Cell Structure | Topic Notes



- <u>An organelle</u> is a specialised membrane-bound compartment within a cell that has a specific function.
- <u>Cell membrane</u> consists of phospholipids arranged into a bilayer.It controls what enters and leaves the cell.
- <u>Cytoplasm</u> is where all the chemical processes of the cell occur.
- <u>Nucleus</u> contains DNA (used for the manufacture of all proteins needed by the cell), which is
 organised into chromosomes.
- **Ribosomes** are made from RNA and produce the proteins needed by the cell.
- <u>Mitochondria</u> are responsible for carrying out the major metabolic process of respiration. They've their own DNA and can replicate by themselves.
- Lysosomes have enzymes for breaking down cell debris, viruses, bacteria & old organelles.
- <u>Chloroplasts</u> are plant cell organelles that are responsible for making food using sunlight, h2o and co2. Similarly to mitochondria they can replicate themselves.
- <u>Cell wall (plants)</u> is the strong rigid structure made of **cellulose** that gives plants their shape.
- <u>Middle lamella holds plant cells together giving them strength.</u>
- <u>Vacuole</u> is a large fluid filled sac that stores water, food and wastes which help maintain the shape of a plant cell.*Parts of the light microscope:*
- **1000<u>µm</u> =1mm** (micrometre)
- Prokaryotic cells have no membrane bound organelles other than ribosomes. They are bacteria and range in size from 0.1-10µm.



1

- Eukaryotic cells have membrane bound organelles. They are all other cells and are 10-100μm.
- Transmission electron microscopes use a beam of electrons to illuminate the specimen and can magnify it up to 1,000,000x.



 \circ A **<u>tissue</u>** is a group of similar cells with a shared function.

• An **<u>organ</u>** is a group of tissues joined together to carry out a specialised function.



An <u>organ system</u> is a group of organs that work together to carry out a number of linked functions.(eg.
 Skeletal, muscular, circulatory and nervous

systems)



2

• **Tissue culture** involves growing tissue and/or cells outside an organism.

- Osmosis is the movement of water molecules from a region of high water concentration to a region of low water concentration across a semi-permeable membrane. (*uses include jam making and salting fish*)
- Diffusion is the passive movement of particles from a region of high concentration to a region of low concentration.
- ◆ **Turgor** is the pressure of the contents of a cell against its cell wall.
- Plasmolysed cells are cells that have a low water concentration (hypertonic solution)
- Flaccid cells are cells that that have a normal water concentration (isotonic solution)
- Turgid cells are cells that have a high water concentration (hypotonic solution)



Experiment to demonstrate osmosis:

(a)

(b)

- 1. Cut two equal lengths of visking tubing and tie both at one end.
- 2. Half fill one with a known vol. of water (control), and the other with the same vol. of a 60% sucrose solution.
- 3. Tie the other end of both tubes.
- 4. Measure their masses.
- 5. Place each tube in separate beakers of water for at least $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour.
- 6. Reweigh both tubes and record results.

RESULT: Difference in solute concentration causes osmosis.