An example from the Summer 1998 Examination #1:

6. (20 points)

Answer the following two (2) questions precisely, succinctly and with correct grammar.

A. Why does the following reaction afford a racemic mixture of the cyclohexene derivative 1?

$$H_{3}C$$
 $+$
 CH_{3}
 D
 CH_{3}
 $H_{3}C$
 1

B. What effect does increased conjugation have on the position of the maximum absorbance, λ_{max} ? What is the basis for this observed effect?