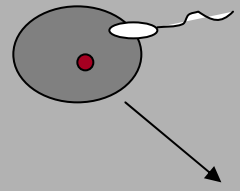


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

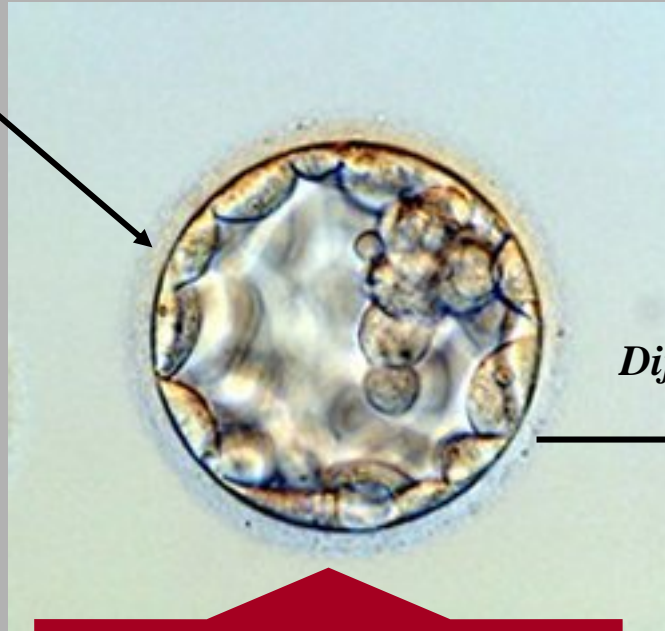
In the Name of Allah, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful

Differentiation and Development



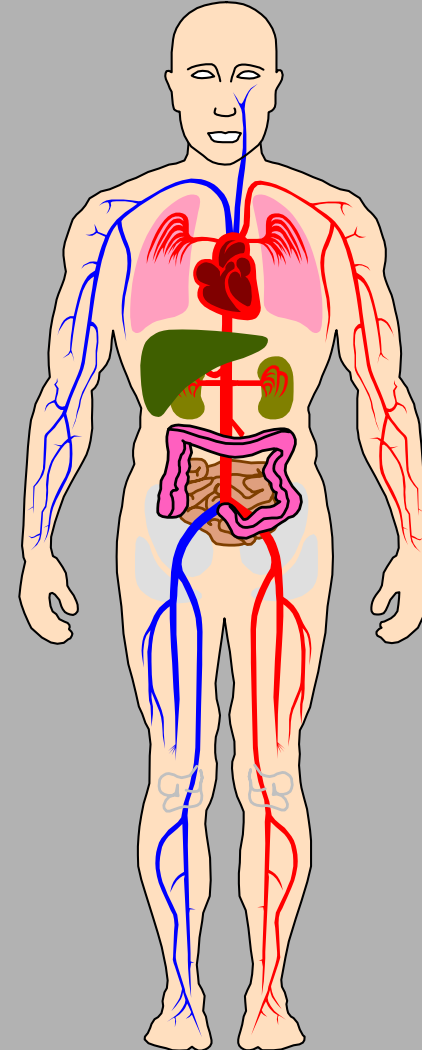
Fertilized cell

Blastocyst



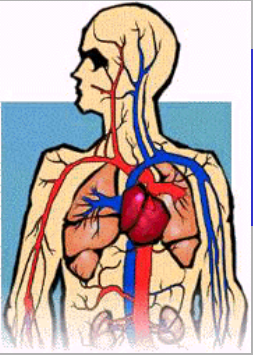
Differentiation

Human body



Note: *Every cell in the body has the same genetic material*

How do different tissues differ from each other?



Tissues have different **shape, function, metabolic** features

As tissues make different **proteins and enzymes** and the enzymes synthesise different substances, thus producing tissue variability.

Tissues differ in **gene expression**

GENES AND THEIR EXPRESSION

There are estimated 25,000 – 30,000 genes in the human genome in each cell

- Only a fraction are expressed.
- Different genes are expressed in different tissues
- Route of expression of genes differs significantly where some gene products are produced in large amounts, others in very small amounts & some are not produced at all in some cells

- This gives each tissue its distinctive character and function.
- This is the basic mechanism underlying cell differentiation



CONTROL OF GENE EXPRESSION

Types of Genes in Cells

```
graph TD; A[Types of Genes in Cells] --> B[House-keeping genes]; A --> C[Inducible Genes];
```

House-keeping genes

Genes for products that are required at all times and hence the gene is **expressed** at almost a **constant rate**.

Inducible Genes

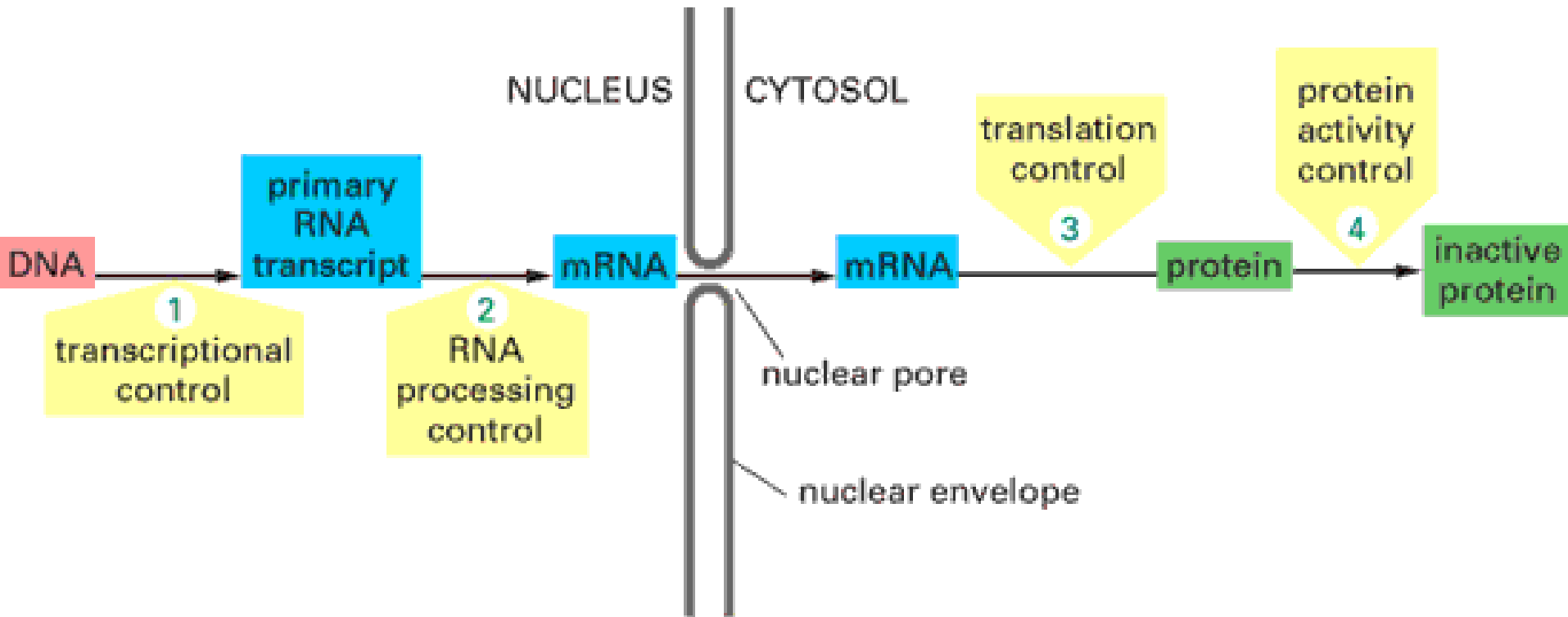
Genes for some gene products that rise and fall in response to molecular signals.

