Organisation of the organism

IGCSE Biology · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
cells /selz/	Your body is made of millions of **cells**.
plant /plænt/	A tree is a **plant**.
animal /'ænɪml/	A dog is an **animal**.
bacterium /bæk'tɪərɪəm/	A **bacterium** is a single cell with no nucleus.
division /dɪ'vɪʒn/	Cell **division** makes two new cells from one.
cell membrane /sel 'membreɪn/	The **cell membrane** controls what goes in and out of the cell.
cytoplasm /'saɪtəplæzəm/	Chemical reactions happen in the **cytoplasm**.
ribosomes /'rɪbəsəʊmz/	**Ribosomes** make proteins.
nucleus /'nju:klɪəs/	The **nucleus** holds the cell's DNA. DNA
mitochondria /ˌmaɪtə'kɒndrɪə/	**Mitochondria** release energy from food.
cell wall /sel wɔ:l/	A **cell wall** gives a plant cell its shape.
chloroplasts /'klɔ:rəʊplæsts/	**Chloroplasts** make the leaf green.
vacuole /'vækju:əʊl/	A plant cell has a large **vacuole** full of watery sap.
genetic material /dʒɪ'netɪk mə'tɪərɪəl/	DNA is the **genetic material** of a cell. DNA

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proteins /'prəʊti:nz/	Meat, eggs and beans are rich in **proteins**, which are made from amino acids.
respiration /ˌrespɪ'reɪʃn/	**Respiration** releases energy from glucose.
energy /'enədʒi/	Food gives your body the **energy** it needs to move.
cellulose /'selju:ləʊs/	Plant cell walls are made of **cellulose**.
chlorophyll /ˌklɔ:rəʊ'fɪl/	**Chlorophyll** makes leaves green.
photosynthesis /ˌfəʊtəʊ'sɪnθəsɪs/	Plants make sugar by **photosynthesis**.
cell sap /sel sæp/	**Cell sap** fills the vacuole of a plant cell.
prokaryote /'prɒkərɪəʊt/	A bacterium is a **prokaryote**: it has no nucleus.
plasmids /'plæzmɪdz/	Bacteria have small rings of DNA called **plasmids**. DNA
circular DNA /'sɜ:kjʊlə ˌdi: en 'eɪ/	A bacterium keeps most of its genes on one loop of **circular DNA**.
daughter cells /'dɔ:tə selz/	One cell splits into two **daughter cells**.
genetically identical /dʒɪ'netɪkli aɪ'dentɪkl/	The two new cells are **genetically identical**: they have the same DNA. DNA
specialised cells /'speʃəlaɪzd selz/	Nerve cells and red blood cells are **specialised cells**.
ciliated cells /'sɪlɪeɪtɪd selz/	**Ciliated cells** sweep mucus out of the airways.
mucus /'mju:kəs/	**Mucus** traps dust in your nose.

Word	Example
trachea /trə'kɪə/	The **trachea** carries air down to the lungs.
bronchi /'brɒŋkaɪ/	The trachea splits into two **bronchi**, one for each lung.
root hair cells /ruːt heə selz/	**Root hair cells** take in water from the soil.
absorption /əb'sɔːpʃn/	Most **absorption** of food happens in the small intestine.
palisade mesophyll cells /'pælɪseɪd 'mesəfɪl selz/	**Palisade mesophyll cells** carry out most photosynthesis.
neurones /'njuːrəʊnz/	**Neurones** carry messages around the body.
electrical impulses /ɪ'lektrɪkl 'ɪmpʌlsɪz/	Neurones carry **electrical impulses**.
red blood cells /red blʌd selz/	**Red blood cells** carry oxygen.
oxygen /'ɒksɪdʒn/	Your cells need **oxygen** to release energy.
sperm /spɜːm/	A **sperm** swims to the egg.
egg cells /eg selz/	**Egg cells** are made in the ovaries.
gametes /'gæmiːts/	Sperm and egg cells are **gametes**.
haemoglobin /ˌhiːmə'gləʊbɪn/	**Haemoglobin** in red blood cells carries oxygen.
organism /'ɔːgənɪzəm/	A tree is an **organism**.
tissue /'tɪʃuː/	Muscle is a **tissue**.

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Word	Example
muscle /'mʌsl/	Your heart is made of **muscle**.
organ /'ɔːgən/	The heart is an **organ**.
organ system /'ɔːgən 'sɪstəm/	The digestive system is an **organ system**.
digestive system /daɪ'dʒestɪv 'sɪstəm/	The stomach is part of the **digestive system**.
microscope /'maɪkrəskəʊp/	Use a **microscope** to look at cells.
magnification /ˌmægnɪfɪ'keɪʃn/	The microscope gives a **magnification** of 400 times. 400 times
specimen /'spesɪmən/	Put the **specimen** on a glass slide.
micrometres /'maɪkrəʊmiːtəz/	A red blood cell is about 7 **micrometres** across. 7
scale bar /skeɪl bɑː/	The **scale bar** shows that the line is 10 micrometres long. 10
proportion /prə'pɔːʃn/	Draw each part in the right **proportion**.
pencil	Draw with a sharp **pencil**.
continuous outline	Draw each part with a **continuous outline**, not a sketchy line.