

# THEORY

## 2 Relevant Laws:

**First:** Matter, and energy can not\* be created or destroyed. Transformations ARE ALLOWED!

### Gibbs Free Energy:

**Exergonic Reactions:**

- Release energy (rather than converted from high-energy arrangements to lower energy arrangements)
- Will happen spontaneously once they are initiated
- Change in free energy is NEGATIVE

### Endergonic Reactions:

• Require energy input to occur (rather than converted from lower energy arrangements to higher energy arrangements)

- Can occur in organisms only
- Change in free energy is POSITIVE

A Measurement of the amount of "useful" energy that a system (like a cell) can use for performing work.

At the cellular level, the major biological source of energy is from the rearranging of atoms to form higher energy compounds to lower energy compounds.

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

- G = Free Energy
- H = Enthalpy (energy stored in a substance)
- T = Temperature
- S = Entropy

Living systems are not the only systems in the universe that require energy conversion to function.

Biological Systems use Exergonic Reactions to provide the free energy necessary for endergonic reactions.

- More free energy (higher G)
- Less stable
- Greater work capacity

In a spontaneous change

- The free energy of the system decreases ( $\Delta G < 0$ )
- The system becomes more stable
- The released free energy can be harnessed to do work

- Less free energy (lower G)
- More stable
- Less work capacity



**Second:** Any closed system will tend toward a state of maximum entropy. True for the Universe as a whole. Portions of the Universe can still function as "open" systems. Energy (and the matter that accompanies it) can be used to decrease an open system's entropy.

### Life is Highly Ordered



Organisms use the energy they convert to power cellular/organismal processes that decrease their overall entropy (or at least delay its increase). This process increases the entropy of their surroundings.

### Life Requires Energy Input



A highly ordered living system uses energy input to maintain/increase order

### Open & Closed Systems

#### Closed



Closed systems inexorably tend toward an absence of free energy.

They reach at a state of equilibrium between inputs and outputs.

*Inevitably Dull*

#### Open



Open systems will not reach equilibrium as long as the processes of the system receive inputs and produce outputs.



There is no inherent limit to the complexity of an open system, provided there is enough input to allow for that complexity.

*Usually Interesting*

**Life is an open system!**

# Cellular Energy Theory:

## Adenosine Tri-Phosphate

- The short term energy storage/release molecule of choice in cells.

## The Return of Kinetics





# First:

Matter, and energy can not\* be created or destroyed.  
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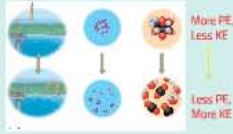
\* there are a few exceptions (e.g. stellar fusion), which don't matter for us



Organisms are energy processing systems. Energy from the Sun, or from Chemical Bonds is used to undertake cellular/organismal work

**Work:** Anything that requires atoms to be moved around through cellular actions (aka: "everything you do")

## Kinetic & Potential Energy

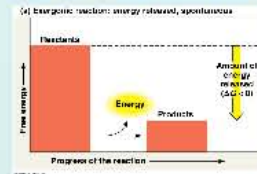


Both are useful to organisms for different purposes. Both contribute to phenomena at all levels of organization in the Universe.



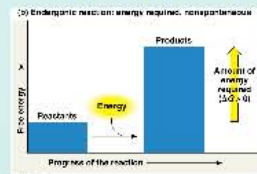
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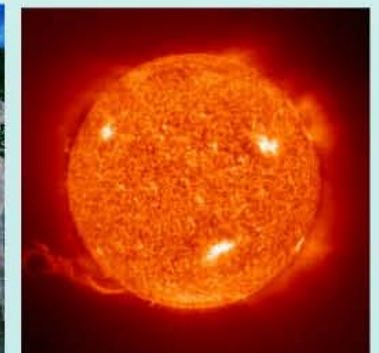
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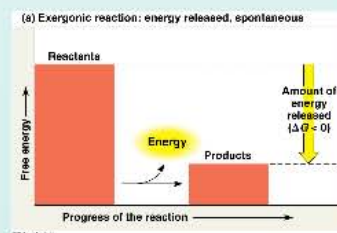
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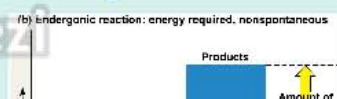
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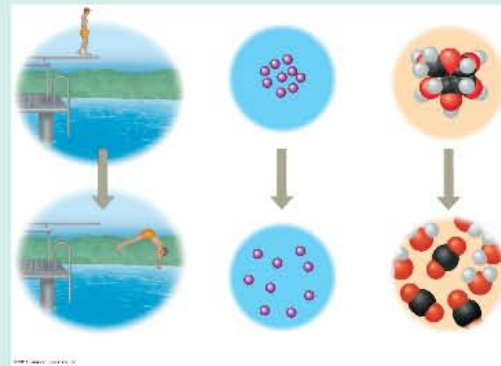
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# Kinetic & Potential Energy



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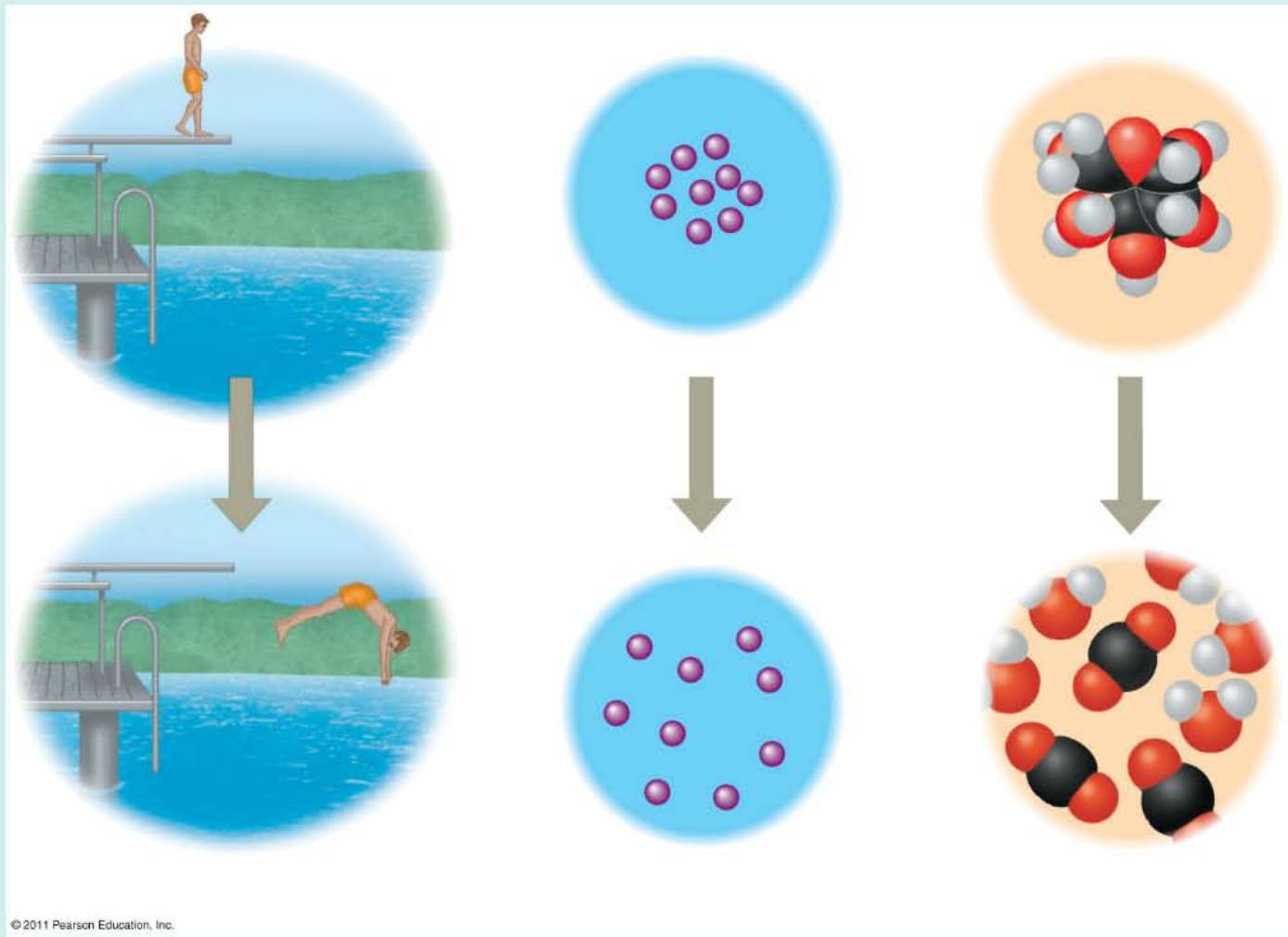