These **genes** can be **induced and repressed**.



**HOW IS GENE
EXPRESSION
REGULATED?**

Levels of regulation of protein Synthesis

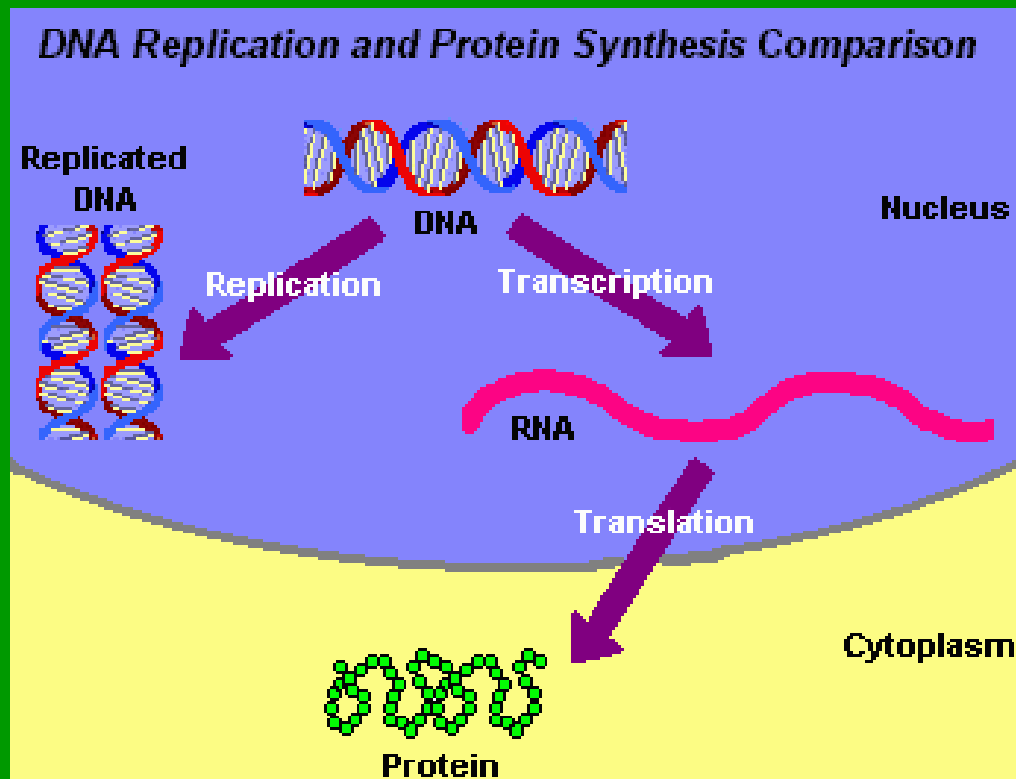


REGULATION OF THE LEVEL OF GENE PRODUCT (PROTEINS) in CELLS

- Synthesis of the primary RNA transcript (transcription).
- Post-transcriptional processing of mRNA.
- mRNA degradation.
- Protein synthesis (translation).
- Post-translational modifications.
- Protein degradation.

Regulation of Gene Expression

Regulation of Transcription



GENE EXPRESSION

Gene expression depends on:

- Chromatin structure.
- Activity of RNA polymerase.
- Sequence in the upstream activator and enhancer.
- Regulatory proteins.

CHROMATIN STRUCTURE

- Transcriptionally active chromatin is structurally distinct.
- Before transcription, several changes occur in chromatin.
 - Increased **sensitivity** of DNA to **nuclease** mediated degradation (**hypersensitivity sites**).
 - Low number of **nucleosomes**.
 - **Undermethylation** of CPG sequences in the DNA.
 - Low level of **histone H1**.

RNA POLYMERASE AND GENE

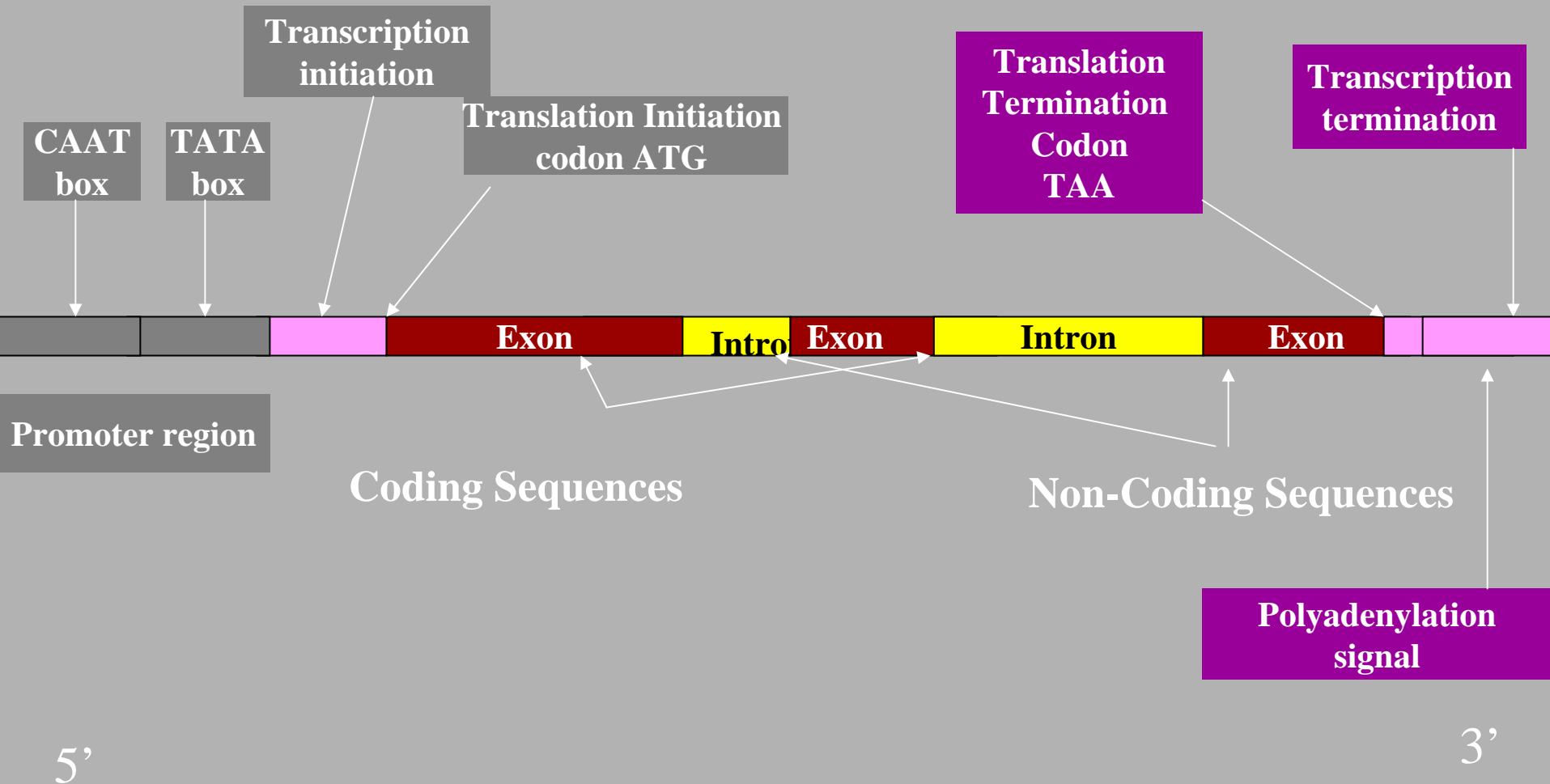
- **RNA polymerase** is the main enzyme controlling expression of transcription.
 - It binds to specific sites on DNA called “**Promoters**” near the initiation site.
- Transcription regulation is achieved by regulation of interaction of **RNA polymerase** with the promoters.

