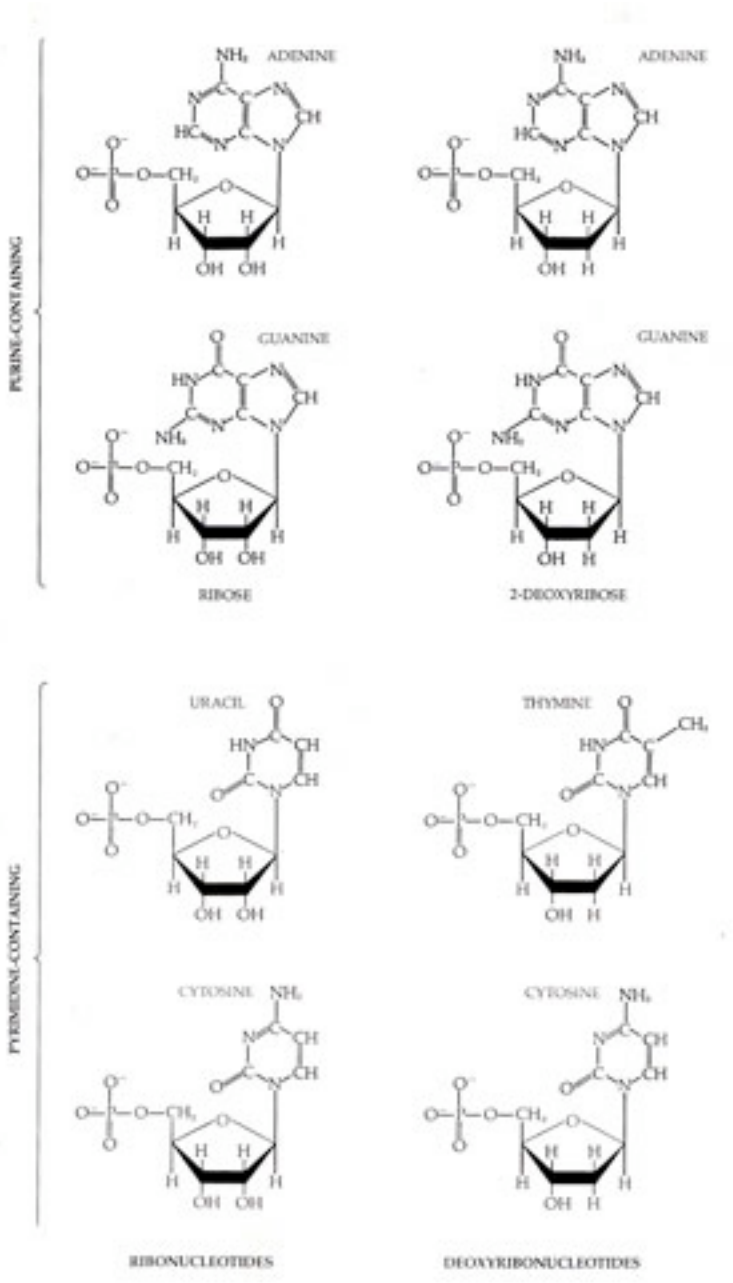
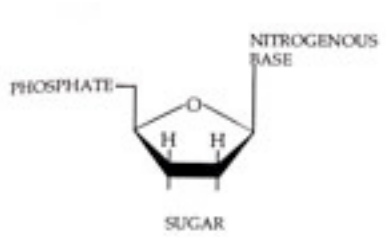
RNA vs DNA

Here are the **ribonucleotides** (left column) found in RNA and the **deoxyribonucleotides** (right column) found in DNA. How do these two nucleotides differ?



The building blocks of RNA and DNA. Each nucleotide building block contains a phosphate group, a sugar, and a nitrogenous base, which can be either a purine or a

pyrimidine.



The purines in both groups are the same, but one type of **DNA** nucleotide **contains thymine**, whereas its **RNA** counterpart **contains uracil**. The only other difference between the two is the presence of one more oxygen on the sugar (ribose) component of the RNA. The biological roles of the two are profoundly different.

You must be able to distinguish between DNA nucleotides and RNA nucleotides.

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