

Analysis: Please answer all questions in complete sentences.

1. What are the four different nucleic acids that are involved in taking a genetic message from the nucleus and changing into a protein at the ribosomes?

2. Briefly describe what is occurring during each of the events below, which involves the four answers you wrote in question 1.

Transcription – _____

Splicing – _____

Translation – _____

3. List 3 similarities and also 3 differences between DNA and RNA.

Similarities

Differences

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4. Compare replication (as discussed in section 12.2) with transcription (discussed in section 12.3). How are these processes similar? How are the enzymes involved similar?

5. During splicing which part of the mRNA stays in the nucleus, and which part leaves the nucleus?

6. How many different codons can be created from the 4 bases in mRNA? _____ How many different amino acids do these codons match up with? _____

7. Which codon is always the first to be translated? _____ What amino acid then is always the first on any of the thousands of protein chains? _____

8. What are mutations? During which processes in question #2 could a mutation happen? (List all possible answers)

9. How is a point mutation different from a frame-shift mutation?

11. Which type of mutation from the previous question is more harmful to an organism? Explain why.

12. Will all point mutations cause a change in the amino acids sequence? Provide an example to support your answer.

Using the following DNA strand to complete the questions R to W.

T A C C A T G A T T A G G A G A C T

13. What is the mRNA strand created from this DNA strand?

14. What is the amino acid chain created by the mRNA sequence in problem 13?

15. Describe why a deletion mutation at a gene is usually not as serious a problem as a deletion mutation on a chromosome to a developing human embryo.