Contd.....

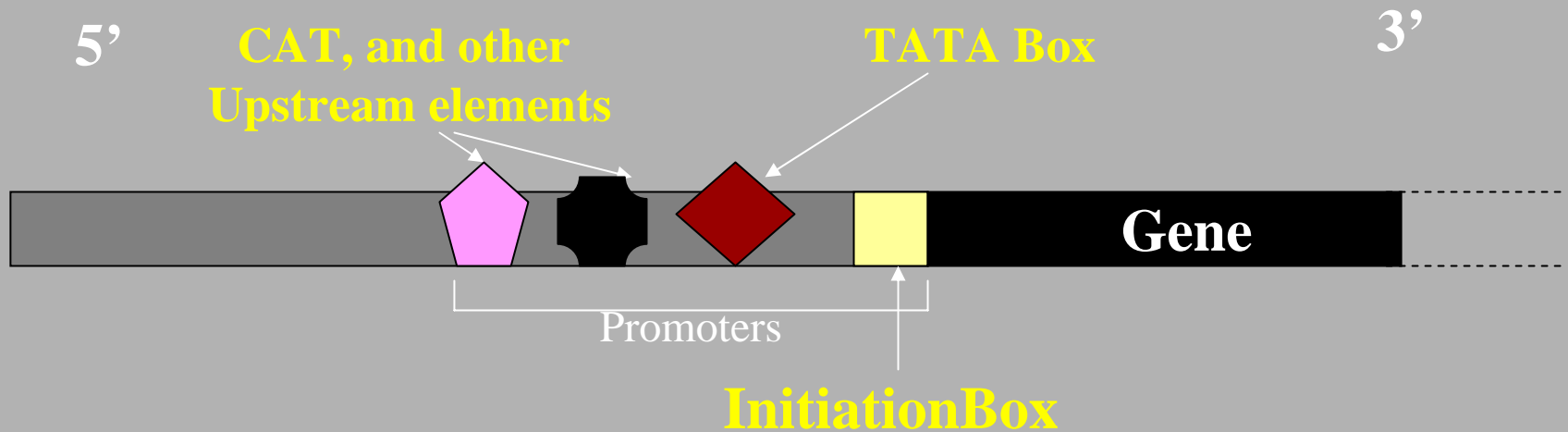
RNA POLYMERASE AND GENEContd

- Promoters vary in their sequence and this influences binding affinity of RNA polymerase and hence frequency of transcription.
- Interaction between RNA polymerase and the promoters is affected by several regulatory proteins.

Genes-exons and introns and promoter regions

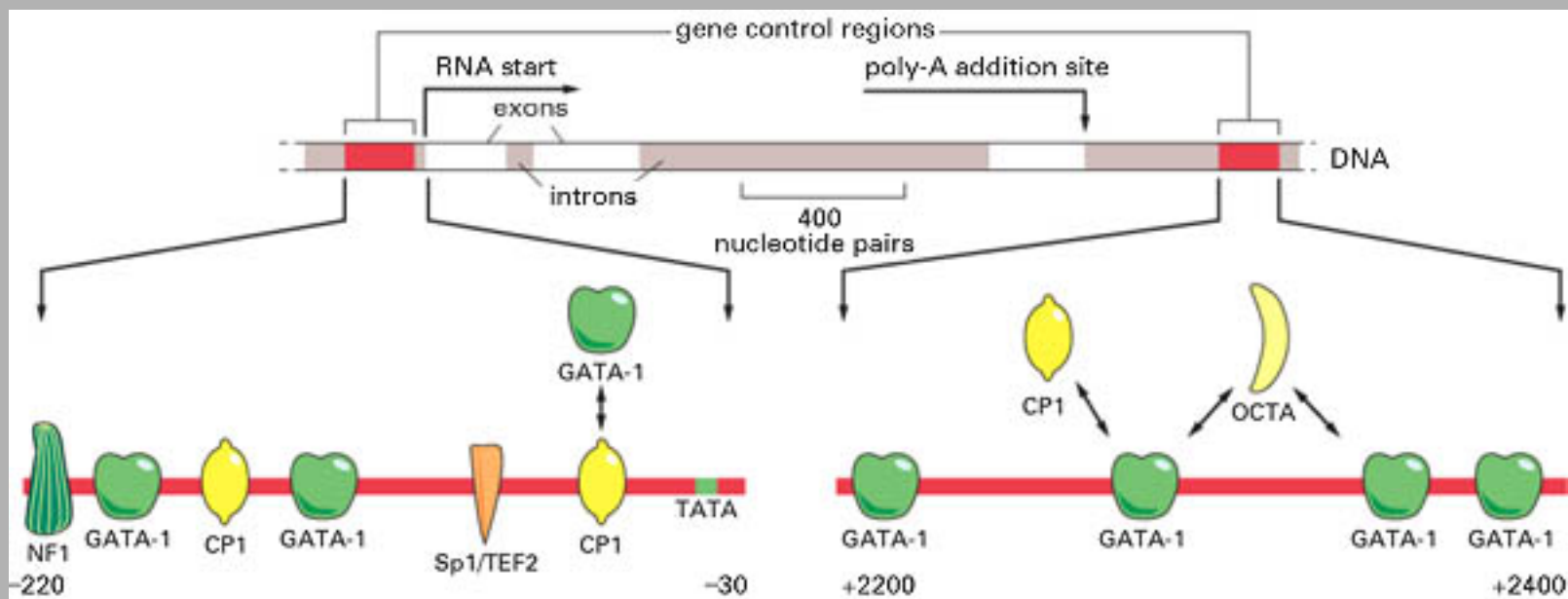


Promoter and Enhancer layouts in Eucaryotes



Upstream

Downstream



RNA POLYMERASE AND PROMOTERS

RNA Pol I: Synthesis of pre-ribosomal RNA transcript a precursor for 18S, 5.8S and 28S rRNA.