Free energy ↑  
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P

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enc



# Potential Energy



More PE,  
Less KE



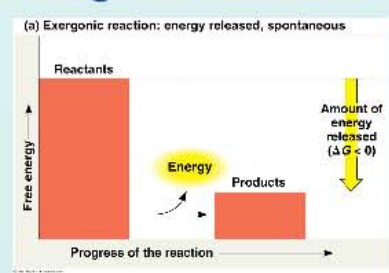
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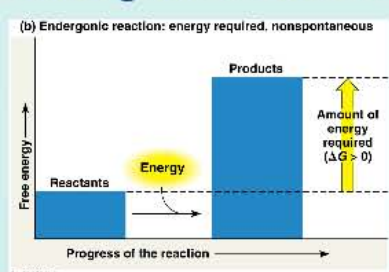
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Biological Systems use Exergonic Reactions to provide the free energy necessary for endergonic reactions.



Prezi

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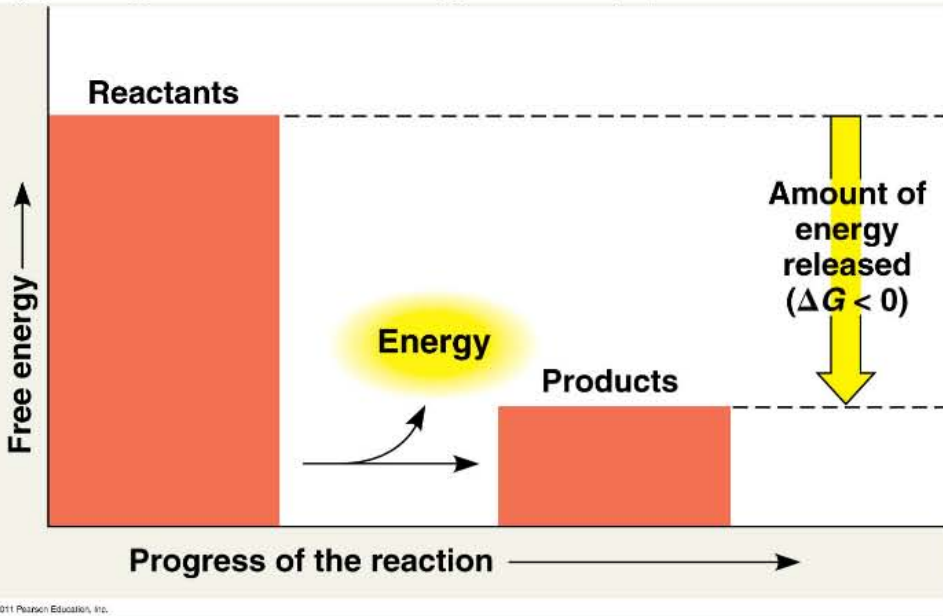
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# Gibbs Free Energy

## Exergonic Reactions:

(a) Exergonic reaction: energy released, spontaneous



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## Endergonic Reactions:



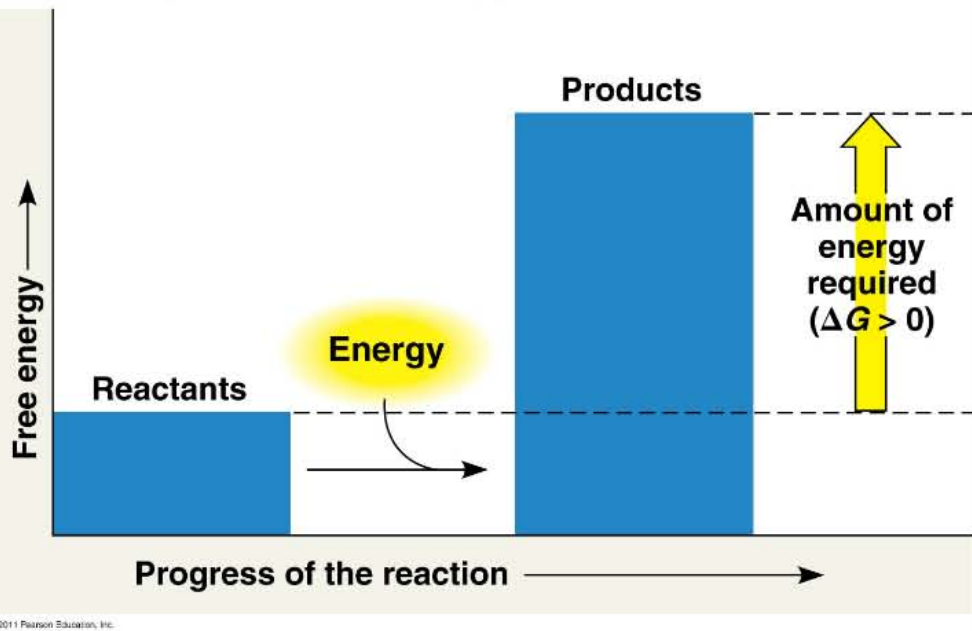
Prezi

Progress of the reaction →

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# Endergonic Reactions:

(b) Endergonic reaction: energy required, nonspontaneous



- Require energy input to occur (matter is converted from lower energy arrangements to higher energy arrangements) .
- Can not occur spontaneously.
- Change in free energy is POSITIVE.

Biological Systems use Exergonic Reactions



Biological Systems use Exergonic Reactions to provide the free energy necessary for endergonic reactions.

- **More free energy (higher  $G$ )**
- **Less stable**
- **Greater work capacity**

**In a spontaneous change**

- **The free energy of the system decreases ( $\Delta G < 0$ )**
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- **Less free energy (lower  $G$ )**
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- **Less work capacity**

