Nelson and Williams' Infectious Disease Epidemiology 4th edition Williams Test Bank

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Chapter: Chapter 01 – Testbank

Multiple Choice

1. Who first proposed the theory that contagion could occur at a distance, without direct contact or fomites?
A) Athanasius Kircher
B) Thomas Sydenham
C) Girolamo Fracastoro
D) Frank Snowden
Ans: C
Ahead: Contagion
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2. According to Charles-Edward A. Winslow, why could germ theory have emerged earlier than it did?
A) The invention of antibiotics was already complete by 1700.
B) The three main scientists lacked the intelligence to collaborate.
C) There was enough theoretical and observational evidence by 1700 to support germ theory.
D) Most people already accepted germ theory by the 18th century.
Ans: C
Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms
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3. What was the theory of disease involving toxic air called?
A) Miasma theory
B) Germ theory
C) Humoralism
D) Contagion theory
Ans: A
Ahead: Why Did It Take So Long from the Observation of Microorganisms to Understanding Them as Causes of Disease?
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4. What was Pasteur’s improvement over Spallanzani’s setup?
A) He added oxygen inhibitors.
B) He used fine gauze.
C) He sealed flasks tighter.
D) He used swan-necked flasks to allow air without contamination.
Ans: D
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5. If a scientist in the 18th century believed in humoralism, what treatment might they suggest?
A) Antibiotics
B) Balancing body fluids
C) Eliminating bacteria
D) Filtering air
Ans: B
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6. What barrier to germ theory did Theodor Schwann help overcome?
A) The belief that disease was caused by maggots
B) The idea that putrefaction and fermentation were purely chemical processes
C) The belief that disease was caused by humoral imbalance
D) The theory that diseases originated in political conditions
Ans: B
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7. Which belief system delayed the recognition of microbes as disease agents the most?
A) Germ theory
B) Humoralism
C) Miasma
D) Abiogenesis
Ans: D
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8. Why did Winslow believe physicians were cautious about accepting contagion theory?
A) Early theories couldn’t explain indirect transmission or carriers.

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B) It dismissed environmental factors entirely.
C) It lacked historical precedent.
D) It contradicted public opinion.
Ans: A
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9. Which Italian scientist proved that the silkworm disease muscardine is caused by a fungus?
A) Agostino Bassi
B) Filippo Pacini
C) Jacob Henle
D) Robert Koch
Ans: A
Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*
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10. Who published *On the Mode and Communication of Cholera* in 1855, linking cholera to water?
A) Louis Pasteur
B) John Snow
C) Max von Pettenkofer
D) Walter Reed
Ans: B
Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*
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11. The sanitary movement led by Edwin Chadwick was based primarily on the _____ theory of disease.
A) humoral
B) germ
C) zymotic
D) filth
Ans: D
Ahead: Pathogenic Microorganisms: *Contagium Animatum*
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12. If an investigator today followed all four Koch's postulates for a novel bacterium, what would the final (fourth) step be?
A) Grow the bacterium on selective agar.
B) Show antibodies form in infected hosts.
C) Re-isolate the identical bacterium from the experimentally infected host.
D) Sequence the bacterium's genome.
Ans: C
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13. Why did Beijerinck describe viruses as a “living fluid”?
A) They grew only in solid media.
B) Their infectious nature persisted after filtration and they could not be cultured like bacteria.
C) They were visible as motile rods under a light microscope.
D) They dissolved bacterial cell walls.
Ans: B
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14. Judge the following claim: “Early sanitary reforms were ineffective until germ theory was accepted.”
A) Accurate—mortality declined only after Koch’s work.
B) Accurate—vaccines were the sole cause of gains.
C) Inaccurate—filth reduction lowered disease burdens even before full germ-theory adoption.
D) Impossible to evaluate from historical evidence.
Ans: C
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15. HIV and the immune suppression it causes have allowed for a resurgence of what disease in much of the world?
A) Polio
B) Malaria
C) Syphilis
D) Tuberculosis
Ans: D
Ahead: The Infectious Diseases Challenge
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True/False

1. True or False? Carlo Francesco Cogrossi believed diseases were caused by an imbalance of bodily humors.
Ans: False
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2. True or False? Miasma theory claimed that diseases were caused by living microscopic organisms.
Ans: False

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3. True or False? Virchow believed that understanding disease required attention to social and political contexts, not just biological ones.
Ans: True
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4. True or False? Bassi's muscardine research was the first to show a non-arthropod microbe could cause disease.
Ans: True
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5. True or False? John Snow identified *Vibrio cholerae* while conducting his Broad Street pump epidemiology.
Ans: False
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