**Nucleotides** Basic building blocks of nucleic acids, consisting of a phosphate group, a pentose sugar, and a nitrogenous base.

**DNA** (**Deoxyribonucleic Acid**): A double-stranded molecule responsible for storing genetic information.

**RNA** (Ribonucleic Acid): A single-stranded nucleic acid involved in protein synthesis and gene expression. **Nitrogenous Bases**: The purines (adenine, guanine) and pyrimidines (cytosine, thymine in DNA, and uracil in RNA) that pair to form the rungs of the DNA ladder.

**Base Pairing**: Adenine pairs with thymine (or uracil in RNA), and guanine pairs with cytosine through hydrogen bonds.

**Double Helix**: The three-dimensional structure of DNA where two strands coil around each other.

**Complementary Strands**: The two strands of DNA are complementary, meaning the sequence of bases on one strand dictates the sequence on the other.

**Antiparallel Structure**: DNA strands run in opposite directions (5' to 3' and 3' to 5').

**Replication**: The process by which DNA is copied before cell division.

**Transcription**: The synthesis of RNA from a DNA template.

**Translation**: The process where ribosomes synthesize proteins based on the sequence of an mRNA molecule.

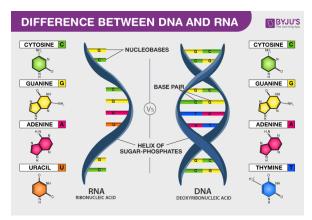
**mRNA** (Messenger RNA): Carries the genetic code from DNA to the ribosome for protein synthesis.

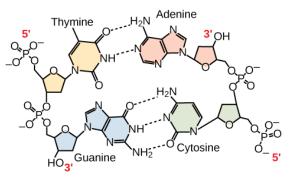
**tRNA** (**Transfer RNA**): Transfers amino acids to the ribosome to build a protein, according to the sequence of the mRNA.

**rRNA** (Ribosomal RNA): Forms part of the structure of ribosomes, facilitating the translation process.

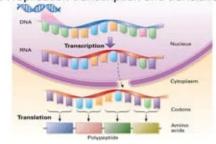
**Gene**: A segment of DNA that codes for a specific protein or function.

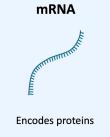
**Mutations**: Changes in the nucleotide sequence of DNA that can lead to changes in protein function.

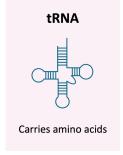


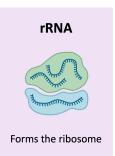


DNA replication transcription and translation









Chromatin: DNA-protein complex found in eukaryotic cells, making up chromosomes.

**Genome**: The complete set of an organism's genetic material.

**DNA Polymerase**: An enzyme that synthesizes new DNA strands by adding nucleotides to a pre-existing strand during replication.

**Central Dogma of Molecular Biology**: Describes the flow of genetic information: DNA  $\rightarrow$  RNA  $\rightarrow$  Protein.