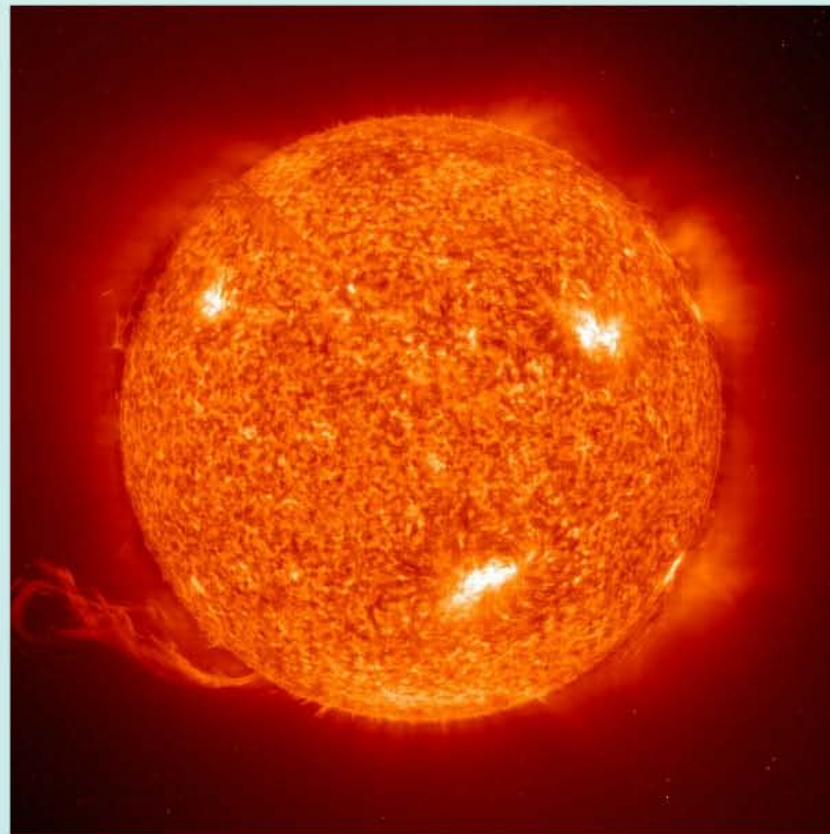
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Living  
units



Living systems are not the only systems in the universe that require energy conversion to function.





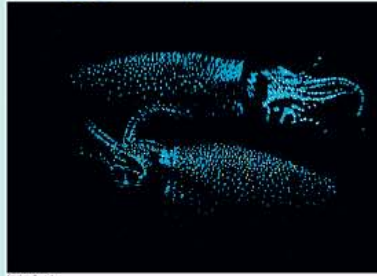
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## Life is Highly Ordered



Organisms use the energy they convert to power cellular/organismal processes that decrease their overall entropy (or at least delay its increase). This process increases the entropy of their surroundings.

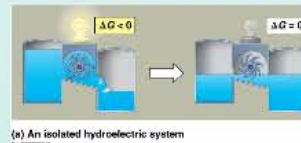
## Life Requires Energy Input



A highly ordered living system uses energy input to maintain/increase order

## Open & Closed Systems

### Closed



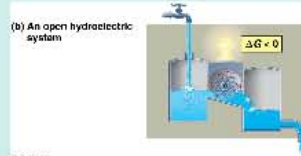
(a) An isolated hydroelectric system

Closed systems inexorably tend toward an absence of free energy.

They reach at a state of equilibrium between inputs and outputs.

*Inevitably Dull*

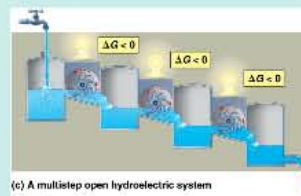
### Open



(b) An open hydroelectric system

Open systems will not reach equilibrium as long as the processes of the system receive inputs and produce outputs.

*Usually Interesting*



(c) A multistep open hydroelectric system

There is no inherent limit to the complexity of an open system, provided there is enough input to allow for that complexity

**Life is an open system!**





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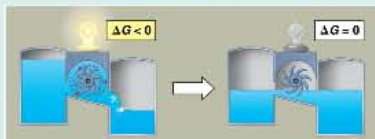
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## Open & Closed Systems



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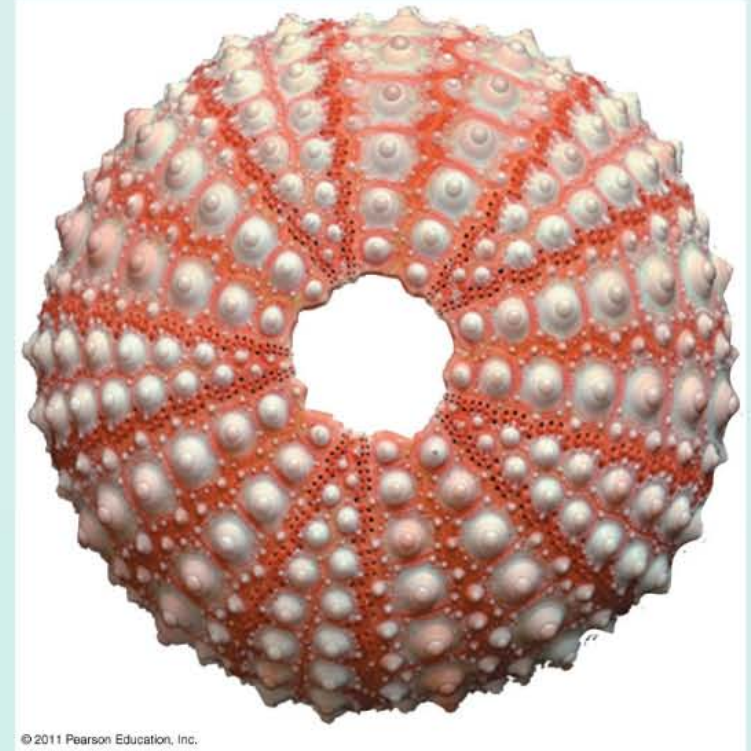


decrease a

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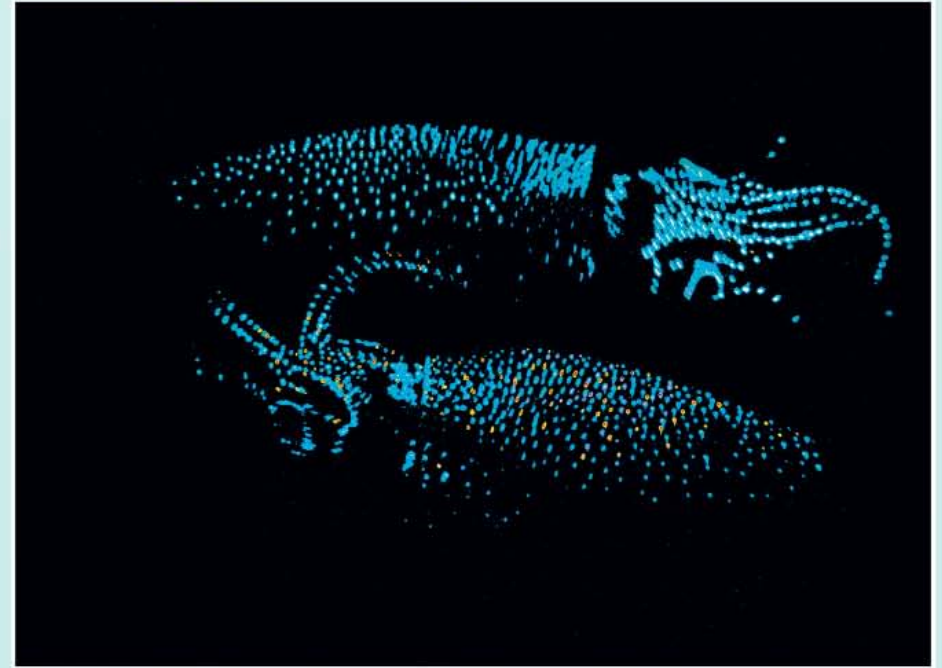


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# Life Requires Energy Input



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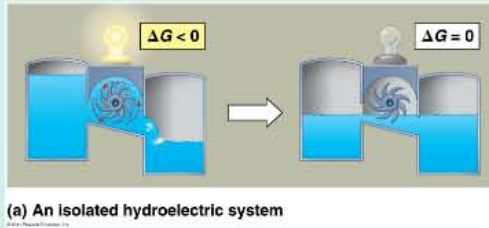
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A highly ordered living system uses energy input to maintain/increase order



# Open & Closed Systems

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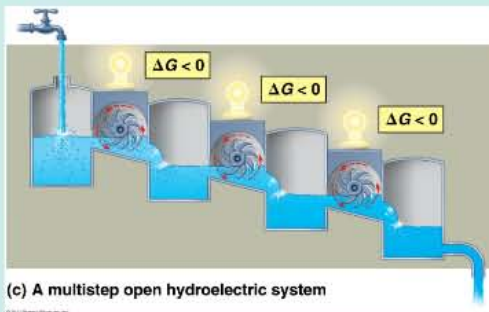
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Usually  
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Equilibrium = Death



Life is an open system!

