

DNA: CH 13

Macromolecule Review



- Nucleic acid
 - Monomer = nucleotide
 - Polymer = DNA, RNA
 - Function = genetic information

- Protein
 - Monomer = amino acid
 - Polymer = polypeptide
 - Function = structure and chemical reactions

Discovering DNA's Function

• 1928: Frederick Griffith studied bacteria



Conclusion: Genetic material can be transferred between cells

Griffith's Experiment

- Used harmless and harmful strains of bacteria that were injected into mice
- He recorded if they lived or died
- His final setup was a mixture of harmless bacteria and heat killed bacteria.
 - The mice died because of passing genetic material from the harmful bacteria to the healthy bacteria.
 - This changed the traits of the harmless bacteria.

Discovering DNA's Function

- 1940: Oswald Avery tried to determine WHAT was the material transferred in Griffith's experiment: DNA, proteins, or RNA
- 1952: Alfred Hershey and Martha Chase modified Avery's experiment
 - Conclusion: Found out that DNA was the material being transferred



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Hershey/Chase Experiment

- Used bacteriophage (virus) to infect bacteria cells
- Radioactively labeled the protein in one setup and then the DNA in another setup
- After the virus infected the bacteria, the glowing radioactively labeled DNA went into the cell and the protein stayed outside the cell

Discovering DNA's Structure

- 1949: Erwin Chargaff found that the amount of A's always equaled the amount of T's, and same with G's and C's
- 1952: Rosalind Franklin and Maurice Wilkins took the first picture (x-ray) of DNA and determined that the structure must be a coiled double helix
- 1953: James Watson and Francis Crick built a model of DNA using data from previous studies

Structure and Function of DNA

- DNA = deoxyribonucleic acid
- Function = stores genetic information for the cell
- Gene = segment of DNA that codes for a trait
- Shape of DNA = double helix (twisted ladder)

DNA Nucleotide

- Sugar deoxyribose
- Phosphate
- Nitrogen base A, T, G, or C



Structure of DNA

- Base pair rules complementary bases form hydrogen bonds with each other which forms the double helix
- DNA base pair rules:
 A matches with T
 G matches with C



DNA Replication

- 1. When = Occurs before cell division
- 2. Summary of steps
- The enzyme Helicase unwinds DNA strands and separates the two sides
- The enzyme DNA Polymerase adds DNA nucleotides one at a time to each of the separated strands
- End product = 2 identical pieces of DNA each containing a new and old strand



RNA Structure

• RNA = ribonucleic acid

- Sugar = ribose
- Phosphate
- Nitrogen base A, U, C, or G



One side or strand

RNA and Gene Expression

- Function = move genetic information
- mRNA: Messenger RNA = moves genetic information from the nucleus to the ribosome



 tRNA: Transfer RNA = transfers amino acids from the cytoplasm to the growing protein





 rRNA: Ribosomal RNA = makes up part of the ribosome







Image adapted from: National Human Genome Research Institute. Talking Glossary of Genetic Terms. Available at: www.genome.gov/ Pages/Hyperion//DIR/VIP/Glossary/Illustration/ma.shtml.

Protein Synthesis

 Transcription = the process of forming an RNA molecule from a DNA molecule in the nucleus

 Translation = the process that takes place in the ribosome and uses mRNA and tRNA to make an amino acid sequence (protein) **Protein Synthesis**

• DNA \rightarrow RNA \rightarrow Protein

Transcription

- Location: nucleus
- Molecules: DNA, mRNA



Transcription

- DNA unzips by breaking the hydrogen bonds
- 2. One RNA nucleotide at a time gets added to the DNA
- 3. Continues to build the mRNA until the stop code is reached
- 4. mRNA leaves the nucleus and DNA binds back together

Translation

- Location: ribosome
- Molecules: mRNA, tRNA with amino acids, rRNA - ribosome



Translation

- 1. mRNA attaches to the ribosome
- First tRNA with an amino acid binds to the mRNA codon = every 3 bases (or letters) on mRNA
- Second tRNA attaches its anticodon = 3 letters on the tRNA, to the second mRNA codon
- 4. First amino acid pops off and attaches to the second and the tRNA leaves

Translation

5. Third tRNA attaches to the next mRNA codon and the first 2 amino acids pop off and attach to the third tRNA

6. Process continues until an amino acid chain is built. Protein is formed and mRNA breaks down.