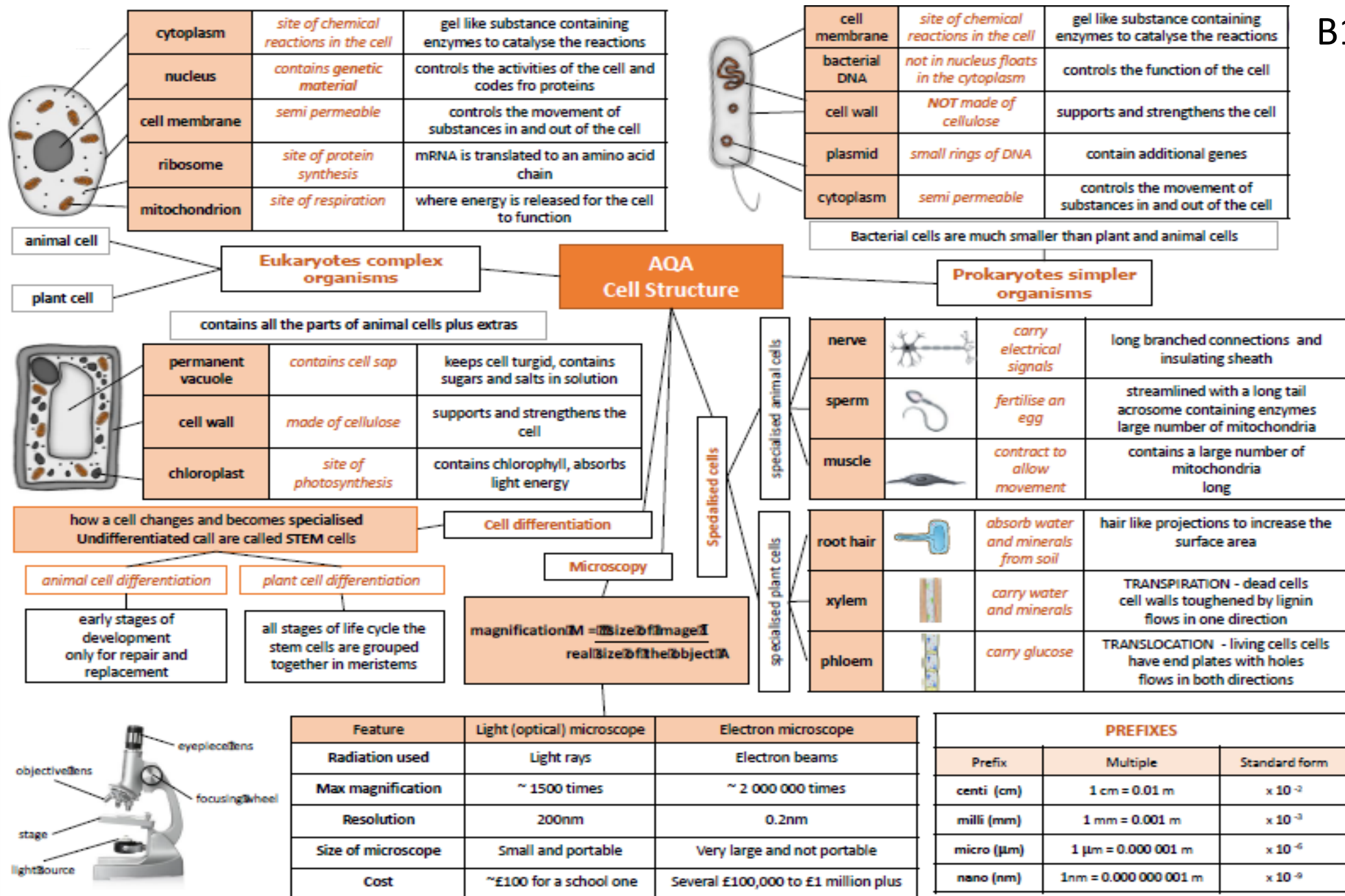




cell	The smallest structural and functional unit of an organism.
nucleus	A structure that contains genetic material and controls the activities of the cell.
chromosome	A thread like structure of coiled DNA found in the nucleus of eukaryotic cells.
DNA	A polymer made up of two strands forming a double helix.
gene	A section of DNA that codes for a specific protein or characteristic.

