

CELL STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS

Shape of cells:

Most of the cells have a definite shape. Some cells such as that in Amoeba have no definite shape.

- Human RBC is spherical –shaped.
- Muscle cells in humans are spindle shaped.
- The human nerve cells have elongated branched structure.

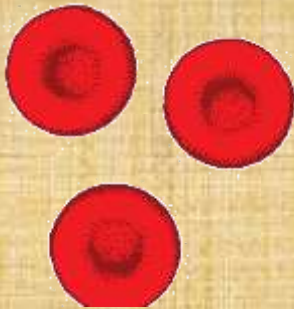
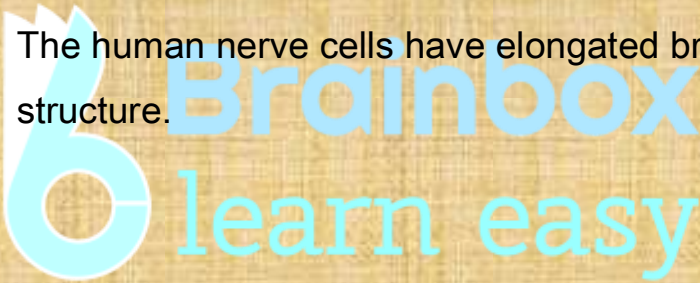


Fig. Spherical red blood cells of human



Fig. Long branched nerve cell



Fig. Spindle shaped muscle cells

Size of cells:

The size of cells in living organisms may be as small or may be as large as few centimetres. Most of the cells are microscopic in size and are not visible to the unaided eye.

- The smallest cell is 0.1 to 0.5 in Bacteria.
- The largest cell is size 170mm x 130mm, which is the egg of an ostrich.