Student Opinion Survey

Here are a number of statements that may or may not describe your beliefs about learning biology. You are asked to rate each statement by selecting a number between 1 and 5 where the numbers mean the following:

1. Strongly Disagree
2. Disagree
3. Neutral
4. Agree
5. Strongly Agree

Choose one of the above five choices that best expresses your feeling about the statement. If you don't understand a statement, leave it blank. If you have no strong opinion, choose 3.

We are asking that you express your own beliefs. Your answers will not affect your grade. Your instructors will never see your individual answers, only whether you participated and the class results as a whole. This information will be very helpful to us in an effort to design more effective science courses.

1. ______ It is possible to explain biological ideas with everyday language.
2. ______ I enjoy figuring out answers to biological questions.
3. ______ Learning biology changes my ideas about how the natural world works.
4. ______ It is a valuable use of my time to study the fundamental experiments behind biological ideas.
5. ______ If I had plenty of time, I would take a biology class outside of my major requirements just for fun.
6. ______ There is usually only one correct approach to solving a biology problem.
7. ______ For me, biology is primarily about learning known facts as opposed to investigating the unknown.
8. ______ We use this statement to discard the survey of people who are not reading the questions. Please select agree (not strongly agree) for this question to preserve your answers.
9. ______ Most important scientific discoveries are the result of one very talented, intelligent, and/or lucky scientist working alone.
10. ______ It is very important for scientists to go to meetings, like conferences, to communicate their results to other scientists.

Please circle your answer to the following questions or fill in the blank:

11. Current year in college: _________
12. What is your gender? __________
13. What is your race/ethnicity (select the one with which you most identify)?
   Caucasian (White)     Hispanic     Native American     African American
   Asian     Pacific Islander     Other (please specify)
14. Currently, what is your level of interest in biology?
   Very Low     Low     Moderate     High     Very High
15. What is your current major or most likely major: _______________________________