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## 1 | Proteins

## 1.1 | Structures

- Proteins account for 50% of the dray mass of most cells
- · Enzymes are mostly proteins
- · Very structurally complex
  - They are constructed from the same 20 sets of amino acids
- A polypeptide is a polymer of amino acids
  - A protein is made up of one or more polypeptides
- · A protein must serve a biological function to be a protein
  - · It also must be folded and coiled into a specific 3 dimensional structure
- · There are many types of proteins
  - · Enzymatic proteins
  - · Defensive proteins
  - Storage proteins
  - · Transport proteins
    - · Transport of substances

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- Hormonal proteins
  - COordination of an organism's activities
  - Insulin is an example as it causes other tissues to take up glucose thus regulating the blood sugar concentration
- Receptor proteins
  - · Response of cell to chemical stimuli
  - Responsible for stuff like detecting signaling molecules released by other nerve cells
- · Contractile and motor proteins
  - · Meant for movement
  - Responsible for stuff like flagella
- · Structural proteins
  - They are used as support
  - · Keratin is an example

## Amino Acids - All amino acids share a common structure - It is an organic molecule with both an amino group and a carboxyl group - An amino group is two Hydrogens bonded with a nitrogen and a carboxyl group is an oxygen double bonded with a carbon and an OH bonded with the same carbon -