For the graded potential, the signals are graded, meaning they vary in size depending on strength of stimulus and localised.

Graded potentials occur most often in dendrites and the cell body of the neurone.

How graded potentials arise

- mechanical stimulation of membranes with mechanical gated ion channels (remember this means pressure etc)
- chemical stimulation of membranes with ligand gated ion channels (remember this is like neurotransmitter)

Remember this was discussed earlier on.

(source of stimuli: the figure below is to explain the different types of graded potentials and their functions. Remember DEpolarisation is opposite of ‘Down’ and then you can recall that HYPERpolarisation is opposite of ‘High’. This will help you remember the shape of their effects.)