## **RNA TRANSCRIPTION** A section of DNA unwinds (gene) between base pairs at hydrogen bonds. • • Complementary nucleotides collide with exposed bases along one open section of DNA Exposed bases matched with complements (thymine is replaced by uracil). RNA-polymerase attaches to DNA • Sugar-phosphate bonds made between nucleotides by RNA polymerase • • Now mRNA has a sequence of triplet codons complementary to the DNA triplet code. mRNA released from nucleus through the nuclear pores ۰ **RNA TRANSLATION** The 2 ribosomal subunits bind to mRNA forming a complete ribosome • May be switched. Initiation Each tRNA picks up an amino acid. • Linear sequence of codons determines the order in which tRNA molecules arrive. • ٠ Initiation always begins with the codon that stands for the amino acid methionine. The tRNA-amino acid complexes come to the ribosomes where each anti-codon pairs with a ٠ mRNA codon. Two such tRNA-amino acid complexes can be at a ribosome at a time. Elongation The amino acid is peptide-bonded to the growing polypeptide chain. ٠ Ribosome moves along the mRNA to the right, making room for the next tRNA-amino acid. ۰ As tRNA leaves, it passes its peptide chain to the tRNA-amino acid still at the ribosome. ٠ • The above process continues until a "stop" codon on mRNA is reached. Termination Completed polypeptide released by ribosome which dissociates and falls off the mRNA molecule. • Secondary and tertiary structure of the protein forms after termination. •

## **Protein synthesis cut and paste KEY**