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First Written Assessment of Cytology

16/12/2025

Exam Duration 1h :30mn

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Choose One correct answer

1. Which structural feature is characteristic of Gram-negative bacteria and explains their specific response to Gram staining?

- A. A thick peptidoglycan layer directly exposed to the extracellular environment
- B. The presence of teichoic acids associated with peptidoglycan
- C. A thin peptidoglycan layer located between two membranes
- D. The absence of a cell wall
- E. A peptidoglycan layer representing more than 80% of the cell wall

2. What is the main functional role of the periplasmic space, particularly in Gram-negative bacteria?

- A. Storage of genetic material
- B. ATP synthesis
- C. Protein synthesis
- D. Enzymatic degradation and transport of nutrients
- E. Protection against mechanical stress

3. Which statement correctly describes the bacterial chromosome?

- A. It is enclosed within a nuclear membrane
- B. It consists of multiple linear DNA molecules
- C. It is a circular, double-stranded DNA molecule located in the cytoplasm
- D. It represents only a minor fraction of the bacterial genetic material
- E. It is associated with histone proteins similar to eukaryotic cells

4. Which microscopy technique is most appropriate for observing living cells without staining?

- A. Transmission electron microscopy
- B. Scanning electron microscopy
- C. Fluorescence microscopy
- D. Phase-contrast microscopy
- E. Confocal microscopy

5. What mainly explains the higher resolving power of the electron microscope compared to the optical microscope?

- A. The use of fluorescent dyes
- B. The presence of a condenser lens
- C. The use of thicker biological sections
- D. The application of heavy metal staining
- E. The use of shorter wavelengths associated with accelerated electrons

6. In optical microscopy, what is the theoretical limit of resolution?

- A. 2  $\mu\text{m}$
- B. 0.2 mm
- C. 0.2 nm
- D. 0.02  $\mu\text{m}$
- E. 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$

7. What is the main objective of cryofracture followed by cryoetching?

- A. To enhance surface relief and visualize membrane organization
- B. To obtain serial ultra-thin sections for light microscopy

- C. To chemically fix proteins using aldehydes
  - D. To selectively stain nucleic acids
  - E. To increase magnification without improving resolution
- 8. What is the main function of the plasma membrane?**
- A. Store genetic material
  - B. Control exchanges between intra- and extracellular environments**
  - C. Synthesize proteins
  - D. Produce energy for the cell
  - E. Degrade toxic molecules
- 9. Under a transmission electron microscope (TEM), how does the plasma membrane appear in thin sections?**
- A. Single electron-dense layer
  - B. Two light layers separated by a dark layer
  - C. Tristratified with two dark layers and a light middle layer**
  - D. Completely homogeneous
  - E. Only visible with staining
- 10. Which of the following is not a main lipid component of the plasma membrane?**
- A. Phospholipids
  - B. Cholesterol
  - C. Glycolipids
  - D. Triglycerides**
  - E. Sphingolipids
- 11. Which statement correctly describes phospholipids in the plasma membrane?**
- A. They are fully hydrophobic
  - B. They are bipolar amphiphilic molecules with hydrophilic heads and hydrophobic tails**
  - C. They form a rigid solid layer
  - D. They only exist in prokaryotic cells
  - E. They are proteins bound to carbohydrates
- 12. Which type of membrane protein crosses the lipid bilayer several times?**
- A. Peripheral proteins
  - B. Polytopic intrinsic proteins**
  - C. Glycolipids
  - D. Cholesterol molecules
  - E. Single-pass extrinsic proteins
- 13. Which of the following best describes lipid asymmetry in the plasma membrane?**
- A. The same lipids are evenly distributed in both leaflets
  - B. Phosphatidylserine and phosphatidylethanolamine are abundant on the cytosolic side, while sphingomyelin and phosphatidylcholine are on the outer side**
  - C. Cholesterol is only present on the outer leaflet
  - D. Glycolipids are only present on the cytosolic side
  - E. All lipids move freely across both leaflets
- 14. Which lipid movement is very rare and occurs slowly across the bilayer?**
- A. Lateral diffusion
  - B. Rotation
  - C. Flip-flop**
  - D. Endocytosis
  - E. Exocytosis
- 15. Which type of transport does not require energy and moves molecules along their concentration gradient?**
- A. Primary active transport

**B. Facilitated diffusion**

- C. Endocytosis
- D. Exocytosis
- E. Secondary active transport

**16. Which of the following molecules primarily uses simple diffusion to cross the plasma membrane?**

- A. Glucose
- B. Na<sup>+</sup> ions

**C. Steroid hormones**

- D. Amino acids
- E. Proteins

**17. What is the main difference between simple diffusion and facilitated diffusion?**

- A. Facilitated diffusion consumes ATP
- B. Simple diffusion requires membrane proteins

**C. Facilitated diffusion is saturable**

- D. Simple diffusion moves molecules against the gradient
- E. Facilitated diffusion only occurs in the nucleus