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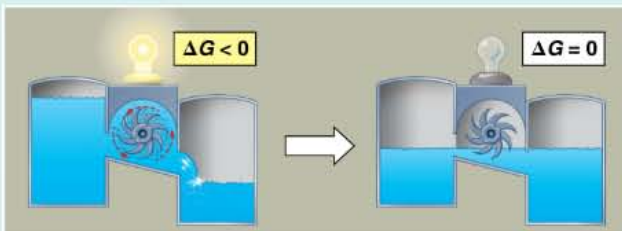
# Open & Closed Systems

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*Inevitably Dull*

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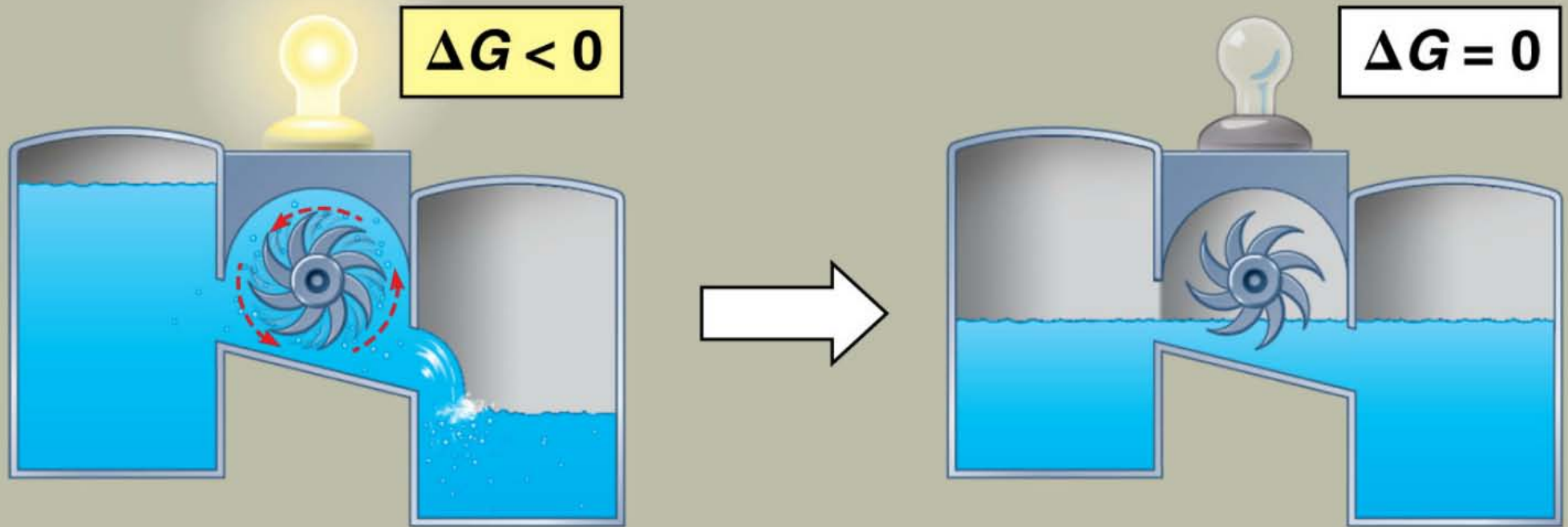
*Usually Interesting*

(b) An open hydroelectric system





# Closed



**(a) An isolated hydroelectric system**

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(a) An isolated hydroelectric system

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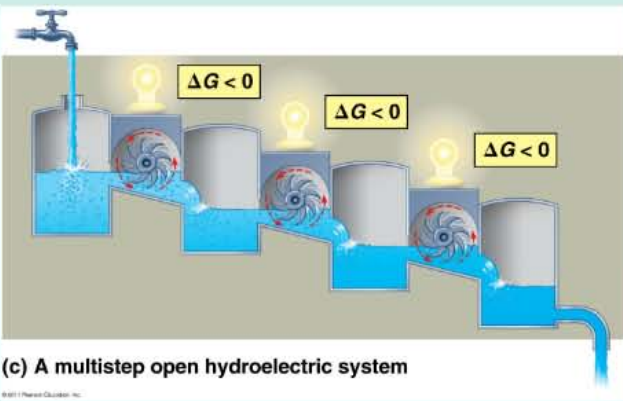
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(c) A multistep open hydroelectric system

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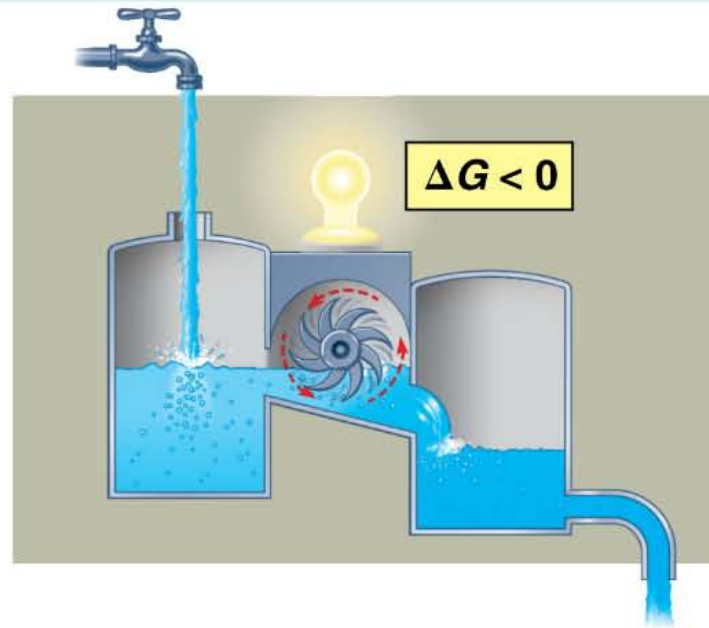
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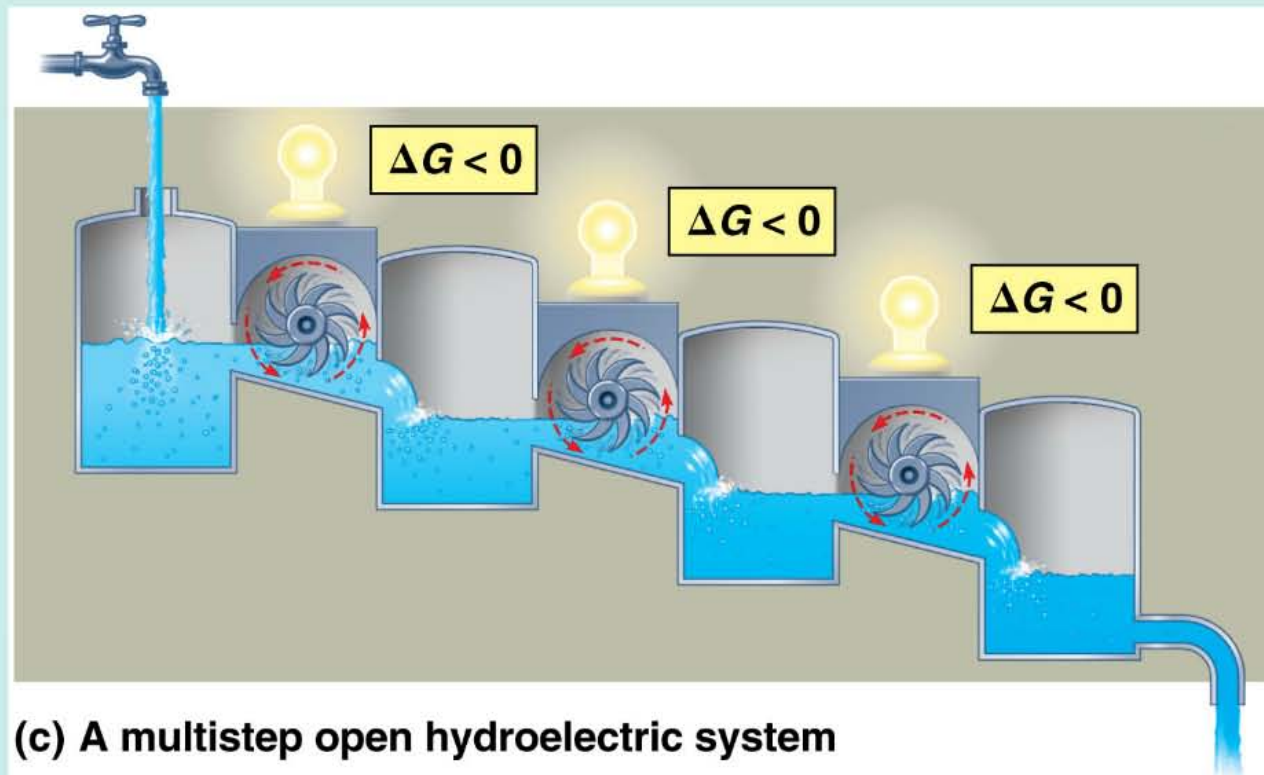




