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Photosynthesis: An Overview\*\*

# What is Photosynthesis?

Photosynthesis is a vital biological process by which plants, algae, and certain bacteria convert light energy from the sun into chemical energy stored in glucose molecules.

# What Does Photosynthesis Require?

In addition to water and carbon dioxide, photosynthesis requires the following:

- Sunlight as an energy source
- Chlorophyll, a green pigment that absorbs sunlight
- Enzymes to catalyze the chemical reactions

# **Photosynthesis Reaction:**

6CO2 + 6H2O + light energy ? C6H12O6 + 6O2

#### What Photosynthesis Does:

Photosynthesis produces:

- Glucose, a carbohydrate that serves as food for plants and other organisms
- Oxygen, a byproduct that is essential for respiration

# Importance of Photosynthesis:

Photosynthesis is crucial for life on Earth because it:

- Provides food for all living organisms
- Releases oxygen into the atmosphere
- Absorbs carbon dioxide, mitigating climate change

#### **Factors Affecting Photosynthesis:**

- Light intensity
- Temperature
- Availability of water and carbon dioxide
- Plant species

# **Steps of Photosynthesis:**

Photosynthesis occurs in two stages:

- Light-dependent reactions: Occur in the thylakoid membranes of chloroplasts and convert light energy into chemical energy (ATP and NADPH).
- Light-independent reactions (Calvin cycle): Occur in the stroma of chloroplasts and use the ATP and NADPH to convert carbon dioxide into glucose.

#### **Endothermic or Exothermic:**

Photosynthesis is an endothermic reaction, meaning it requires energy input in the form of sunlight.

#### **Green Plants as Producers:**

Green plants are called producers because they can produce their own food through photosynthesis.

#### **Raw Materials for Photosynthesis:**

- Carbon dioxide
- Water

# Sunlight

#### **Sunlight's Role in Photosynthesis:**

Sunlight provides the energy needed to split water molecules and combine carbon dioxide and water to form glucose.

#### Main Use of Photosynthesis:

The primary use of photosynthesis is to produce food for plants and other organisms.

# **Light-Independent Reaction's Other Name:**

Calvin cycle or dark reactions

#### **Overview of Photosynthesis Class 10:**

Photosynthesis is a two-stage process that uses light energy to convert carbon dioxide and water into glucose and oxygen.

#### **How Photosynthesis Works:**

- Light striking chlorophyll molecules excites electrons.
- These excited electrons drive the formation of ATP and NADPH.
- ATP and NADPH provide energy and reducing power for the Calvin cycle.
- In the Calvin cycle, carbon dioxide is fixed and reduced to form glucose.

#### **Photosynthesis Reaction:**

CO2 + 2H2O + light energy ? (CH2O)n + H2O + O2

#### **Full Name of Photosynthesis:**

Photoautotrophic nutrition

#### **Best Definition of Photosynthesis:**

The process by which plants and other organisms convert light energy into chemical energy stored in glucose molecules.

# **Importance of Photosynthesis (5 Points):**

- Food production
- Oxygen release
- Carbon dioxide absorption
- Water cycling
- Energy flow in ecosystems

#### **Summary of Photosynthesis:**

Photosynthesis is a key biological process that harnesses sunlight to produce food and oxygen for all living organisms.

# **Environmental Effects of Photosynthesis:**

- Balances atmospheric oxygen and carbon dioxide levels
- Contributes to the water cycle
- Supports biodiversity

#### **Consequences of No Photosynthesis:**

- No food for plants and animals
- No oxygen production
- Accumulation of carbon dioxide

#### **Reasons for Studying Photosynthesis:**

- Understanding the role of plants in ecosystems
- Developing sustainable agricultural practices
- Mitigating climate change

# **Importance of Light in Photosynthesis:**

Light provides the energy needed for the chemical reactions that convert carbon dioxide and water into glucose.

#### **Environmental Benefits of Photosynthesis:**

- Oxygen production
- Carbon dioxide reduction
- Water cycle regulation

# **Plants' Need for Photosynthesis:**

Plants require photosynthesis to produce the food they need to survive.

#### **Summary of Photosynthesis:**

Photosynthesis is a complex process that converts light energy into chemical energy, resulting in the production of food and oxygen for plants and the environment.

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