RNA Pol II: Synthesis of mRNA:

- Recognizes thousands of different promoter sequences.
- Binding is influenced by transcription factors, which bind to consensus sequences.

RNA POLYMERASE AND PROMOTERS

.....Contd

RNA Pol III: Synthesis of tRNA and 5S rRNA.
Recognizes a few special promoter sequences.

REGULATION OF PROMOTERS

- Most eucaryotic promoters are *positively regulated*, i.e.
 - RNA polymerase has no or very little affinity for their promoter.
 - One or more **activator proteins** bind to promoter.
 - This influences binding of RNA polymerase.

Contd.....

REGULATION OF PROMOTERS

....Contd

- Some promoters are *negatively regulated*, i.e.
 - RNA polymerase binds promoter and initiates transcription.
 - Repressor proteins bind to promoter and inhibits transcription.

Transcription Factors

- Specialized proteins that **regulate gene expression**.
- Have four **Domains**:
 - for **binding** to a specific sequence on the **DNA**
 - for **binding** to the **RNA polymerase II** complex
 - for **entering the nucleus**
 - for **responding to stimuli** which signal switching on or off a gene.
- Transcription factors for a specific gene **appear** mainly **in cells** where that **gene has to be expressed**.

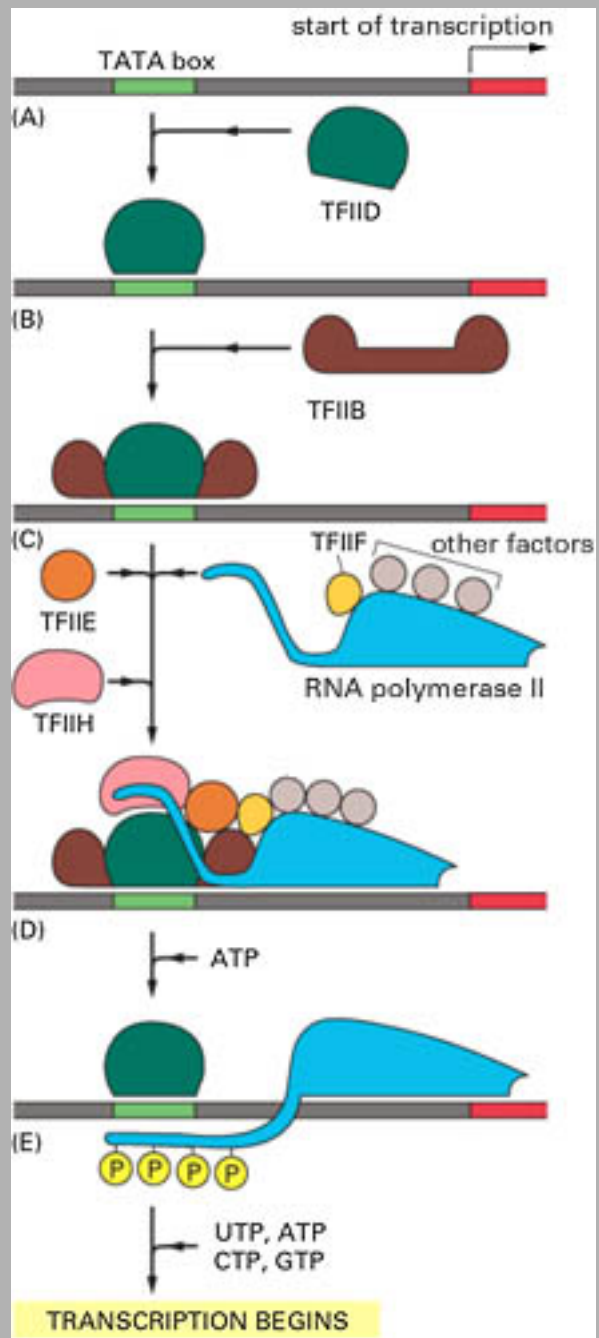
e.g. MyoD appears only in cells destined to become muscle cells, and switches on a wide selection of genes needed in the muscles, but not on other cells.

TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS

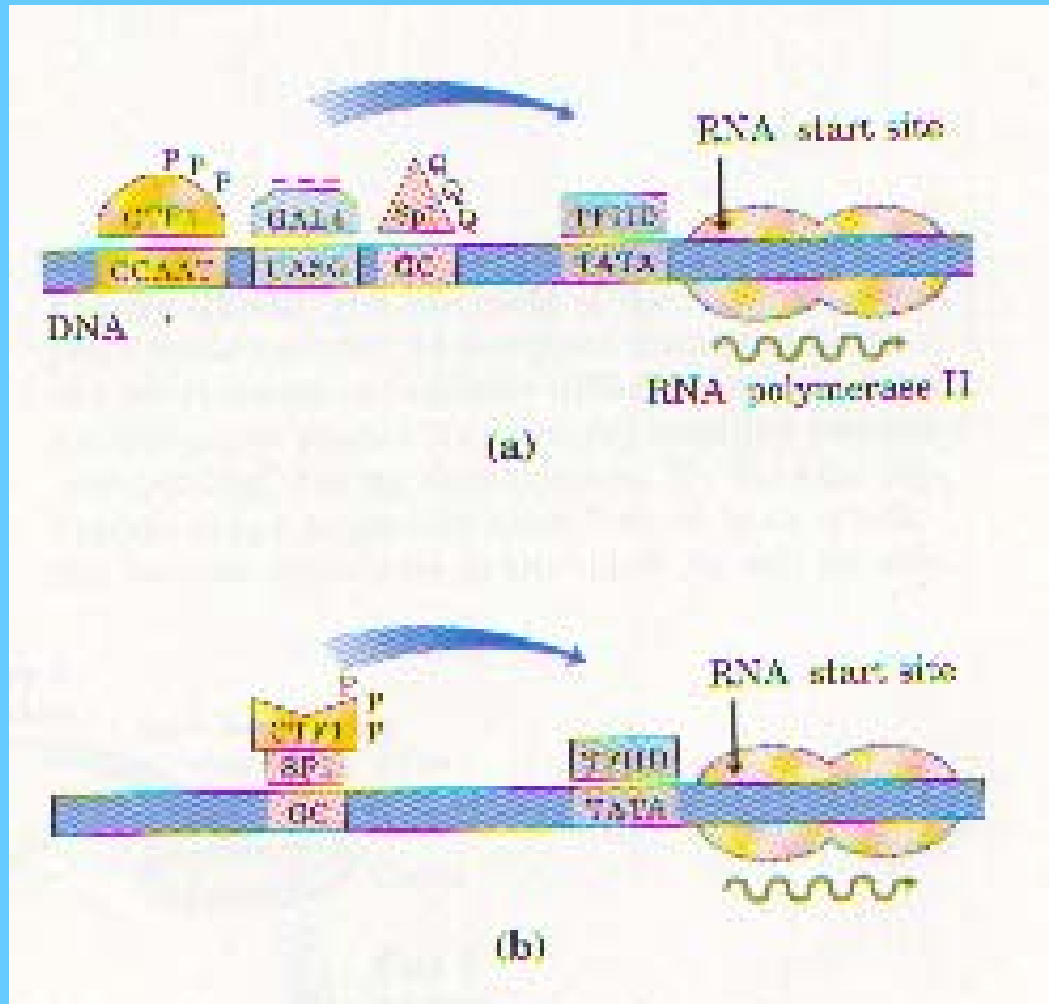
- Proteins
- May be:
 - **inducers** - increase transcription, or
 - **repressors** – decrease transcription.
- Recognizes and bind to:
 - **Consensus sequences** i.e.
 - TATA box (TATAAA)
 - GC Box (GGGCGG)
 - CCAAT box (GCCAAT)
 - **Enhancers**