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Open systems  
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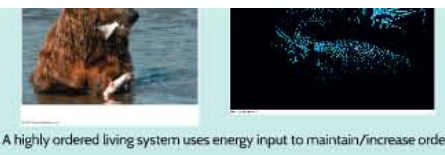
There is  
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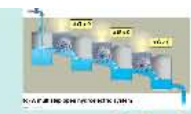




- The system becomes more stable
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- ↓
- Less free energy (lower G)
  - More stable
  - Less work capacity



A highly ordered living system uses energy input to maintain/increase order



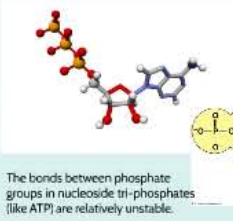
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# Cellular Energy Theory:

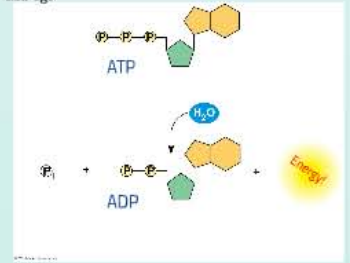
## ATP!

### Adenosine Tri-Phosphate



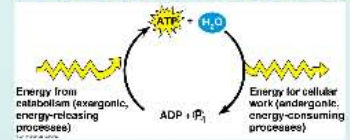
The bonds between phosphate groups in nucleoside tri-phosphates (like ATP) are relatively unstable.

Much more free energy is released when the bonds between them are broken than is required by the cell to initiate their cleavage.



- The short term energy storage/release molecule of choice in cells.
- Tens of millions made and used per second per cell

## Metabolism

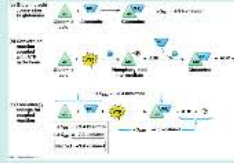


Refers to the sum total of all chemical reactions that take place in an organism.

Energy from **catabolic** reactions (ex: respiration) is used to power the synthesis of ATP from ADP and Phosphate groups.

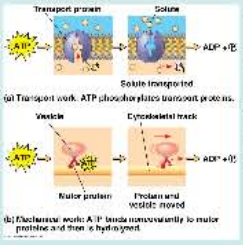
ATP (and other NTP's) is used to power the **anabolic** Reactions that require chemical energy.

## Reaction Coupling



Refers to linking an exergonic process with a cellular process.

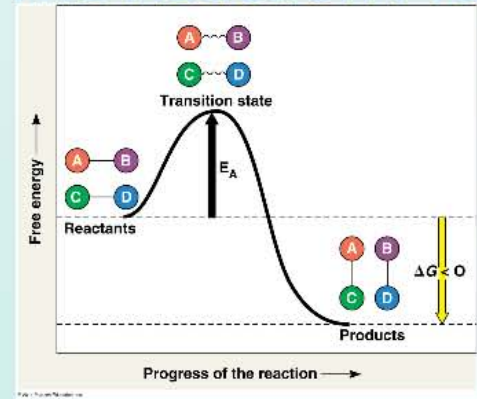
If an endergonic process requires less free energy than an exergonic process produces, coupling those two reactions allows for maximum efficiency, and an overall negative delta G.



Much of the work done by cellular proteins is mediated by the addition and removal of phosphate groups from ATP by proteins to other proteins (kinases and phosphatases).

# The Return of Kinetics

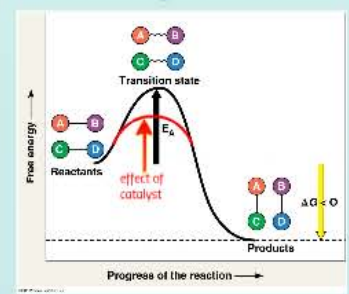
## The Reaction Profile



All reactions require an input of energy (the "activation energy") to make the breaking of current chemical bonds energetically favorable (the "transition state").

The relationship between the energy of the products and the energy of the reactants is what determines if a reaction is exergonic or endergonic.

## Catalysts!



Any substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction while not participating in the reaction.

Lowers the activation energy of a reaction.

Reusable (since they don't participate).



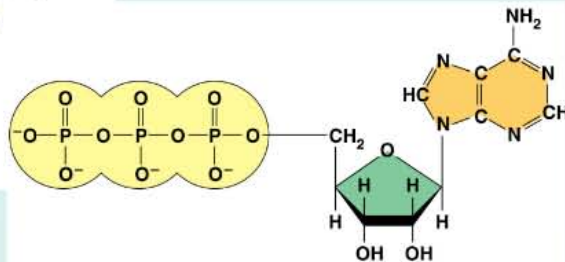
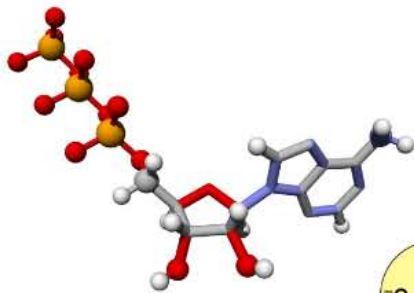
- Make Sure You Can:**
- Explain how living systems adhere to the first and second laws of thermodynamics.
  - Explain how living systems can increase in order even though the Universe is moving toward a state of maximum entropy.
  - Compare endergonic and exergonic reactions.
  - Compare open and closed systems.
  - Explain how ATP allows for cellular work.

