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# Meiosis Overview

**A Level**

## Part A Chromosome copies

Meiosis is a unique form of cell division in which one  cell (a cell with 2 copies of each chromosome) undergoes  rounds of division to produce   cells (cells with 1 copy of each chromosome).

In most sexually reproducing organisms, this is how  are made. Two of these cells then combine during fertilisation to form a  zygote.

Items:

## Part B Meiosis I

One complete round of meiosis involves two rounds of cell division. These are called meiosis I and meiosis II. Each of these are similar to mitosis, but with a few differences.

During , chromosomes condense and homologous chromosomes bind to each other at points along the chromosomes called . Regions of one chromosome may then switch with the same regions on the other chromosome, in a process called "".

During , chromosomes line up in homologous pairs, rather than as individual chromosomes. And during , the homologous chromosomes are then pulled apart (instead of sister chromatids being pulled apart).

During  the nuclear membranes form around the double-chromatid chromosomes at opposite ends of the cell, these chromosomes decondense, and the cell splits into two by cytokinesis.

Items:

## Part C Meiosis II

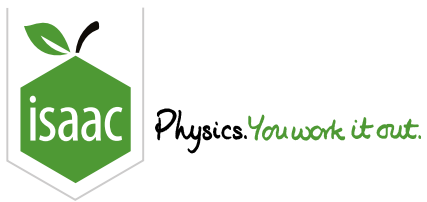
Meiosis II is much more similar to mitosis.

During  the chromosomes condense. These then line up in the middle of the cells as individual chromosomes during , and are pulled apart into sister chromatids during  (though, because of crossing over during meiosis I, the sister chromatids of each chromosome may not be identical to each other).

During  the nuclear membranes form around the single-chromatid chromosomes at opposite ends of the cell, these chromosomes decondense, and the cell splits into two by cytokinesis.

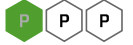
Items:

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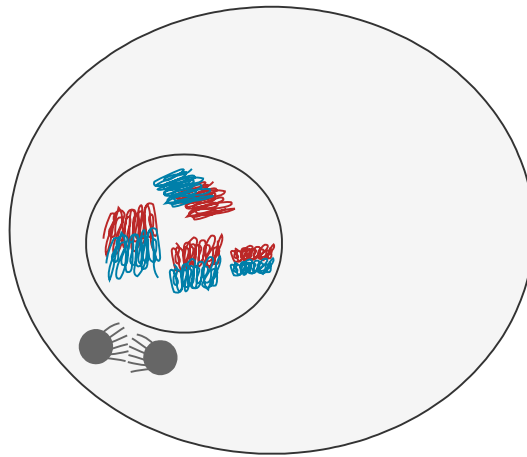
# Stages of Meiosis

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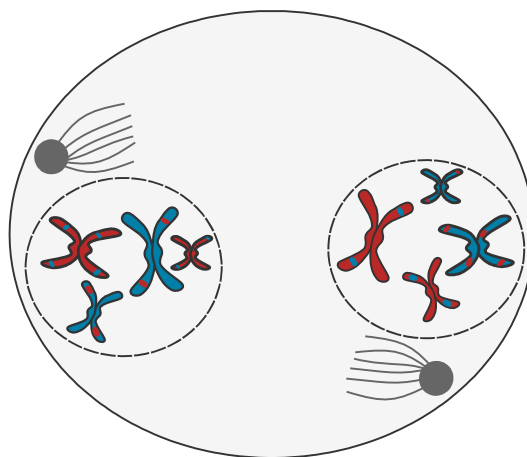
**A Level**

**Part A** Meiosis I

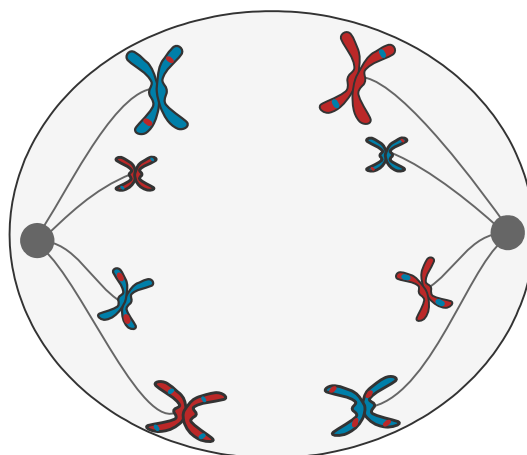
The images below represent different stages of meiosis I, for an organism with a diploid chromosome number of 8.