REGULATION OF TRANSCRIPTION BY TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS

- Interaction with **promoters**.
- **Protein – protein** interactions between different regulatory proteins.
- **Interaction** with RNA polymerase.
- Often require **DNA looping** for protein-protein contact.



Positive Control of Gene Expression



EXAMPLES OF TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS

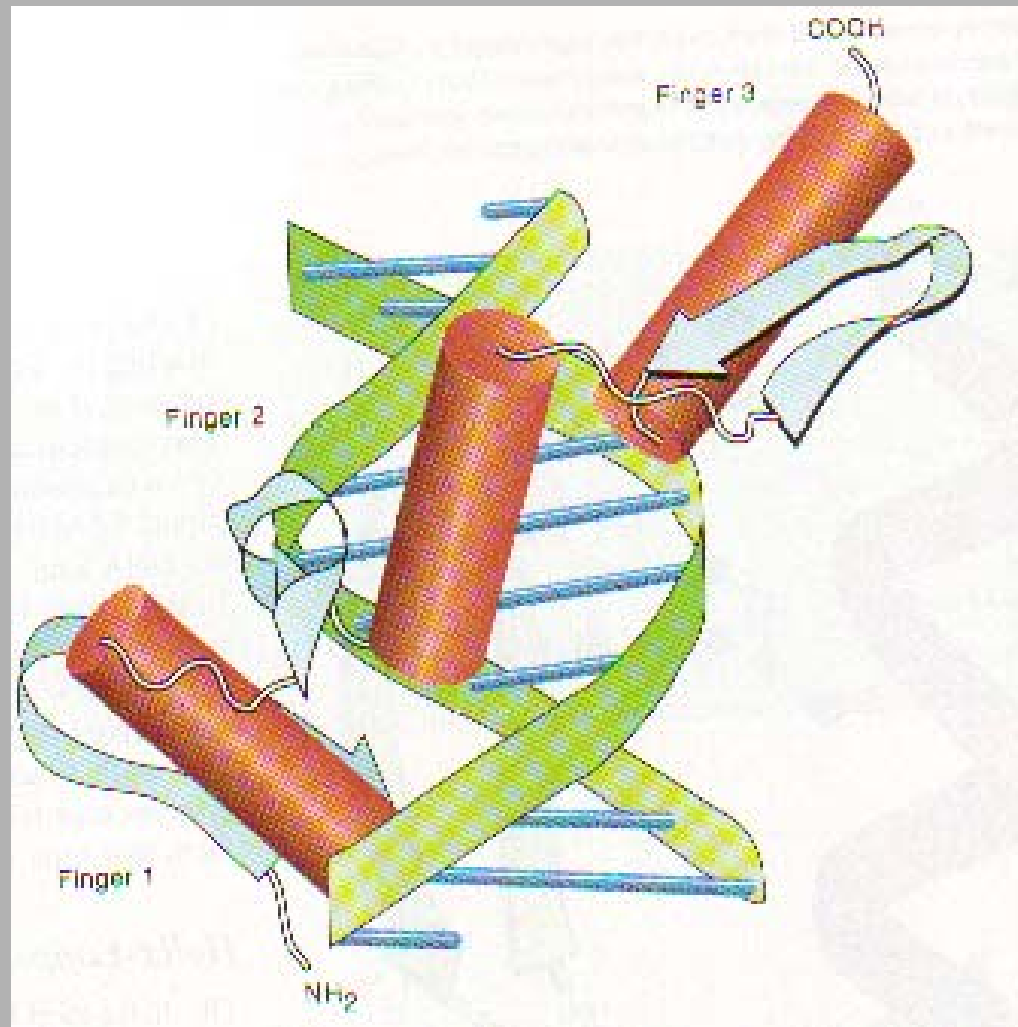
- TF 11 A
- TF 11 B
- TF 11 D
- TF 11 E
- TF 11 E
- TF 11F
- Sp1 (Has Gln-rich domain; Zn finger protein).
- CTF1 (Has pro-rich domain)
- C/EBP (Has pro-rich domain, Lencine Zipper)
- GALA (Zn finger, Acidic activation domain)

DNA BINDING DOMAIN OF REGULATORY PROTEINS

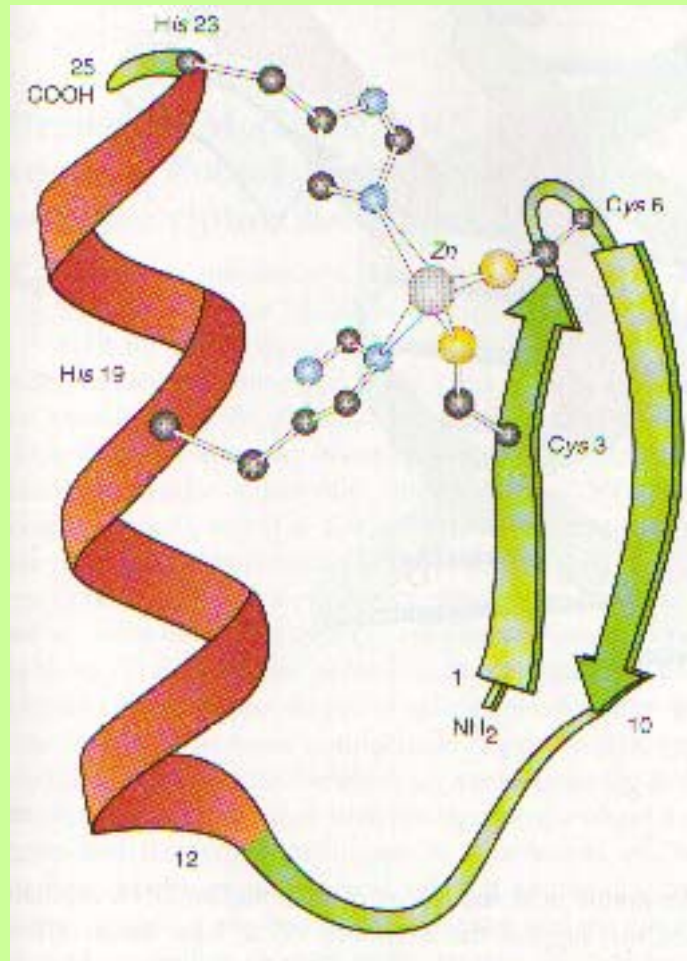
- Zinc finger: About 30 a.a residues,
Four are either Cys or 2Cys and 2 His, coordinated to single Zn ⁺⁺

Contd....