# Cellular Energy

## ATP!

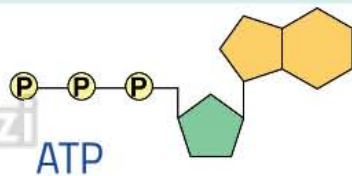
## Adenosine Tri-Phosphate

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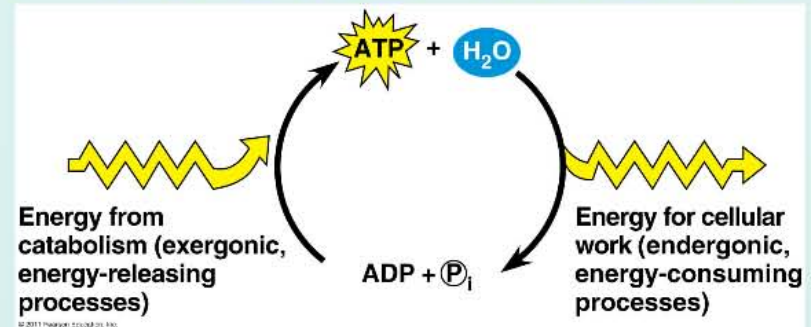


The bonds between phosphate groups in nucleoside tri-phosphates (like ATP) are relatively unstable.

Much more free energy is released when the bonds between them are broken than is required by the cell to initiate their cleavage.



## Metabolism



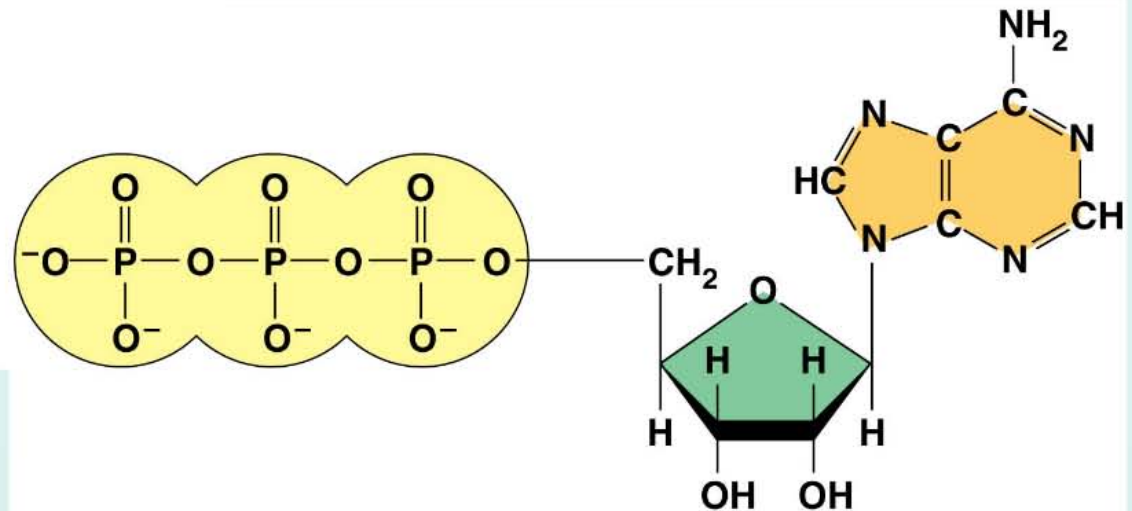
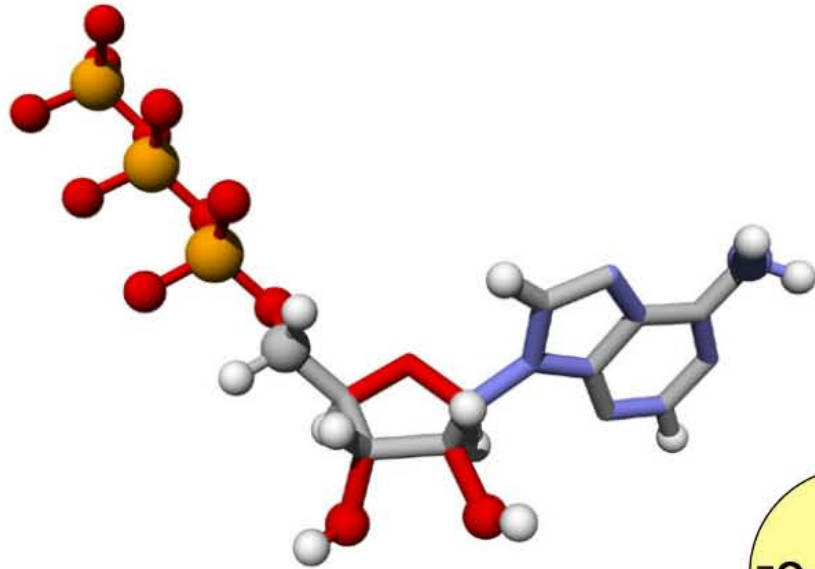
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# ATP!