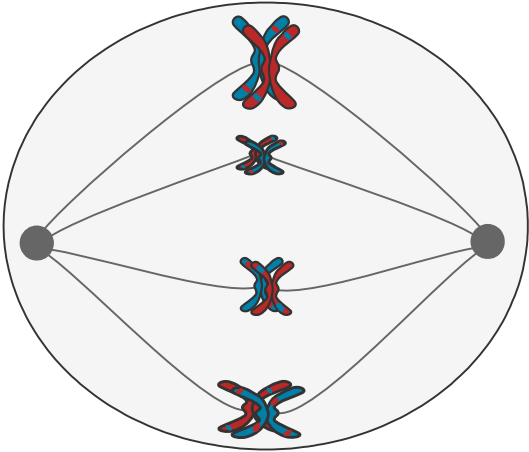
A



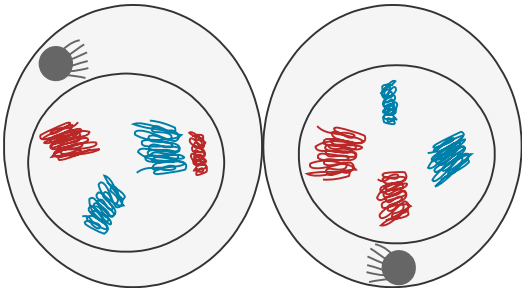
B



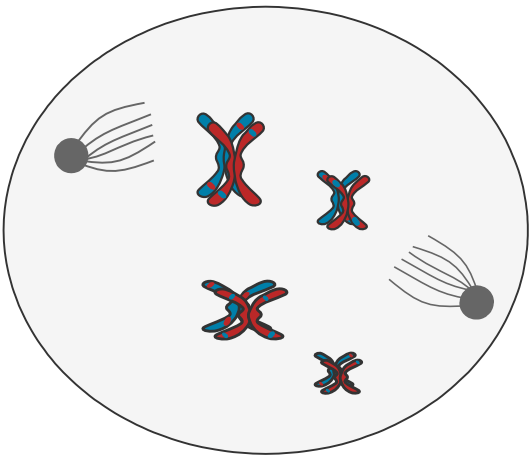
C



D



E



F

Put the stages above in the correct order, and match the name to each stage.

Order	Stage
A	interphase

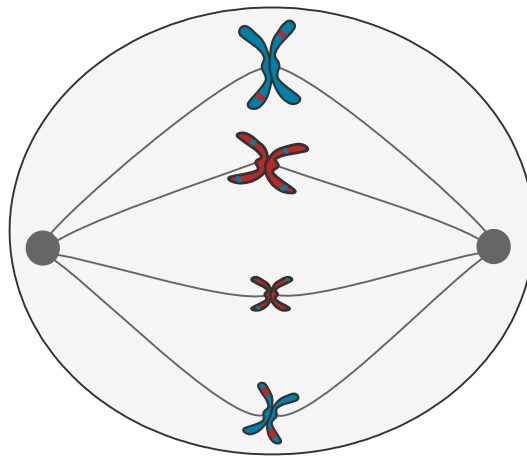
<div></div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>
E	cytokinesis

Items:

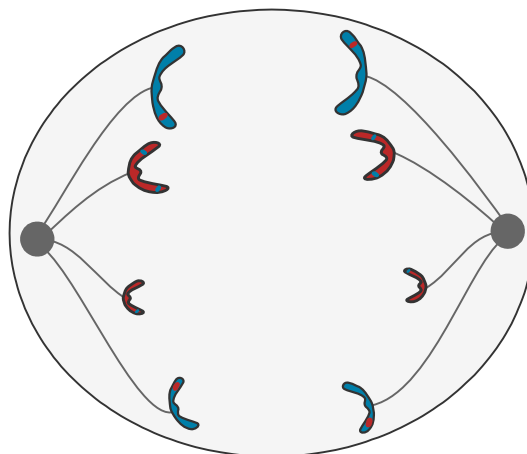
- B
- C
- D
- F
- anaphase I
- metaphase I
- prophase I
- telophase I

**Part B Meiosis II**

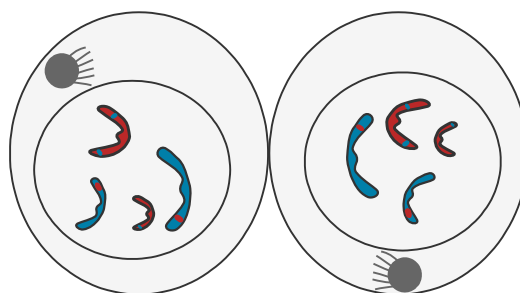
The images below represent different stages of meiosis II, for an organism with a diploid chromosome number of 8.



