

ULTIMATE LAB QUEST

You are about to perform a very important and very urgent experiment. During the game you will make decisions and move to the next steps by following the numbers in brackets. So, let's start (1)!

<p>1 Ok, you've never done this kind of experiment. What should we do? - Ask a postdoc for help (7) - Follow a random student (5) - Find a protocol in the internet (16)</p>	<p>2 Finally! Measurements! We've been waiting so long! But wait... What a strange noise from this machine... - call for help (23) - restart (14)</p>	<p>3 This protocol doesn't seem to be easy to follow. Too many steps! Too many homemade buffers! - make new buffers (18) - take old ones from fridge (35)</p>
<p>4 Nice! The protocol is so straightforward. Although, you have to choose perfect incubation time. - 10min (25) - 60min (12)</p>	<p>5 Omg, this person is so busy! How could we hunt her in the department? - Talk to her after a meeting (24) - Discuss during a lunch time (9) - Sneak up on her in the hall (30)</p>	<p>6 He gives you a hint! But your indoor instrument for measurements is broken! - find another in the building (27) - freeze samples and wait (20)</p>
<p>7 The postdoc said: "Reagents are in the freezer, the protocol you'll find in the internet". Well, you tried! (16)</p>	<p>8 Technician shared a vial of fancy reagent with you! He also mentioned that it's pretty old. (4)</p>	<p>9 She didn't want to discuss much, but she forwarded you the original article with protocol! (11)</p>
<p>10 Wow! You've got some really weird-looking buffer. Moreover, after using it your samples got viscous... What is definitely not supposed to be! - Discard and start again (1) - Add more buffer (26)</p>	<p>11 Doesn't look bad! But it requires so many fancy reagents your lab doesn't have. Moral dilemma: - order your own ones (22) - beg technician for the reagent (8) - steal while nobody there (28)</p>	<p>12 Looks like someone is too tired. It's 7pm, you're hardly able to concentrate on your experiment. The best decision would be: - freeze everything and go home (21) - stay and finish (2)</p>
<p>13 Ok, she gives you all her markers she has! It doesn't make your life easier either. - Use only one for a control (25) - Ask postdoc for advice (6) - All in! (34)</p>	<p>14 Congrats! You've almost finished with this! Suddenly your PI passed by your office. New assignment: a brand-new project for the paper, which is about to be published! With your shared first authorship. (33)</p>	<p>15 Oh Lord! That protocol is a Frankenstein's monster. Stop... there's a reference written on it. What would be wise to do? - follow the student's protocol (17) - use original paper (11)</p>
<p>16 Of course there's two different protocols published. Which one to follow? - From Nature Protocols (11) - Published by your PI (3)</p>	<p>17 Ah! So many uncertainties in this text. What I supposed to use as a control? - Ask the postdoc (6) - Ask the student (13)</p>	<p>18 Yikes! Someone used the last sip of an acid without telling anyone! Damn people! - Order new acid (38) - Google the replacement (10)</p>
<p>19 So many men, so many minds! Which one to choose? - the most common one (29) - the one you have in a freezer (2)</p>	<p>20 After half a year that finally happened! Machine is working again. Let's go and do some measurements. (32)</p>	<p>21 Good morning! Such a nice day! Everything ran smoothly with the experiment! You've got the results! Your boss is happy!! (37)</p>
<p>22 You're a good person! But the delivery is scheduled next month only (31).</p>	<p>23 I guess, everyone left to drink some beer. Unfortunately, you've lost your the most precious sample. (31)</p>	<p>24 Her PI was faster than you! Now she is busy till the end of the world. Let's talk to her tomorrow. (5)</p>
<p>25 Grr!! The machine for measurements is fully booked till the end of a week! What are you supposed to do now? - Freeze samples till next week (36) - Make a deal (39)</p>	<p>26 It's alive! Oh, that was close! That seems to be working. Although you still don't know which control antibody to use. - Ask postdoc (6) - Check ResearchGate forum (19)</p>	<p>27 Yes! Results are in your hands! But they make no sense... Well, that is because your postdoc told you to use Ab32, when he definitely meant Ab23! Happens. Next time you will prove everything. (1)</p>
<p>28 Detected! Someone noticed you're stealing. But no one actually cares. (4)</p>	<p>29 Ha! Someone has to order new antibodies! They will arrive soon. I promise. (38)</p>	<p>30 Punk! You scared her! However, she let you take the protocol from her bench. (15)</p>
<p>31 Oops, you don't know what to do now. Don't worry! You still have time. Let's wait a little bit and start all over again. Please return to (1).</p>	<p>32 Your experiment didn't work out and nobody understands why. Well, life is life. Start all over again and try one more time (1).</p>	<p>33 After only 3 years this not really relating to your project paper was submitted! Stop... What was that old experiment about? (1)</p>
<p>34 OMG! Those results explain a lot! Your PI also thins so! Time to work on your own manuscript! (37)</p>	<p>35 Hm... They look cloudy. But you have no time to think! Pipette or die! (26)</p>	<p>36 The machine is broken. I'm not saying that was you. It's just too old. They will fix it. (20)</p>
<p>37 Congrats! You won this game! I'm so proud of you! Do you want to try again? (1)</p>	<p>38 Thanks God, it will arrive tomorrow. Would you like to try another approach meanwhile? (3)</p>	<p>39 Master students were so kind to let you squeeze between their time slots! Good negotiation skills! (32)</p>