Cell Energetics

How plants make food and everyone makes energy!

Carbon Cycle



Endosymbiotic Theory

- Endosymbiotic theory = a theory that some of the cell's organelles descended from prokaryotic cells (bacteria)
 - Bacteria was consumed by another bacteria and came to live within the cell
 - Chloroplasts and mitochondria are the organelles once thought to be free living bacteria

Evidence to Support This Theory

- Both organelles have DNA
- Both contains ribosomes that make proteins
- Both can multiply by itself

Photosynthesis

 Definition: The process by which autotrophs use light energy to convert, carbon dioxide and water into carbohydrates

- Occurs in the chloroplast
- Occurs only in plants, some protists (algae), and some bacteria

Equation

$CO_2 + H_2O + Light energy \rightarrow Glucose + O_2$



Photosynthesis

- 2 parts
- Light reaction = thylakoid (disk)
- Calvin cycle = stroma (fluid)



Cell Respiration

 Definition: The process by which cells produce energy (ATP) from carbohydrates

- Occurs in mitochondria
- Occurs in both autotrophs and heterotrophs (all eukaryotic organisms)

Equation

• Glucose + $O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + H_2O$ + energy (ATP)



ATP = Adenosine Triphosphate H_2N OH OH

Cell Respiration

- 3 parts
- Glycolysis = cytoplasm
- Krebs Cycle = matrix of mitochondria
- Electron Transport Chain = inner membrane of mitochondria
- Inner membrane = cristae

Mitochondria Inner Structure



Photosynthesis: The Details

Light

- Different wavelengths make up the light we see
- If we see green, then the green wavelength is being reflected back at us



Pigments in Plants

 Certain pigments in plants are used to capture the light wavelengths



Wavelength of light (nm)

Light hits the chlorophyll (pigment) in the thylakoid membrane

 An electron gets excited by the light and moves along a series of proteins (electron transport chain) in the membrane

– This powers the movement of H+ into the disk



- The lost electron gets replaced when a water molecule splits into oxygen and hydrogen within the disk
 - Oxygen (O₂) leaves the plant and H+ gets added to the growing concentration inside the disk

 Another ray of light hits another group of chlorophyll in the membrane

• The electron gets excited again

 The electron is used to make a carrier molecule called NADPH

- Then, ATP is built when the build up of H+ in the thylakoid causes them to move out through a special protein – ATP synthase – This is an enzyme in the thylakoid membrane
- ATP synthase causes a P to get added to ADP to create ATP

 End Result: NADPH and ATP...O₂ leaves the cell and then the plant



Calvin Cycle

 NADPH and ATP move to the stroma to be used in the next series of steps

 CO₂ comes into the cell and into the chloroplast and attaches to a 5-carbon molecule that is already in the organelle



Calvin Cycle

 This new 6-carbon molecule goes through a series of changes with the help of ATP and NADPH

 This makes 1 sugar and the rest of the elements reform the original 5-carbon molecule

Factors affecting photosynthesis

- Light intensity / amount
- Temperature
- Amount of CO2 available

• Changes in the above factors will either increase or decrease photosynthesis

Cellular Respiration: The Details

Cell Respiration



Step 1: Glycolysis

- Glucose comes into the cell and is too big to fit into the mitochondria
- Glucose (6-C) is broken down into two 3 carbon molecules and a carrier molecule is formed

• End Results of this step: 2 ATP and NADH

Step 2: Krebs Cycle In the Mitochondria – if O_2 is present

- The 3-Carbon molecule breaks off a CO₂ which leaves the cell
- The new 2-Carbon molecule binds to a 4-Carbon molecule (already present in the organelle) and goes through a series of steps
- End results: 2 ATP, NADH, and FADH₂ (another type of carrier molecule)
 – CO₂ leaves

Step 3: Electron Transport Chain

 All the NADH and FADH₂ pop off their H to start the movement of electrons through the series of proteins in the membrane of the mitochondria

- H+ moves across the inner membrane by active transport through a protein
- The electrons eventually get donated to O_2 and a left over H+ to make H_2O
 - Without O₂ present this step cannot occur

Electron Transport Chain

- Meanwhile, H+ builds up between the two membranes of the mitochondria and then diffuses back in through a special protein – ATP synthase (enzyme)
 - This allows a P to add to ADP to make ATP

-End Results: 34 ATP

-Total ATP count for cell respiration = 38

Fermentation (Anaerobic Respiration)

 2 Types: alcoholic fermentation and lactic acid fermentation

If **NO** O_2 is present:

- After glycolysis, the 3 carbon molecule is converted into lactic acid (animals) or ethyl alcohol (fungus and bacteria) instead of moving into the next 2 steps
- End Result: only 2 ATP from glycolysis
 This is less than cellular respiration