

## CONCEPT: ACTIVATION ENERGY

● **Energy of Activation ( $E_A$  or  $\Delta G^\ddagger$ ):** energy barrier between substrates & transition state.

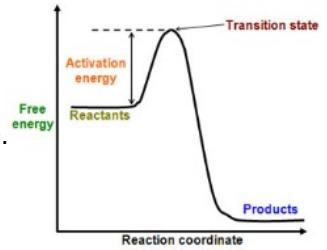
□  $E_A$  controls *kinetics*; the \_\_\_\_\_ the  $E_A$ , the \_\_\_\_\_ it takes for a reaction to take place.

● **Question:** What factors contribute to the  $E_A$  barrier?

□ \_\_\_\_\_ factors primarily contribute to the  $E_A$  barrier:

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Proper \_\_\_\_\_ of substrates 3) \_\_\_\_\_ of a substrate 4) \_\_\_\_\_

● **Binding energy** of an enzyme to its substrate influences each of these factors to \_\_\_\_\_ the  $E_A$ .



**PRACTICE:** Which of the following best describes the energy of activation for a reaction?

- a) The difference in free energy between the substrate and product.
- b) The difference in entropy between the substrate and transition state.
- c) The difference in free energy between the substrate and the transition state.
- d) The difference in entropy between the product and transition state.

### 1) Reducing Entropy & Random Motion

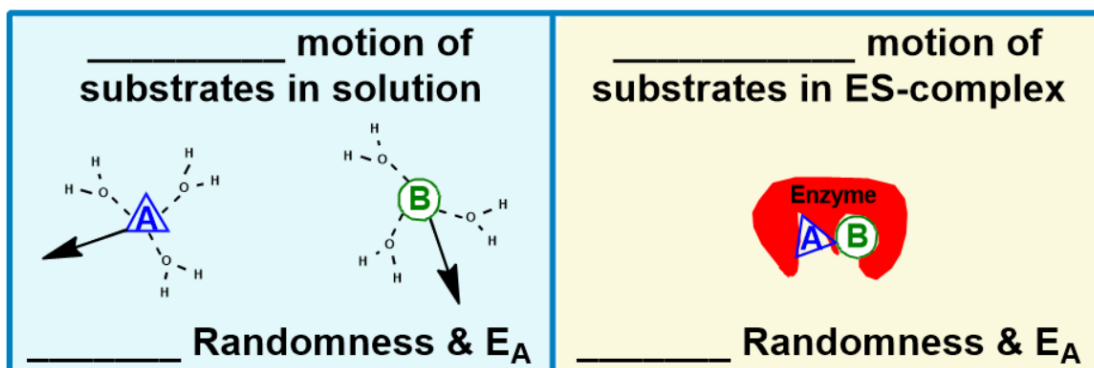
● Substrates in solution require collisions for reactions to take place but have lots of \_\_\_\_\_ motion (high entropy).

□ The \_\_\_\_\_ random motion, the \_\_\_\_\_ the likelihood of substrates colliding, which \_\_\_\_\_ the  $E_A$ .

● Enzymes \_\_\_\_\_ entropy of a reaction system by *restricting* random motion of substrates & bringing them *closer*.

□ Leads to increased likelihood of substrates reacting & a \_\_\_\_\_  $E_A$ .

**EXAMPLE:** Enzymes Reduce Entropy.



**PRACTICE:** Which of the following best describes catalysis by proximity?

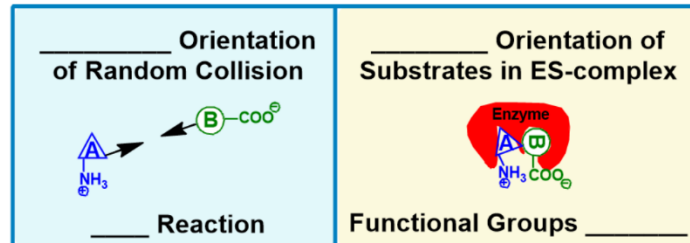
- a) Catalysis by activation of the substrate through an interaction with an acidic amino acid.
- b) Catalysis through enzyme-cofactor modification and a reduction in activation energy.
- c) Catalysis through increasing the concentration of substrates in the enzyme active site.
- d) Catalysis through physical distortion and strain on the substrate.

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### 2) Proper Orientation of Substrates

- Not only do substrates in solution require a collision to react, they require collision in a proper \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Properly oriented random collisions between substrates in solution can be \_\_\_\_\_, which \_\_\_\_\_  $E_A$ .
- Enzymes properly orient the \_\_\_\_\_ groups of substrates to make reactions *more* likely & *decrease*  $E_A$ .