A

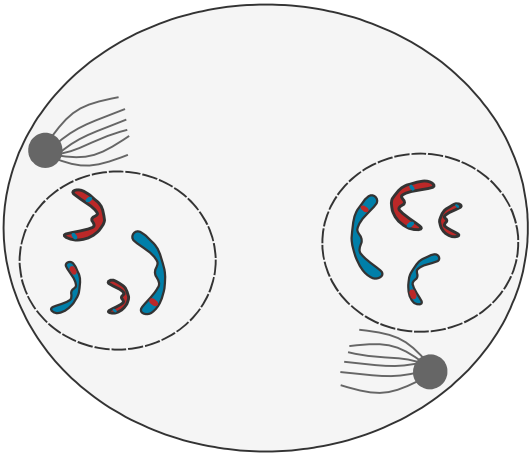


B

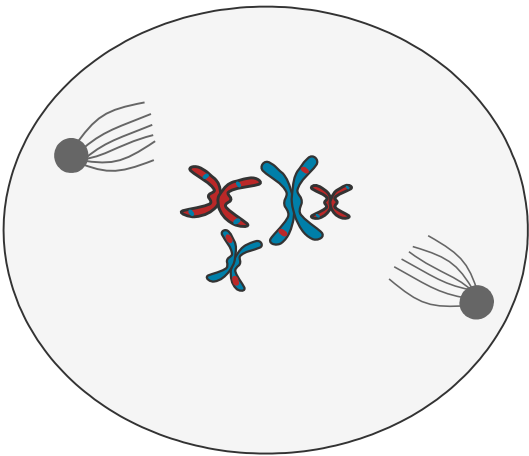


C





D



E

Put the stages above in the correct order, and match the name to each stage.

Order	Stage
<div></div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>
<div></div>	<div></div>
C	cytokinesis

Items:

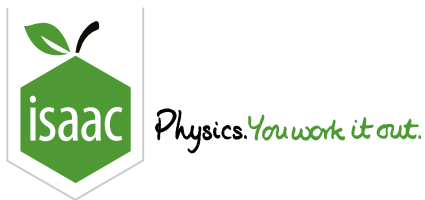
- A
- B
- D
- E
- anaphase II
- metaphase II
- prophase II
- telophase II

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# Gamete Variation

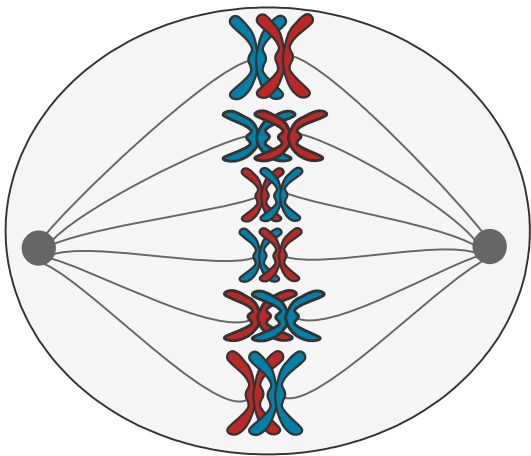
A Level



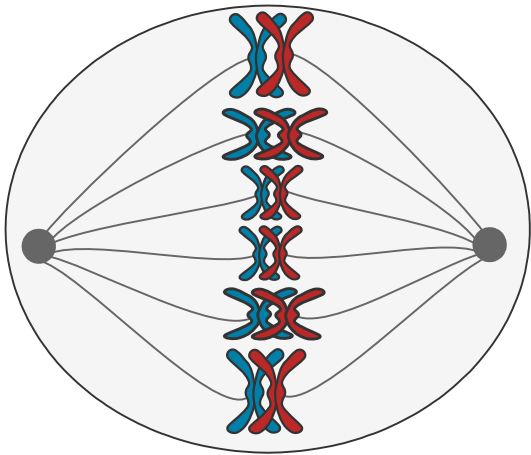
Meiosis produces daughter cells that are genetically distinct from each other as well as from the gametes that produced the mother cell. This variation is produced in two main ways: independent assortment and crossing over.