Small intestines	<i>Villi – increase surface area, Good blood supply – to maintain concentration gradient, Thin membranes – short diffusion distance.</i>
Lungs	<i>Alveoli – increase surface area, Good blood supply – to maintain concentration gradient, Thin membranes – short diffusion distance.</i>
Gills in fish	<i>Gill filaments and lamella – increase surface area, Good blood supply – to maintain concentration gradient, Thin membranes – short diffusion distance.</i>
Roots	<i>Root hair cells - increase surface area.</i>
Leaves	<i>Large surface area, thin leaves for short diffusion path, stomata on the lower surface to let O₂ and CO₂ in and out.</i>

ADAPTATIONS FOR DIFFUSION

The greater the difference in concentrations the faster the rate of diffusion.

AQA Cell Biology

Cell division

STEM CELLS

Undifferentiated cell of an organism

Divides to form more cells of the same type, and can differentiate to form many other cell types.

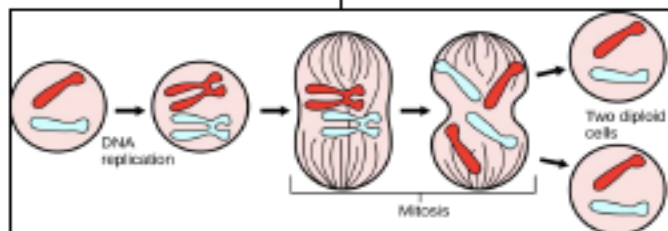
Transport in cells

Diffusion <i>No energy required</i>	<i>Movement of particles in a solution or gas from a higher to a lower concentration</i>	E.g. O ₂ and CO ₂ in gas exchange, urea in kidneys. Factors that affect the rate are concentration, temperature and surface area.
Osmosis <i>No energy required</i>	<i>Movement of water from a dilute solution to a more concentrated solution</i>	E.g. Plants absorb water from the soil by osmosis through their root hair cells. Plants use water for several vital processes including photosynthesis and transporting minerals.
Active transport <i>ENERGY required</i>	<i>Movement of particles from a dilute solution to a more concentrated solution</i>	E.g. movement of mineral ions into roots of plants and the movement of glucose into the small intestines.

Cells divide in a series of stages. The genetic material is doubled and then divided into two identical cells.

MITOSIS AND THE CELL CYCLE

Stage 1	Growth	Increase the number of sub-cellular structures e.g. ribosomes and mitochondria.
Stage 2	DNA Synthesis	DNA replicates to form two copies of each chromosome.
Stage 3	Mitosis	One set of chromosomes is pulled to each end of the cell and the nucleus divides. Then the cytoplasm and cell membranes divide to form two cells that are identical to the parent cell.



Mitosis occurs during growth, repair, replacement of cells. Asexual reproduction occurs by mitosis in both plants & simple animals.

Human Embryonic stem cells	<i>Can be cloned and made to differentiate into most cell types</i>	Therapeutic cloning uses same genes so the body does not reject the tissue. Can be a risk of infection
Adult bone marrow stem cells	<i>Can form many types of human cells e.g. blood cells</i>	Tissue is matched to avoid rejection, risk of infection. Only a few types of cells can be formed.
Meristems (plants)	<i>Can differentiate into any plant cell type throughout the life of the plant.</i>	Used to produce clones quickly and economically, e.g. rare species, crop plants with pest /disease resistance

Treatment with stem cells may be able to help conditions such as diabetes and paralysis. Some people object to the use of stem cells on ethical or religious grounds