

Source: [KBhBIO101MutationsAllelsInheritance](#)

# 1 | Mutations

Mutations are one way by which totally random, not controlled for, and fully spontaneous genetic modifications happen to literally anywhere in any cell's DNA during [KBhBIO101CellReproduction](#). Specifically, it involves an environmental factor or the sheer entropy of things to directly, or indirectly (by causing/creating a oopsie during [KBhBIO101DNAReplication](#)) *mutate* the resulting supposed-to-be-exact copy of DNA.

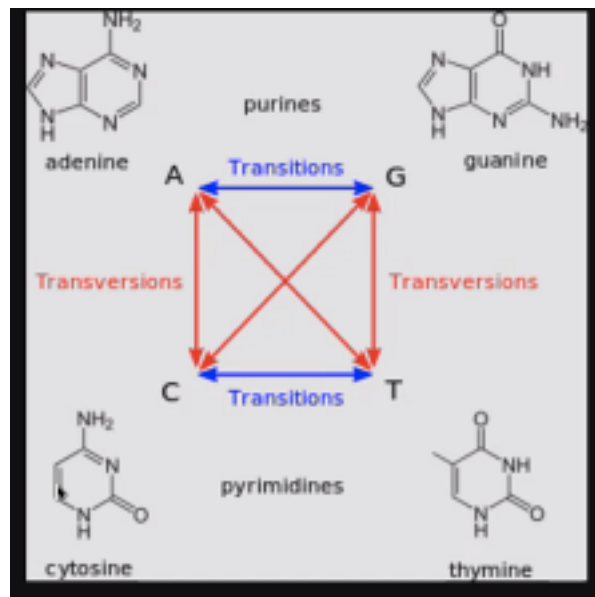
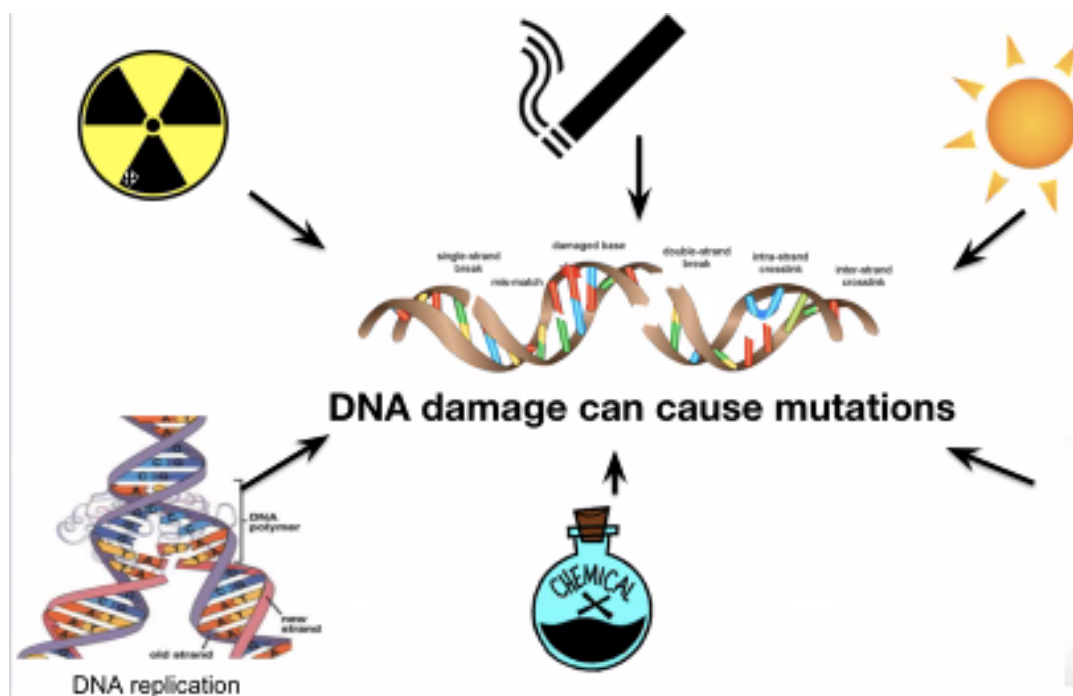


Figure 1: Pasted image 20210331134011.png



Lot's of things cause mutations!