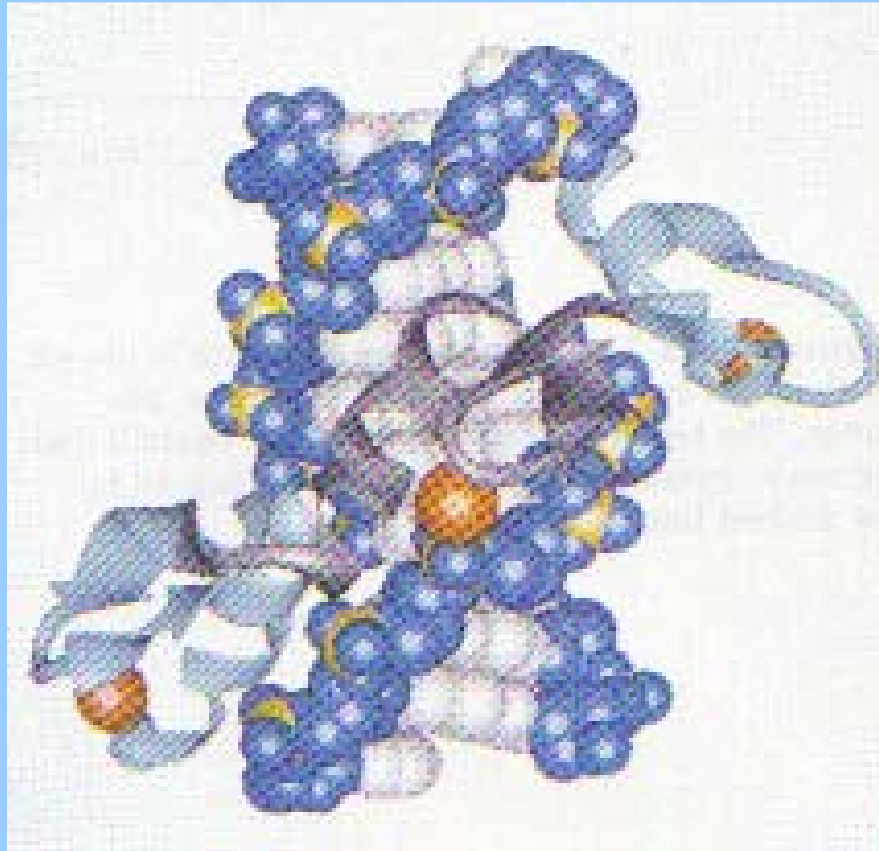
Zinc Finger Motif & DNA Interaction



A Zinc Finger Motif



Interaction Between Zinc Finger Motif and DNA



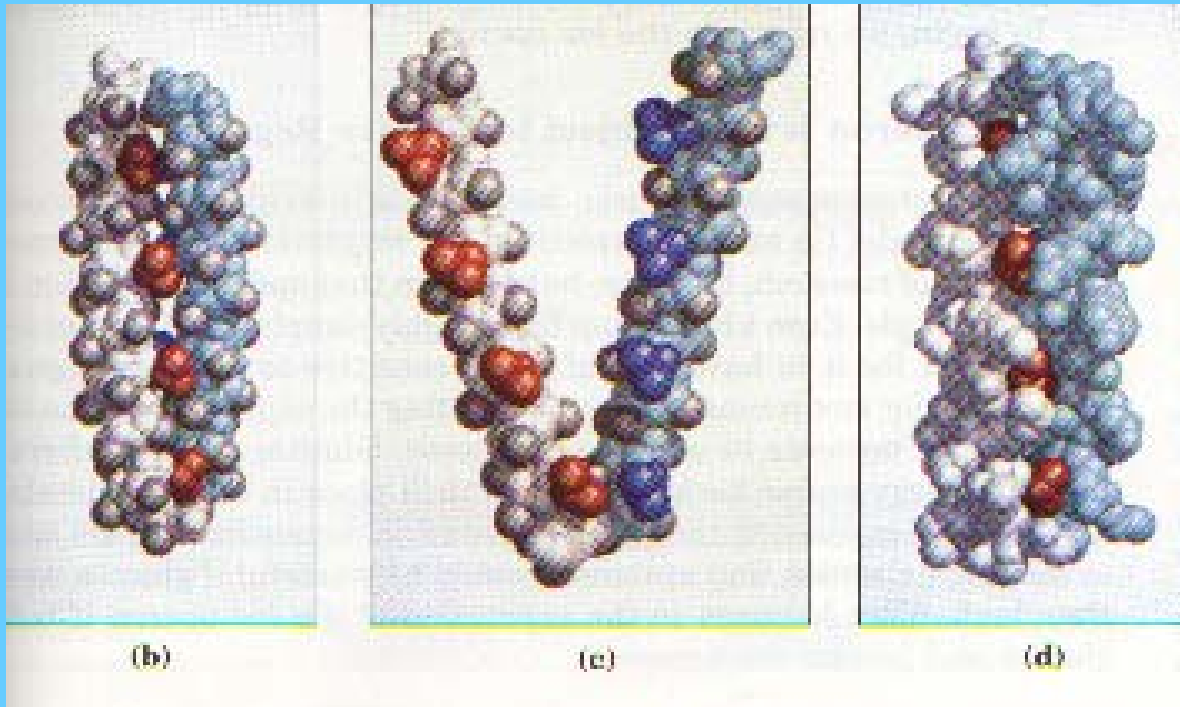
DNA BINDING DOMAIN OF REGULATORY PROTEINS Contd

- The **Helix – turn Helix**: Two short α -helical sequences (7-9 a.a. long) separated by a β turn (~ 20 a.a). One of the α -helices is the recognition helix and binds DNA major groove.