**18. Primary active transport is characterized by:**

- A. Transport along the concentration gradient without energy

**B. Transport** requiring ATP to move ions against the gradient

- C. Transport mediated by aquaporins
- D. Symport of glucose and sodium without ATP
- E. Transport through ion channels only

**19. The sodium-glucose symporter (SGLT1) is an example of:**

- A. Primary active transport
- B. Facilitated diffusion
- C. Secondary active transport**
- D. Simple diffusion
- E. Endocytosis

**20. Which statement about G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) is correct?**

- A. They directly phosphorylate proteins without a second messenger
- B. They use a trimeric G protein to transmit signals**
- C. They transport glucose into cells
- D. They pump Na<sup>+</sup> ions against the gradient
- E. They are a type of integrin

**21. Integrins are primarily responsible for:**

- A. Facilitated diffusion of ions
- B. Cell adhesion to the extracellular matrix**
- C. Transport of glucose via symport
- D. Opening ligand-gated ion channels
- E. Generating ATP for active transport

**22. Which process allows the transport of two substances in opposite directions across the membrane?**

- A. Symport
- B. Antiport**
- C. Facilitated diffusion
- D. Simple diffusion
- E. Primary active transport

**23. What maintains the sodium gradient that powers the SGLT1 symporter?**

- A. Sodium/potassium ATPase (Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> pump)**
- B. Potassium leak channels
- C. Aquaporins
- D. Voltage-gated calcium channels

E. Integrins

**24. Which statement best describes pinocytosis?**

- A. It is a selective endocytosis involving specific membrane receptors
- B. It involves the uptake of large solid particles by specialized cells
- C. It is a non-selective endocytosis of extracellular fluid and small particles
- D. It occurs only in immune cells

**25. In receptor-mediated endocytosis, which protein is mainly responsible for forming the coated pits?**

- A. Clathrin
- B. Tubulin
- C. Actin
- D. Dynein

**26. After LDL dissociates from its receptor in the acidic endosome, what happens to the LDL receptor?**

- A. It is degraded in the lysosome
- B. It diffuses freely in the cytosol
- C. It is recycled back to the plasma membrane
- D. It is secreted outside the cell

**27. Which statement correctly describes phagocytosis?**

- A. It occurs continuously in all cell types
- B. It involves small vesicles less than 150 nm
- C. It is mainly used for hormone secretion
- D. It leads to the formation of phagolysosomes after lysosome fusion

**From the diagram below**

**28. Element B is:**

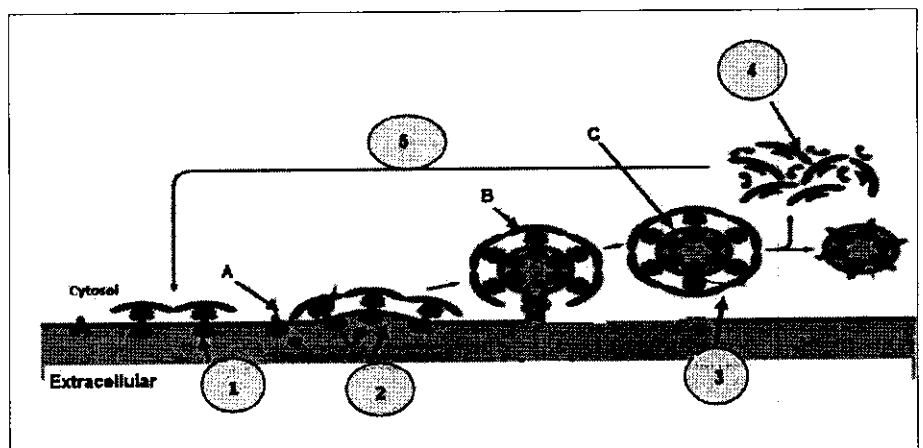
- A. Clathrin
- B. Receptor
- C. LDL vesicle
- D. Ligand
- E. Membrane

**29. Step 1 is**

- A. Recycling of clathrin and initiation of a new endocytosis cycle.
- B. Assembly of the ligand-receptor complexes in clathrin-coated pits (clathrin-adaptin-receptor complex).
- C. Separation of the clathrin coat from the vesicle
- D. Detachment of the clathrin-coated vesicle from the plasma membrane.
- E. Binding of the ligand to its specific membrane receptor.

**30. Step 5 is**

- A. Recycling of clathrin and initiation of a new endocytosis cycle.
- B. Assembly of the ligand-receptor complexes in clathrin-coated pits (clathrin-adaptin-receptor complex).
- C. Separation of the clathrin coat from the vesicle
- D. Detachment of the clathrin-coated vesicle from the plasma membrane.
- E. Binding of the ligand to its specific membrane receptor.



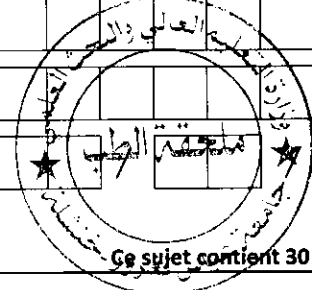


EMD 1 de Cytologie (Première Année de Médecine : 2025-2026)

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