

Video Notes

Understanding Bacteria

1. As you watch the video, write down how bacteria are beneficial to humans.
2. There are more than 5000 species of bacteria. What percentage of the species are pathogens?
3. Bacteria are the smallest unicellular organisms. About how many bacteria could fit on the head of a pin?
4. In ideal conditions, how fast do bacteria reproduce?
5. The bacteria Clostridium butulinum produce the deadliest toxin on the earth. How is this toxin being used in the field of medicine?
6. Answer the following questions about flesh eating bacteria (Streptococcus sp.).
 - a. How fast do these bacteria destroy tissue?
 - b. What famous person did these bacteria kill?
7. There is a harmless species of bacteria (E. coli) that live in your digestive tract. However, there is a harmful strain of E. coli bacteria that live in the intestines of cattle. How can this harmful strain eventually end up in your digestive tract?
8. Explain how the bacteria that cause bubonic plague are spread to humans.
9. What was Alexander Fleming's claim to fame?

10. Explain how certain species of bacteria are becoming resistant to antibiotics.

11. Why are antibiotics placed in certain animal feeds?

12. What is vancomycin?

13. Explain how pseudomonas bacteria are being used by a gold mining industry in South Dakota.

14. What causes ulcers?