**EXAMPLE:** Enzymes Properly Orient Substrates.



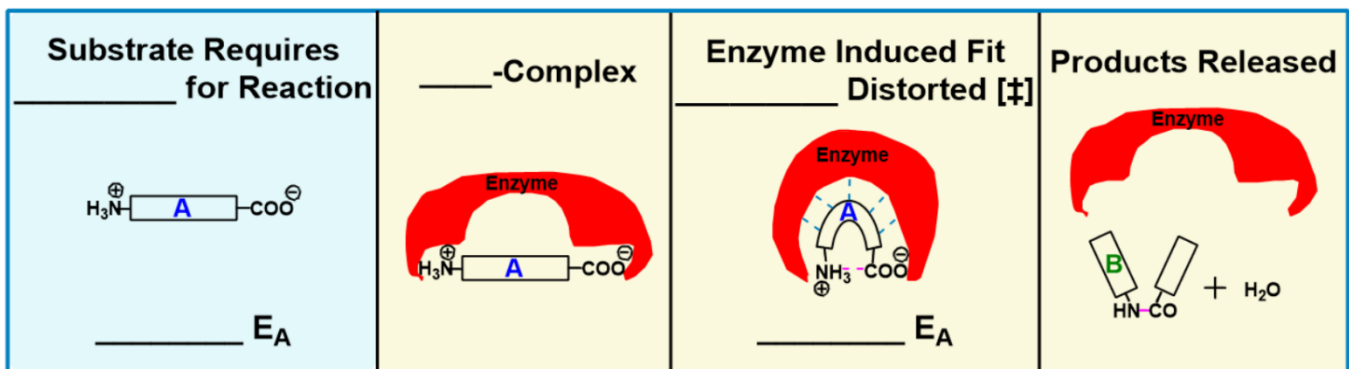
**PRACTICE:** Which of the following statements is false with respect to an enzyme's ability to catalyze a reaction?

- An enzyme provides a reaction surface & suitable environment for a reaction to take place.
- An enzyme binds substrates to position them correctly & allow them to attain transition state configurations.
- An enzyme allows a reaction to go through a less stable transition state than normal.
- a & c are false.

### 3) Distortion of a Substrate

- Many reactions require \_\_\_\_\_ of a substrate into an unstable/high-energy transition state ( $\ddagger$ ).
  - Distortion leads to an *increased* \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ fit allows enzymes to form interactions with the  $\ddagger$  and \_\_\_\_\_ distortions to *decrease*  $E_A$ .

**EXAMPLE:** Enzymes Stabilize  $\ddagger$  Distortions.



**PRACTICE:** Which of the following is not a way that enzymes increase rates of reactions?

- Binding of substrates in close proximity.
- Covalently binding to the substrate.
- Stabilization of the transition state.
- Conformational changes in binding site slightly increases  $E_A$ .

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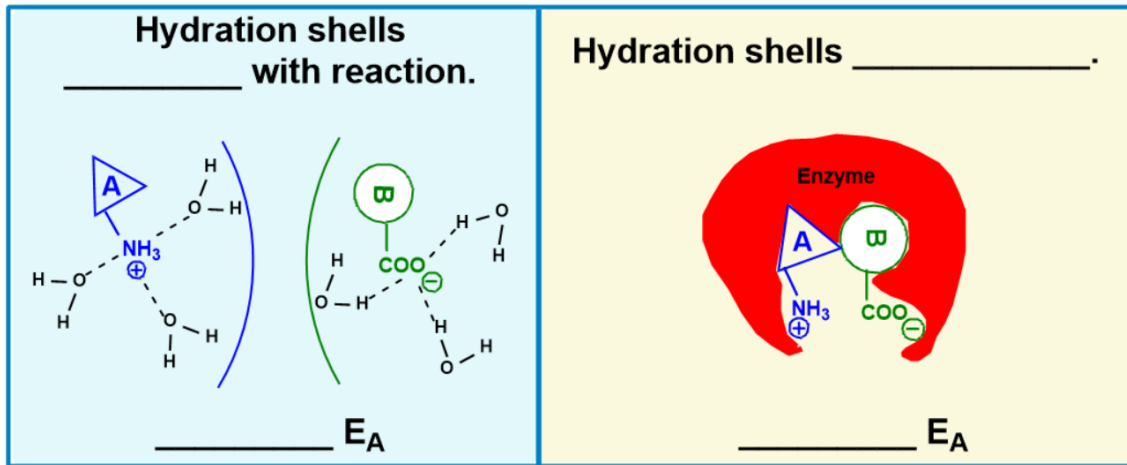
### 4) Solvation

● Solvation/hydration shells surrounding substrates in aqueous solutions can \_\_\_\_\_ with substrate reactions.

□ Interference *increases* \_\_\_\_\_ & slows reaction.

● Potentially interfering H<sub>2</sub>O hydration shells are \_\_\_\_\_ with ES interactions.

**EXAMPLE:** Enzymes Desolvate Substrates.



**PRACTICE:** Binding energy between an enzyme and a substrate contributes to catalysis in which way?

- a) Binding energy allows an enzyme to properly orient its substrates.
- b) Binding energy contributions allow for entropy reduction in the ES-complex.
- c) Binding energy compensates for energy changes as a result of desolvation of the substrate.
- d) Binding energy contributes to the process of induced fit between the enzyme & the substrate.
- e) a, b & c.
- f) All the above are correct.

**PRACTICE:** Enzymes are potent catalysts because they:

- a) Are consumed in the reactions they catalyze.
- b) Are very specific and can prevent the conversion of products back to substrates.
- c) Drive reactions to completion while other catalysts drive reactions to equilibrium.
- d) Increase the equilibrium constants for the reactions they catalyze.
- e) Lower the activation energy by stabilizing the transition states for the reactions they catalyze.