

Transcription - Key terms

Promoter	regulatory region of DNA, where RNA polymerase other proteins involved in transcription initiation bind
Enhancer sequences	regulatory DNA sequences that bind transcription factors and enhance transcription of the gene they are associated with
General transcription factors	set of proteins, that bind to the promoter of a gene and are involved in initiating transcription
Transcriptional activator proteins	proteins that bind to enhancer sequences to begin transcription
Enhancer sequences	sequences in the DNA that are bound by transcription activator proteins that activate transcription

Molecular interactions

Nonpolar covalent bond: Electron pairs are shared equally

Polar covalent bond: Electron pairs shared unequally (electronegativity)

Hydrogen bond: Weak electrical attraction between a covalently bonded H atom and an electronegative atom

Ionic bond: Electric attraction between opposite charges due to differences in electronegativity

Electronegativity

Electronegativity is the tendency between atoms and their ability to attract electrons

- Hydrophobic interactions occur with nonpolar molecules in the presence of polar molecules

Cohesion

Cohesion is the attraction of molecules for other molecules of the same kind

Ex: a molecule of water sharing a hydrogen bond with other water molecules

Amino Acid categories

Protein structures

Primary Structure Sequence of amino acids in a protein

Secondary Structure Hydrogen bonds causes folding of the polypeptide chain

Tertiary Structure R groups determines the function and formation

Quaternary Structure Made up of 2 or more subunits that determine the activity of the protein

RNA Splicing - Introns and Exons

Removal of introns (non-coding) and leaving exons (protein-coding intact) - done by Spliceosome

Spliceosome – binds to both the 5' and 3' ends (splice sites)

Introns loop on itself then gets broken down into nucleotides

Exons join each other and have no interruptions from introns

Primary transcripts have introns and exons and depending on what's cut off and what exons are joined, protein is made

Key Terms

Phosphodiester Bond Chemical bond (by condensation) between phosphate and hydroxyl groups from sugar groups

Example The backbone of DNA or RNA molecules

Pyrophosphate Group of phosphates released by hydrolysis which creates energy to join bases to the RNA transcript

Example Adding a uracil to the 3' end of a transcript

Transcription (brief overview)

Central Dogma : DNA codes for RNA and RNA codes for protein, the flow of information from DNA to Protein

Transcription: mRNA carries instructions for making polypeptides from DNA, DNA serves as a template for polypeptide synthesis (transcribed from DNA to mRNA)

New RNA strand grows in 5' to 3' direction - DNA strand is oriented in the 3'-5'

3 stages: Initiation, Elongation, Termination

Initiation

RNA polymerase and associated proteins bind to the DNA duplex at promoter sequences

- When RNA polymerase binds to the promoter region – doesn't start right away (starts downstream (abt 25 nucleotides from the box)) before starting

How the promoter is recognized: Promoter region needs to be identified (TATA box-green box) and bound by GTF;

TAP (activators) bind enhancers to recruit mediator proteins which then recruits RNA polymerase to the promoter region (can cause DNA loop - mediator complex)

Elongation

Polymerization Reaction - 3' -OH group attacks the 2 phosphate which get released and turn into pyrophosphates (irreversible)

Termination

Hydrophilic Amino Acids

<i>Basic</i>	<i>Acidic</i>	<i>Polar</i>
Lysine	Aspartic Acid	Asparagine
Arginine	Glutamic Acid	Glutamine
Histidine		Serine + Threonine

Hydrophobic Amino Acids

Alanine Valine Leucine Isoleucine
Methionine Phenylalanine Tryptophan
lots of carbon-hydrogens + not many functional groups

Special Amino Acids

Glycine Proline (group is part of a ring)
Cysteine

Once RNA polymerase bumps into the termination sequences, it falls off and the transcript is released

RNA transcript is called the primary transcript (not processed yet) – has to go thru a series of processing steps before it can be called mRNA

RNA then combines with ribosome to direct protein synthesis : mRNA



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