

20-1 The Kingdom Protista



What Is a Protist?



What are protists?



Protists are eukaryotes that are not members of the Plant, Animal, or Fungi kingdoms.

20-1 The Kingdom Protista ➡ What Is a Protist?

- more than 200,000 species.
- most unicellular.

Evolution of Protists

Mitochondria and chloroplasts in eukaryotic cells may have descended from prokaryotes that lived inside larger cells.

Classification of Protists

One way protists can be classified is by how they obtain nutrition:

- Heterotrophs are called animal-like protists.
- Photosynthesizers are called plantlike protists.
- Decomposers and parasites are called funguslike protists.

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1 A protist is any organism that is not a plant, an animal, a fungus, or a prokaryote.

A a. True

b. False

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2 Funguslike protists are

- a. autotrophic.
- b. photosynthetic.

A

c. parasitic.

d. chemosynthetic.

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3 Animal-like protists are

a. autotrophs.

A b. heterotrophs.

c. decomposers.

d. producers.

4 Biologists have difficulties classifying protists because

a. their DNA cannot be examined.

A

b. evidence suggests that they evolved from so many different groups.

c. structural similarities used for classification are difficult to detect.

d. their ancestors may have evolved through symbiosis.

5 An organism is classified as a protist if it

- a. resembles any other member of the Eukarya domain.
- b. shares DNA sequences that are found only in other protists.
- c. has a cell wall made of cellulose.

A

d. does not belong in any other kingdom of the Eukarya.

END OF SECTION