## CONCEPT: PEPTIDE SEQUENCING: PARTIAL HYDROLYSIS BY CYANOGEN BROMIDE

Cyanogen Bromide (BrCN) \_\_\_\_\_ cleaves peptide bonds on the carboxyl group of \_\_\_\_\_

□ Higher specificity than enzymes and has \_\_\_\_ exceptions.

**EXAMPLE:** Cyanogen bromide was used to cleave an unknown peptide. Propose a possible peptide sequence given the following fragments. (Hint: there are no Met-Met peptide bonds).

Gly-Ser-Thr-Met

Met

Ala-Lys-Phe

## Cyanogen Bromide Partial Hydrolysis Mechanism

1 S<sub>N</sub>2 Reaction: Nucleophilic \_\_\_ attacks C of BrCN, kicking out \_\_\_.

- Forms a sulfonium ion ( \_\_\_\_\_ leaving group).

2 S<sub>N</sub>2 Reaction: Carbonyl O attacks  $\gamma$ —in an intramolecular S<sub>N</sub>2 reaction, kicking out methyl \_\_\_\_cyanate.

- Forms a \_\_\_\_-membered methionine derivative ring.

(3) Hydrolysis: acid catalyzed hydrolysis of imine \_\_\_\_\_ methionine derivative from peptide chain (Pepc).