Part A Independent assortment

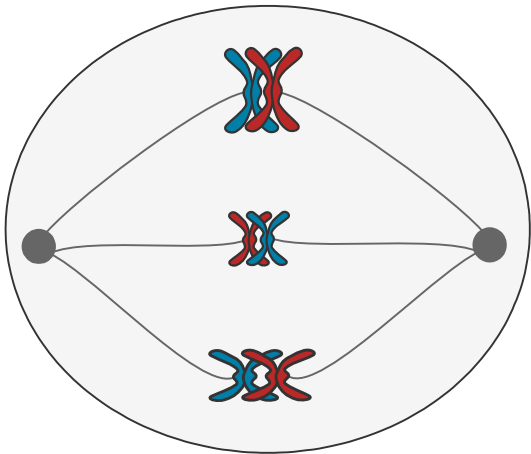
In the images below, blue chromosomes represent paternally-inherited chromosomes and red chromosomes represent maternally-inherited chromosomes.



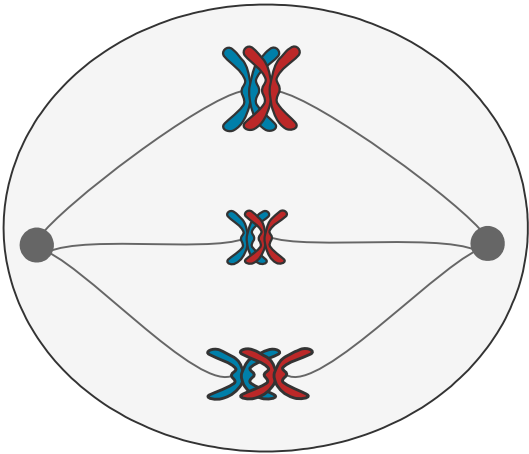
A



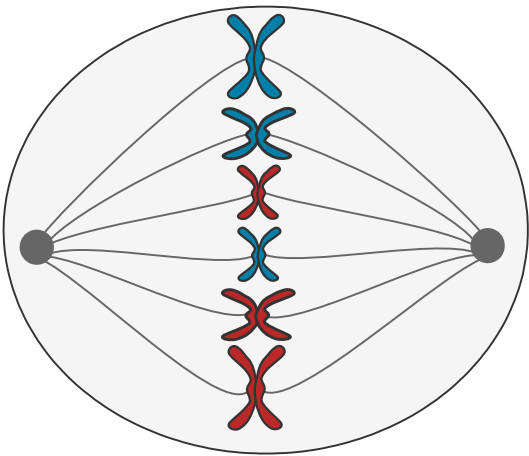
B



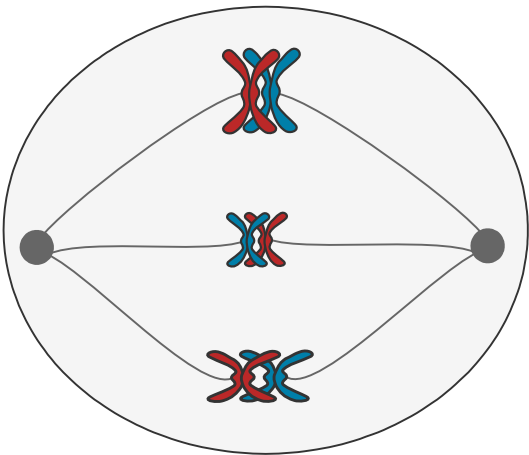
C



D



E



F

Which of the images above illustrate independent assortment during meiosis I of a cell with a diploid chromosome number of 6? Select all that apply.

☐ A

☐ B

☐ C☐ D☐ E☐ F

---

## Part B Crossing over

Crossing over (swapping) of chromosome regions occurs when  chromosomes bind to each other (during  of ) at points along the chromosomes called .

Items:

### Part C Gamete possibilities

An individual ("individual Z") is heterozygous for three genes (gene 1, gene 2, and gene 3). Gene 1 and gene 2 are located on the same chromosome, and gene 3 is located on a different chromosome.

Individual Z inherited allele **A** for gene 1, allele **B** for gene 2 and allele **C** for gene 3 from its father, and inherited allele **a** for gene 1, allele **b** for gene 2, and allele **c** for gene 3 from its mother.

Which of the following genotypes could be found in gametes produced by this individual?

