

RNA

RNA, or ribonucleic acid, is a family of biomolecules used to bridge the gap between the genetic code in DNA and functional proteins. One type is mRNA, or messenger RNA, which is the template for translation created from DNA. It has a 3' poly A tail, which is a long sequence of adenine nucleotides at the 3' end, and a 5' cap, a modified guanine nucleotide, to protect the RNA from being damaged unintentionally by RNases that are looking for uncapped RNA molecules. Ribosomal RNA, or rRNA, is a large component of ribosomes, which are used to catalyze amino acid bond formation. The ribosomes read the mRNA template and join the appropriate amino acids together as the genetic code instructs. The other major type of RNA, tRNA or transfer RNA, brings those new, single amino acids to the ribosome, as its 3' tail is bound to an amino acid. It also has an anticodon region so that it can match up to the appropriate codon in the mRNA template.



PLAY PICMONIC

Characteristics

mRNA

Mail-(RNA)-rhino

mRNA is synthesized from DNA by RNA polymerase during transcription and serves as the template for translation into protein. Mature eukaryotic mRNA undergoes post-transcriptional modification, including the addition of a 5' cap and a 3' poly-A tail, which increase stability, facilitate nuclear export, and promote ribosome binding.

3' Poly A Tail

(3) Tree Polly with A tail

The 3' end of eukaryotic mRNA contains a poly-A tail, a long sequence of adenine nucleotides added during polyadenylation. This structure enhances mRNA stability, aids in nuclear export, and improves translation efficiency.

5' Cap

(5) Hand Baseball-cap

The 5' end of eukaryotic mRNA contains a 7-methylguanosine cap. This cap protects mRNA from degradation, facilitates ribosome recognition, and is required for efficient translation initiation.

Template for Translation

Temple-plate with Train-lotion

mRNA is used as the template for translation from DNA. Based on what the DNA strand reads, mRNA transcribes its information, leading to the translation of this information into functional proteins.

rRNA

Rabbit-zombie-(RNA)-Rhino

rRNA is a structural and catalytic component of ribosomes. It plays a direct role in translation by catalyzing peptide bond formation between amino acids during polypeptide synthesis.

Catalyzes Amino Acid Bonds

Putting together A-mean-ol' Acidic-lemons with James-Bond

rRNA catalyzes peptide bond formation between amino acids during polypeptide synthesis.

Component of Ribosome Enzyme

Rabbit-zombie Enzyme

rRNA is the largest component of ribosomes by weight. Ribosomes are ribonucleoprotein complexes that read mRNA and synthesize polypeptides, with rRNA providing the catalytic activity.

tRNA

[transformer-Rhino](#)

tRNA is transfer RNA and is used to match the code in mRNA to appropriate amino acids. tRNA serves as a physical link between the mRNA and the amino acid sequence of proteins.

Anticodon Region

[Ant-tie-condom](#)

tRNA has an anticodon region, made up of three nucleotides, that matches with the base codons on mRNA to ensure that the correct amino acid is delivered to the ribosome.

3' Tail Bind to Amino Acid

[\(3\) Tree binding to A-mean-ol Acidic-lemon](#)

The 3' tail of tRNA is bound to the amino acid, which allows for the matching of an anticodon region and amino acid.