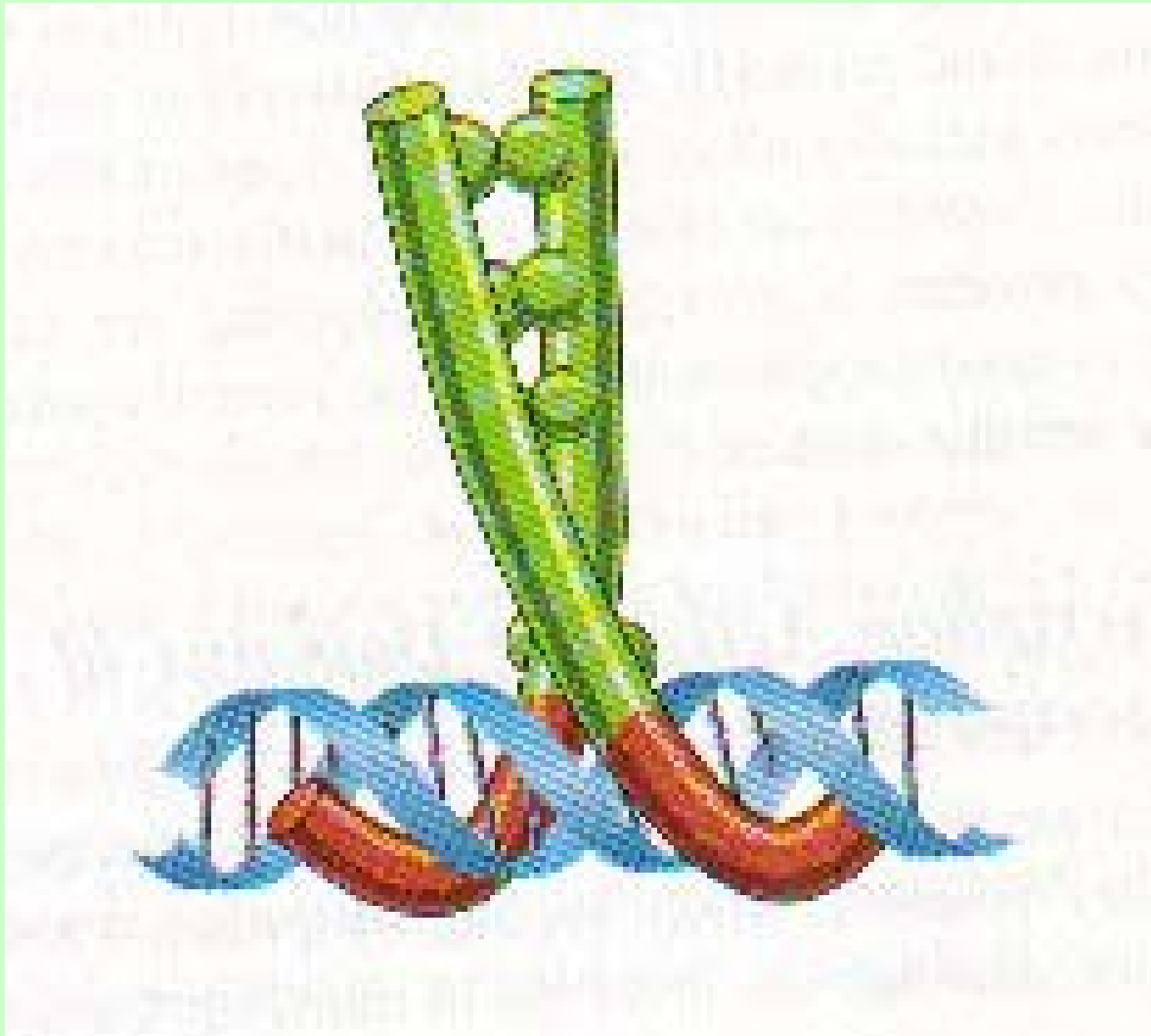
DNA BINDING DOMAIN OF REGULATORY PROTEINS Contd

- The **leucine zipper**: Has amphipathic α -helix, with hydrophobic a.a. on one side. Every 7th a.a. is a leucine.

