
15.2	Story of Lead Toxicity and Pollution.....	183
15.3	Cadmium.....	185
15.4	Arsenic.....	186
16	Environmental Issues: Organic Pollutants	189
16.1	The Story of DDT (and Others).....	189
	16.1.1 The Effectiveness of DDT as Insecticide.....	189
	16.1.2 The Toxicity of DDT.....	190
	16.1.3 Biological Resistance Against DDT.....	190
	16.1.4 Other Chlorinated Organic Compounds and Dioxin.....	191
16.2	Endocrine Disruptors.....	192
	16.2.1 Those Binding to the Steroid Hormone Receptors.....	194
	16.2.2 Those Affecting AH Receptor and Cytochrome-P450 Enzymatic Systems.....	195
17	Use, Abuse, and Misuse of Chemicals	197
17.1	Chemistry of Brain Function: Basics.....	198
17.2	Poisons and Toxins.....	202
	17.2.1 Common Poisons.....	202
	17.2.2 Arsenic.....	203
	17.2.3 Animal Toxins: Frog Toxins, Snake Venoms, Etc.....	203
	17.2.4 Anthrax Toxin.....	205
	17.2.5 Chemical Weapons.....	206

17.3	Psychoactive Drugs and Their Abuse	208
17.3.1	Alcohol	209
17.3.2	Tobacco: Nicotine: Death of the Bee.....	210
17.3.3	Psychotic Drugs: Ecstasy, Etc.	210
17.3.4	Opiates, Designer Drugs, and Parkinson Disease.....	211
17.4	Anabolic Steroids.....	214

Part VI Appendix: Essentials of Chemistry

18	Domain of Chemistry.....	219
19	Chemistry's View of the Material World: Basic Principles	223
19.1	Atoms/Molecules/Mole/Avogadro Number.....	223
19.2	Structures of Atoms	227
19.3	Ordinary Chemistry and Nuclear Chemistry	229
19.4	Nuclear Chemistry	229
19.4.1	Radioactivity: Spontaneous Nuclear Reactions.....	229
19.4.2	Induced Nuclear Reactions: Modern Alchemy	231
19.5	Behaviors of Electrons-Atoms (Elements)-Ordinary Chemistry	232
19.6	Ions.....	236
19.7	Molecules/Compounds: Chemical Bonding and Structures.....	238
19.7.1	Molecular Compounds and Ionic Compounds	238
19.7.2	Ionic Bonding and the Structures of Ionic Compounds	238
19.7.3	Covalent Bonding and Structures of Covalently Bound Compounds	240
19.7.4	Polarity of Covalent Bond	244
19.8	Energy: How and Why Changes Occur	246
19.8.1	Energies	246
19.8.2	Phase Changes and Energies	247
19.8.3	Writing Chemical Reaction Equations	249
19.8.4	Reactions and Energies: Free Energies.....	251
19.9	Speed of Chemical Reactions	253
20	Chemicals and Light	255
20.1	Characters of Light	255
20.2	Interactions of Light with a Chemical Compound.....	256
20.3	Basis of Spectroscopy	257
20.4	Emission of Light.....	257

21	Are Atoms and Molecules for Real? Can We See Them?	259
21.1	Electron Microscope	260
21.2	Scanning Probe Microscopy	263
21.3	X-Ray Diffraction: Atomic Structure of Large Molecular Compounds and Ionic Compounds	266
 Part VII Postscript		
22	Holistic Chemical View of the World	271
22.1	Organic Foods	272
22.2	GM Plants/Foods	275
22.3	Synthetic Chemicals in General.....	278
Acknowledgement		281
Index		283