- Tens of millions of molecules of ATP are used in every cell

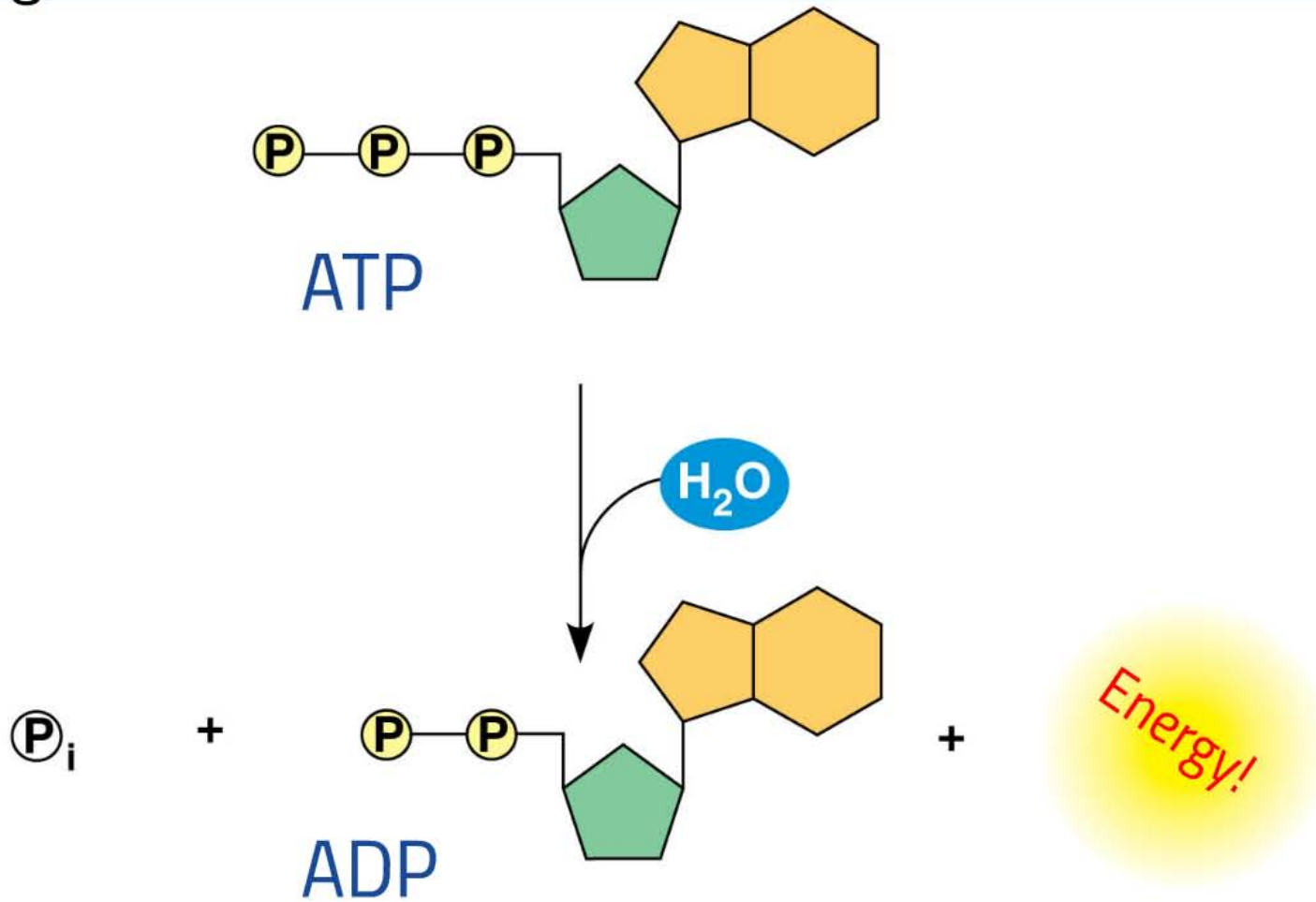


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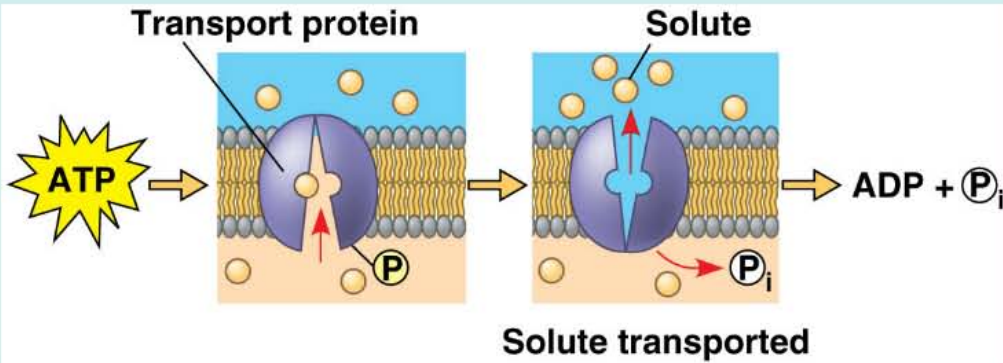
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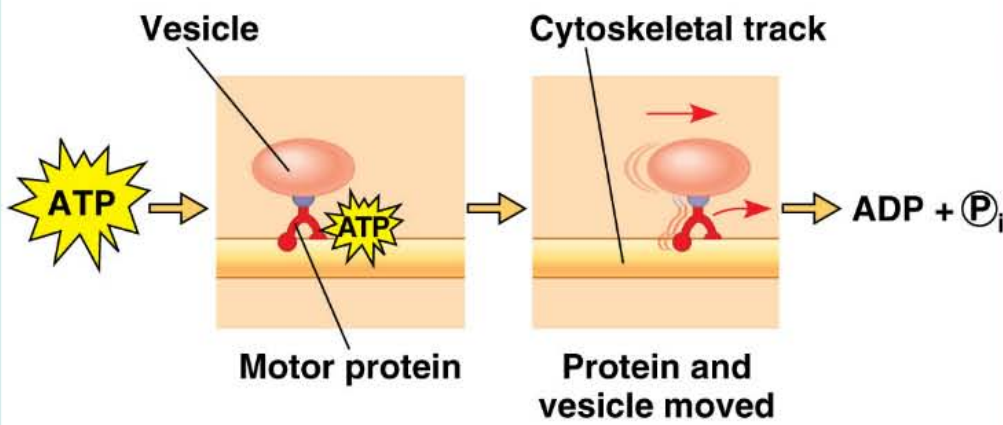
Much more free energy is released when the bonds between them are broken than is required by the cell to initiate their cleavage.







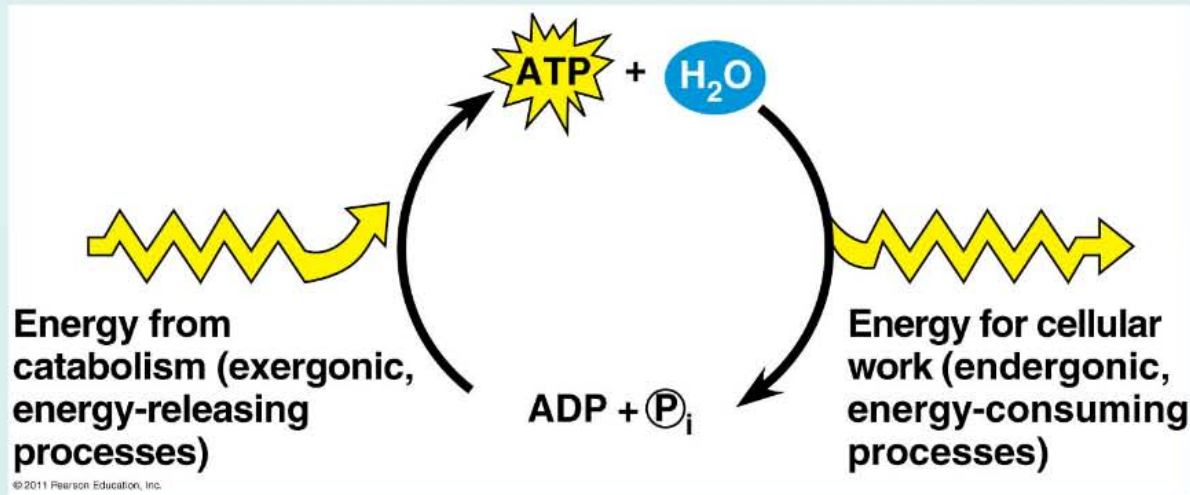
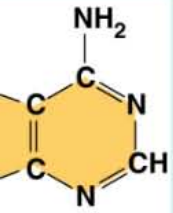
(a) Transport work: ATP phosphorylates transport proteins.



(b) Mechanical work: ATP binds noncovalently to motor proteins and then is hydrolyzed.

Much of the work done by cellular proteins is mediated by the addition and removal of phosphate groups from ATP by proteins to other proteins (kinases and phosphatases).

# Metabolism



Refers to the sum total of all chemical reactions that take place in an organism.

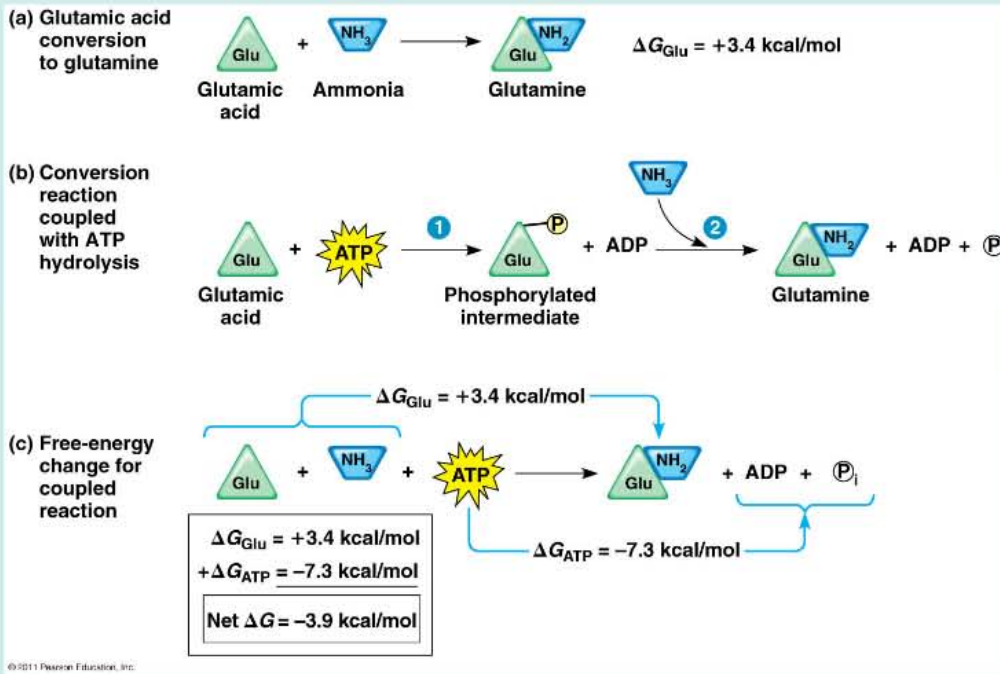
Energy from **catabolic** reactions (ex: respiration) is used to power the synthesis of ATP from ADP and Phosphate groups.