Leucine Zipper Motif

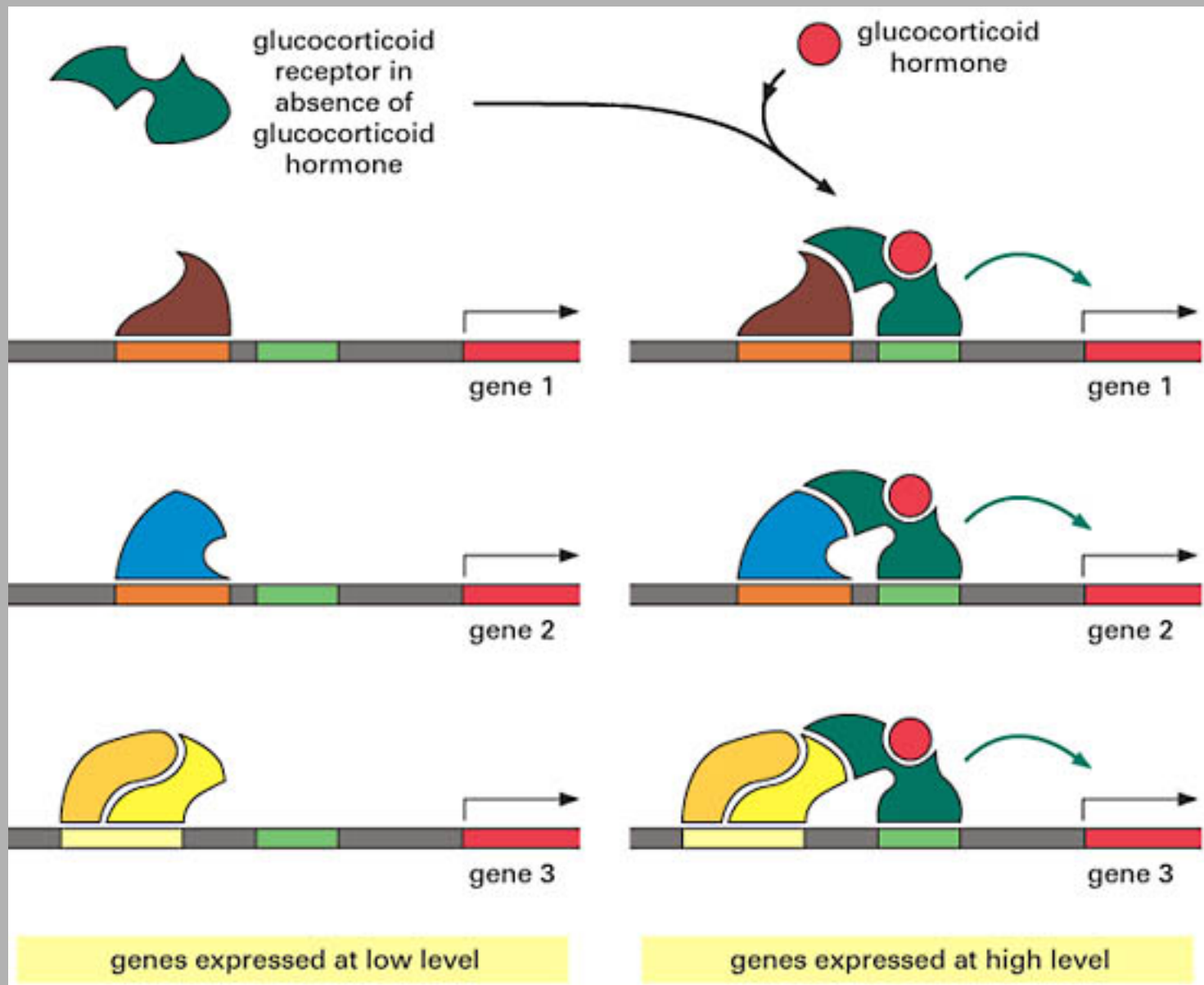


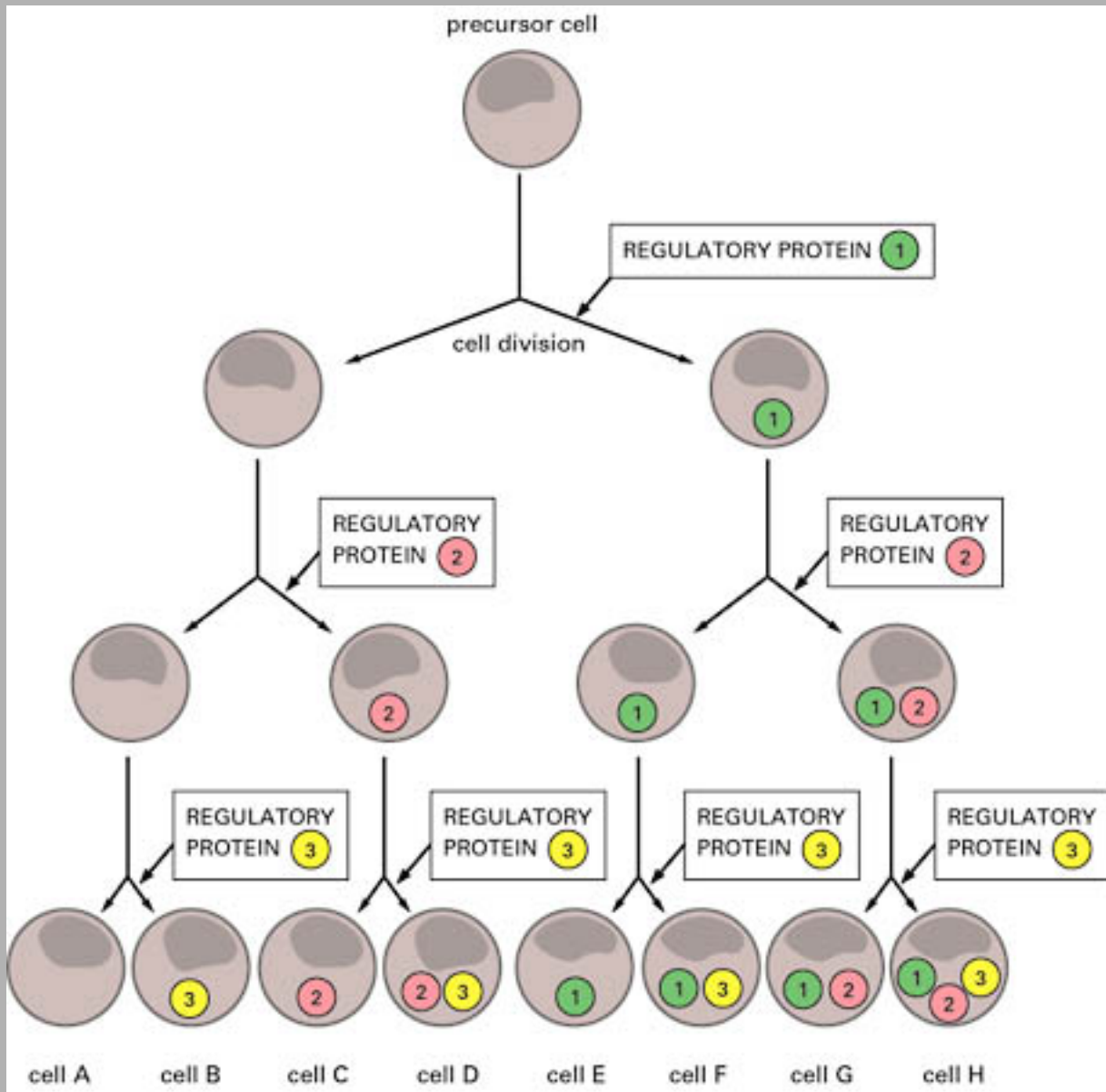
A Leucine Zipper Motif



DNA BINDING DOMAIN OF REGULATORY PROTEINS Contd

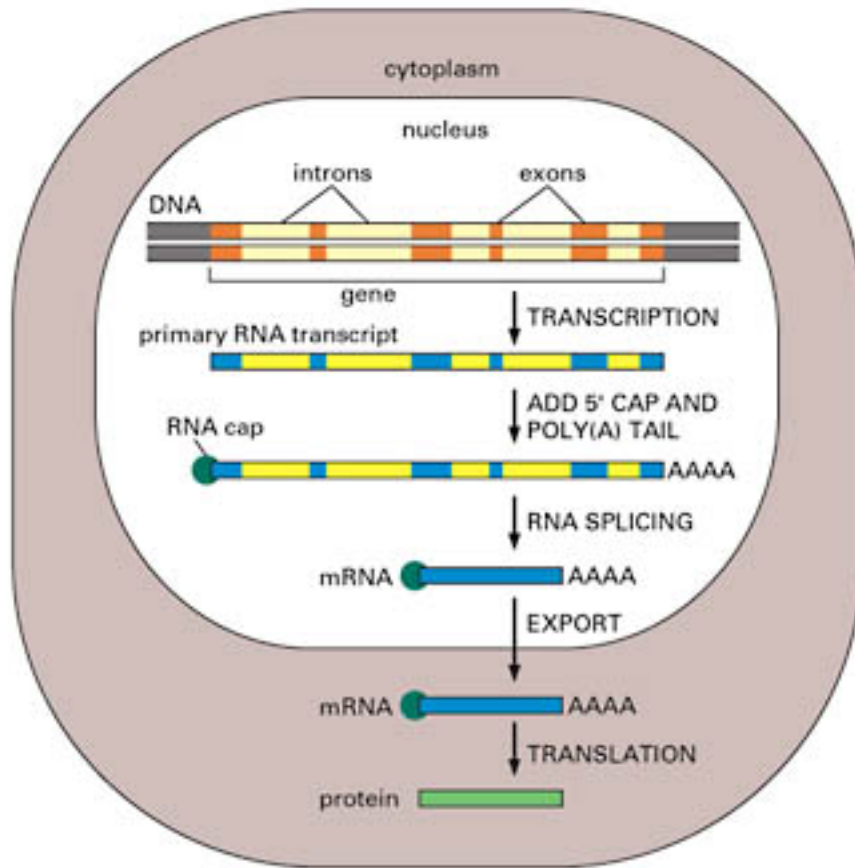
- **Regulatory proteins** react with RNA polymerase and with other unrelated regulatory proteins. Domains for protein-protein interaction:
 - Glutamic-rich domain.
 - Proline-rich domain
 - Acidic domain





Control of gene expression by RNA processing

(A) EUCARYOTES



(B) PROCARYOTES