- ☐ ABC
- ☐ ABc
- ☐ AbC
- ☐ Abc
- ☐ aBC
- ☐ aBc
- ☐ abC
- ☐ abc

Which of the following genotypes could be found in gametes produced by this individual **if no crossing over occurs?**

- ☐ ABC
- ☐ ABc
- ☐ AbC
- ☐ Abc
- ☐ aBC
- ☐ aBc
- ☐ abC
- ☐ abc

Which of the following genotypes could be found in gametes produced by this individual **if no crossing over AND no independent assortment occurs?**

☐ ABC☐ ABc☐ AbC☐ Abc☐ aBC☐ aBc☐ abC☐ abc

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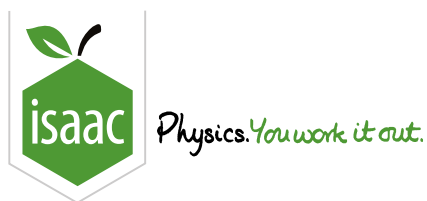
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# Mitosis vs Meiosis

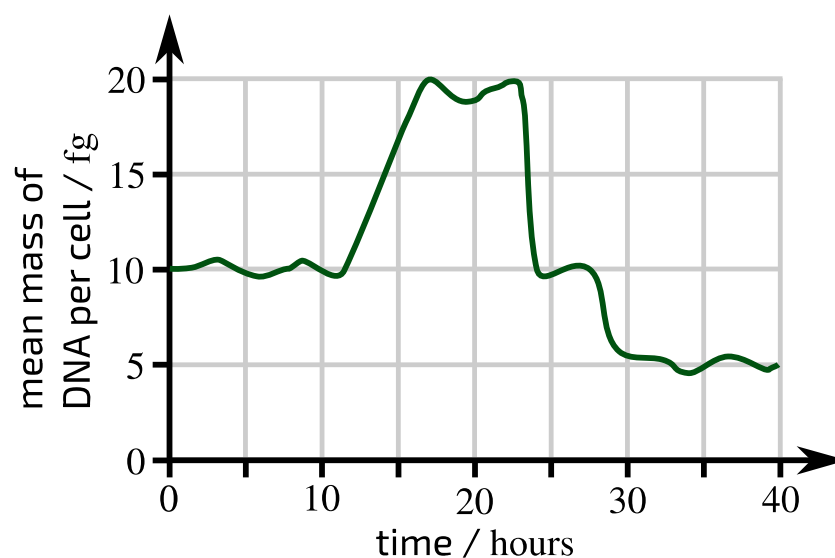
A Level



## Part A Meiosis functions

Which of the following describe meiosis in humans?

- ☐ tissue growth & repair
- ☐ the fusion of two gametes to form a zygote
- ☐ producing gametes
- ☐ asexual reproduction
- ☐ cell division of a zygote to form an embryo
- ☐ producing haploid cells from diploid cells

**Part B** DNA & division

**Figure 1:** The mean mass of DNA of a population of cells dividing at the same time, measured in femtograms ( $10^{-15}$  g) per cell.

Which of these processes are shown in Figure 1? Select all that apply.

- ☐ DNA replication
- ☐ mitosis
- ☐ meiosis
- ☐ interphase
- ☐ fertilisation
- ☐ cytokinesis

Part C True or false?

In the table below, identify which events occur during mitosis, meiosis I, and meiosis II. Fill in every box with either a tick (event occurs) or a cross (event does not occur).

	Mitosis	Meiosis I	Meiosis II
homologous chromosomes pair up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
crossing over occurs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
chromatids separate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Items:

☐

☐

Question elements adapted with permission from NSAA 2020 Section 2 Q55 & OCR January 2002 Science Modular Biology Foundation Q1

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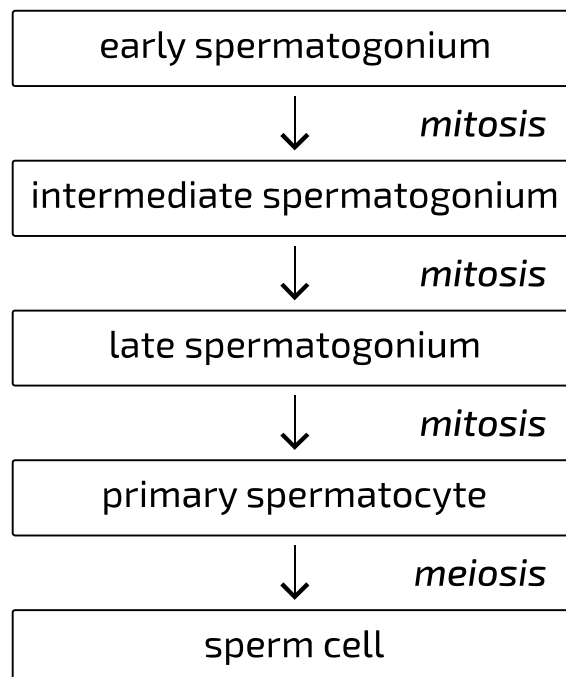
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# Meiosis Mathematics

A Level



## Part A How many haploid cells?



**Figure 1:** The four steps in human sperm production. For each step, one complete division (i.e. one full round of the process) takes place.