To figure out how mutations work, you first need to know how DNA looks like, so here goes a...

### Special Programming! How does DNA work?

There are two rough types of codons on DNA, namely:

- **Pyrimides** - cytosine + thymine. Single ring. Which are usually paired with...
- **Purines** - adenine + guanine. Double ring.

So if a mutation replaces adenine and guanine, it would have less of an effect because a double ring is still matched with a single ring. But if an adenine is replaced by thymine, we could have a bigger issue because double-double ring is much longer than a traditional single/double match.

Thank you for coming to this assembly. You could leave now. \*\*\*

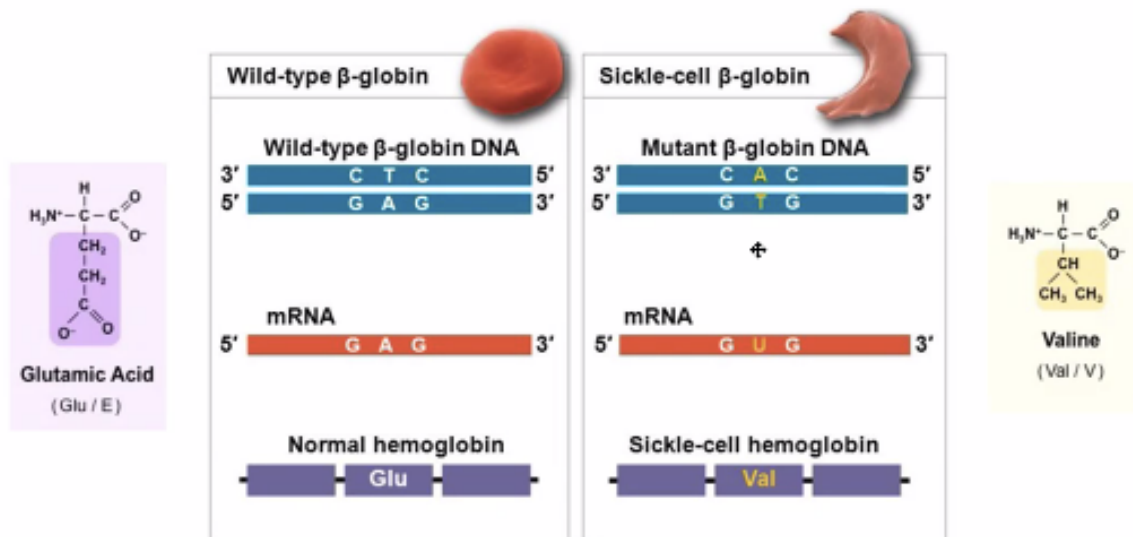
## 1.1 | Mutation Vocab

**Trait:** characteristic of organism influenced by its genes & modified by its environment

**Phenotype:** a collective subset of all the traits ("that looks different from wild type") in an organism

## 1.2 | And now, an example

### Variation, alleles, and traits: another example



Mutant hemoglobin could... 1) with one mutation, cause a slight change in the RBC but cause resistance to malaria 2) with two mutation, cause sickle-cell.

Remember that DNA codes for proteins, so mutations in DNA will cause different proteins BUT not necessarily different traits. In the case of 1-chromosome sickle-cell mutation, a protein is changed but the result is not necessarily a different RBC.

### 1.3 | Types of Mutations

There are many types/methods by which DNA mutate. These different types dictate when they happen ([KBhBIO101Meiosis](#) or [KBhBIO101Mitosis](#) ?), how severe they are, and also their frequency. See... [KBhBIO101TypesOfMutations](#)

### 1.4 | Impacts of mutations

Mutations does one of two things, which are both pretty obvious: they either cause a **loss of function** for the organism/cell or **gain of function** for the organism/cell (you either loose something or gain something... duh).

**Loss of function mutations** - Complete loss of a proteins - Reduction of a protein's ability to function

**Gain of function mutations** - Increase the function of a protein - Aquire new protein function - Expression of protein in new location/time

**Neutral function**

Does nothing

---