ATP (and other NTP's) is used to power the **anabolic** Reactions that require chemical energy.



energy.

# Reaction Coupling

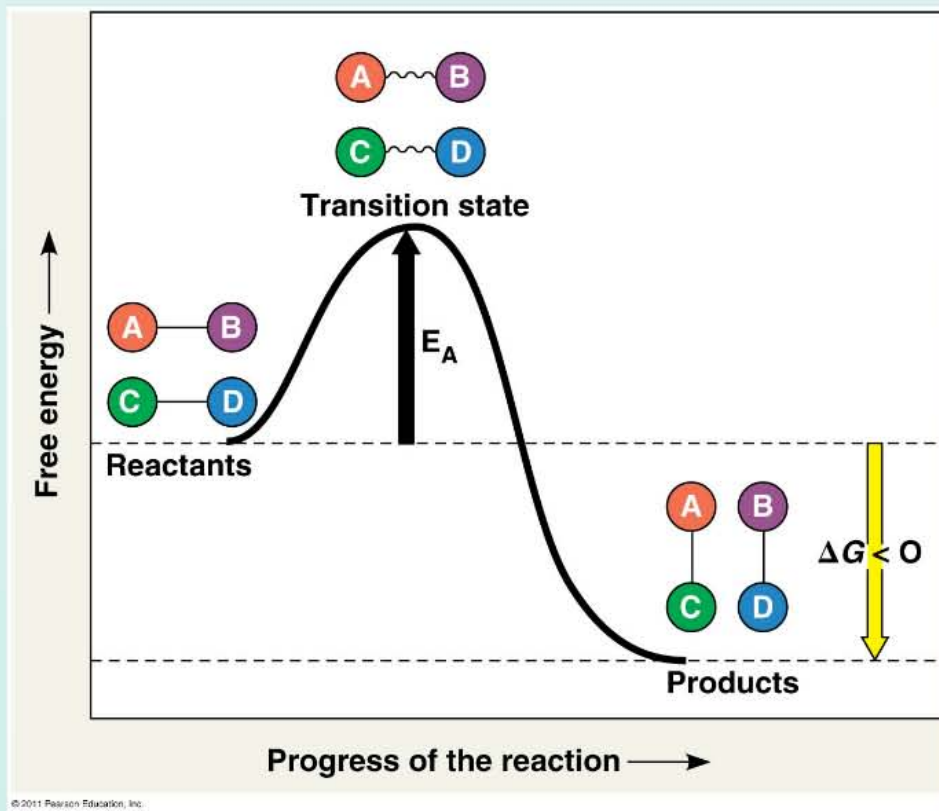


Refers to linking an exergonic process with a cellular process.

If an endergonic process requires less free energy than an exergonic process produces, coupling those two reactions allows for maximum efficiency, and an overall negative delta G.

# The Return of Kinetics

## The Reaction Profile



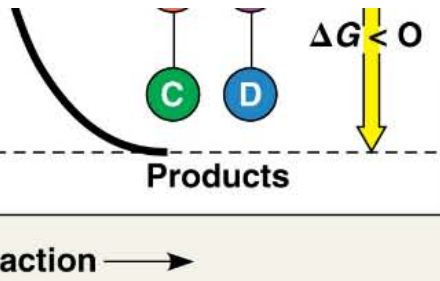
All reactions require an input of energy (the "activation energy") to make the breaking of current chemical bonds energetically favorable (the "transition state").

The relationship between the energy of the products and the energy of the reactants is what determines if a reaction is exergonic or endergonic.

## Catalysts!

Any substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction while not





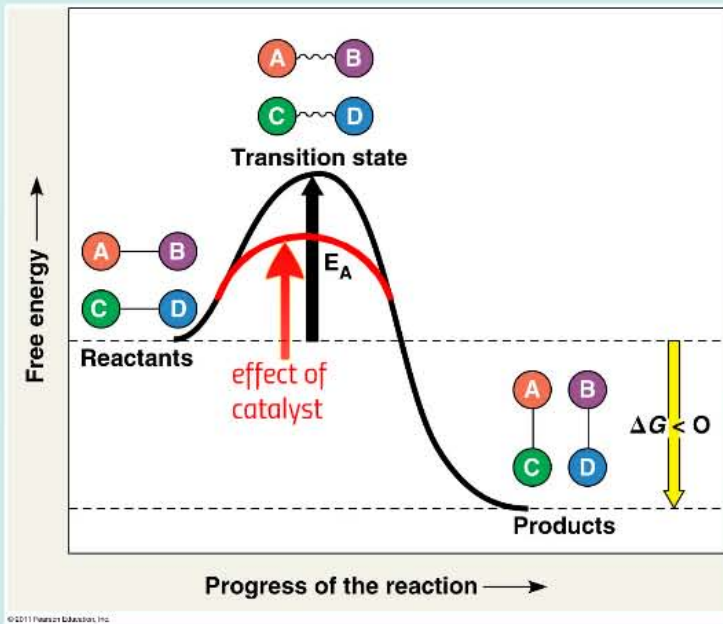
What determines if a reaction is exergonic or endergonic.

# Catalysts!

Any substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction while not participating in the reaction.

Lowers the activation energy of a reaction.

Reusable (since they don't participate).



## Make Sure You Can:

Explain how living systems adhere to the first and second laws of thermodynamics.

Explain how living systems can increase in order even though the Universe is moving toward a state of maximum entropy.

Compare endergonic and exergonic reactions.

Compare open and closed systems.

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Compare endergonic and exergonic reactions.

Compare open and closed systems.

Explain how ATP allows for cellular work.

Explain the effect of a catalyst on a reaction profile.



# Cellular Energetics

## Theory

### 2 Relevant Laws:

**First:** Matter and energy can not be created or destroyed. Transformations ARE ALLOWED!

**Gibbs Free Energy:**

$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$

**Second:** Any closed system will tend toward a state of maximum entropy. True for the Universe as a whole. Positions of the Universe can still function as "open" systems. Energy (and the matter that accompanies it) can be used to decrease an open system's entropy.

**Life is Highly Ordered**

**Open & Closed Systems**

**Life Requires Energy Input**

**Life is an open system!**

*Inevitably Dull*

*Usually Interesting*

### Cellular Energy Theory:

**ATP!** Adenosine Tri-Phosphate

- The short term energy storage molecule of choice in cells.
- Flows of millions made and used per second per cell.

**Metabolism**

Refers to the sum of all chemical reactions that take place in an organism.

It may be **catabolic** (breaks down molecules to release energy) or **anabolic** (builds up molecules).

ATP is often used to provide the energy for reactions that require it.

**Reaction Coupling**

Allows a thermodynamically unfavorable reaction to be coupled to a favorable one.

Many biological reactions are coupled to the hydrolysis of ATP.

**The Return of Kinetics**

**The Reaction Profile**

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