

LAB VOCABULARY

1. **Growth**: The development of a population of cells from one or a few cells. This is not growth in size of the cells, but growth with respect to multiplication of the cells.
2. **Culture medium**: Those nutrients essential for growth of a given microorganism. Provides suitable surroundings for growth = the proper pH, osmotic pressure, oxygen, temperature, etc. The two main kinds of culture mediums we use are:
 - A. Nutrient Broth = Liquid. Many times we will start something in the nutrient Broth and then transfer it to the nutrient agar.
 - B. Nutrient Agar = Solid. This is really just nutrient broth that has had agar added to it. The agar causes the broth to solidify = makes it a solid.
3. **Pure culture**: Single species of microorganisms.
4. **Mixed Culture**: More than one species of microorganisms.
5. **Aseptic technique**: To inoculate the sterile medium with a pure culture of microorganisms without outside contamination.
6. **Sterile**: Heated to a point where all organisms present are destroyed. It may not be heated, but basically the word sterile means absolutely no organisms.
7. **Autoclave**: A machine used to sterilize by the use of steam under pressure. Insures
8. that the spores are destroyed. It will go up to fifteen pounds of pressure per square inch. It will be kept at 121 degrees centigrade for 15 to 20 minutes.
9. **Inoculum**: Bacteria cells you want to grow.
10. **Inoculate**: The transfer of the cells you want to grow into a culture medium.
11. **Incubate**: Cells placed in an environment providing suitable growth conditions.
12. **Turbidity**: Cloudiness in liquid broth. The more bacteria, the more turbidity there.
13. **Colony**: An isolated population on solid media.
14. **Ubiquitous**: Bacteria are universally distributed; they are everywhere.