Assuming no mutations and that all of the cells survive, what will be the maximum number of haploid cells originating from a single early spermatogonium (see Figure 1)?

Part B Chromosome numbers

Humans have a diploid chromosome number of 46 (i.e.  $2n = 46$ ). Fill in the correct numbers and types of chromosomes present in a germ cell (reproductive cell) after each stage of meiosis, as well as the ploidy of each cell (haploid or diploid).

	after meiosis I	after meiosis II
number of chromosomes	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
number of chromatids per chromosome	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
ploidy (haploid or diploid)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Items:

23

46

92

1

2

3

4

haploid

diploid

Part C Chromosome combinations

During meiosis, independent assortment ensures that each gamete inherits a combination of some paternal chromosomes and some maternal chromosomes. How many possible combinations are there for a human gamete?

Question elements adapted with permission from NSAA 2018 Section 1 Q60

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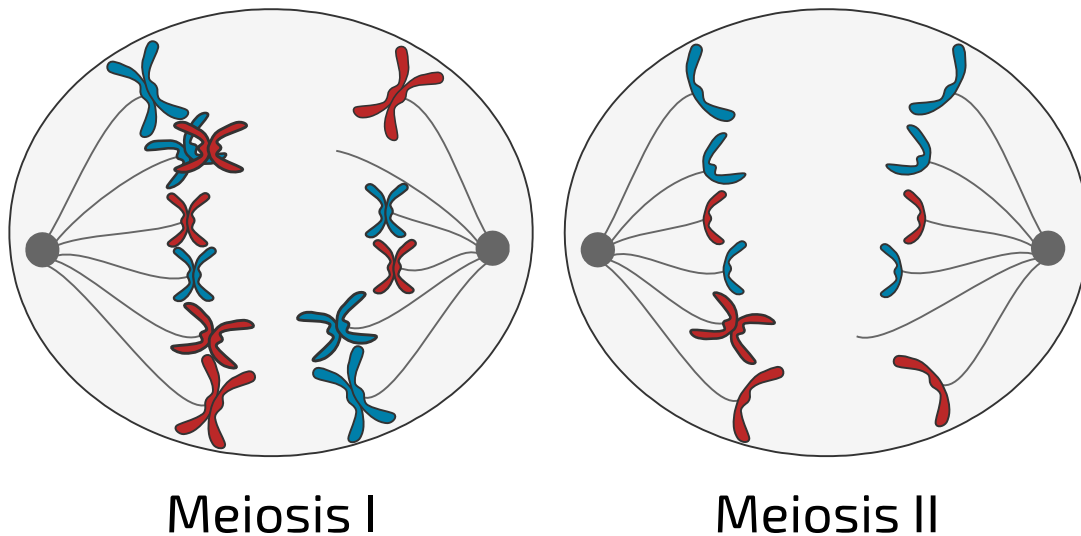
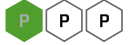


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# Meiosis Mistakes

A Level



**Figure 1:** Two cells are shown, each from an organism with a diploid chromosome number of 12. The cell on the left is undergoing meiosis I, and the cell on the right is undergoing meiosis II. Both cells show something going wrong during their respective stages.

## Part A Meiosis stages

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Which stages are shown in Figure 1?

- ☐ prophase I
  - ☐ prophase II
  - ☐ metaphase I
  - ☐ metaphase II
  - ☐ anaphase I
  - ☐ anaphase II
  - ☐ telophase I
  - ☐ telophase II
- 

## Part B Diagnosis

What is the name for what has gone wrong in Figure 1?

---

## Part C Consequences

Which of the following are conditions caused by what is shown in Figure 1?

- ☐ cystic fibrosis
  - ☐ monosomy (one less chromosome) e.g. Turner Syndrome (XO)
  - ☐ trisomy (one extra chromosome) e.g. Down Syndrome
  - ☐ haemophilia
  - ☐ sickle cell anaemia
-

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