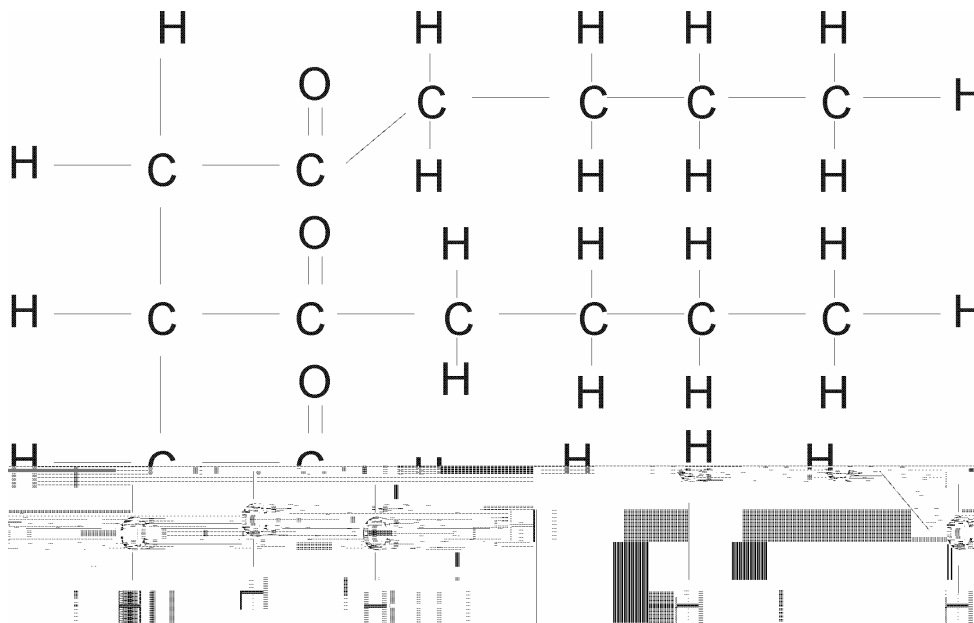




**Draw the structure of a triacylglycerol molecule.**



Note the glycerol molecule at the left of the diagram (as you look at it), the ester bonds between the carbons of the glycerol and the carboxyl carbons of the three fatty acid molecules and finally the three alkyl chains.

**How is glycerol synthesized ?**

Glucose is converted into glycerol by first converting it into dihydroxyacetone phosphate (in the glycolysis pathway). The DHAP is then converted into glycerol instead of glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate.

**What are two advantages of triacylglycerol over glycogen as energy storage molecules ?**

As mentioned in the chapter on beta oxidation, triacylglycerol contains more energy per gram than glycogen. Secondly, triacylglycerol is hydrophobic and so it is stored without water while glycogen is hydrated. This means that triacylglycerol takes up less space than glycogen.

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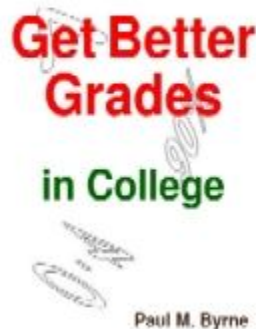
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