

③ centromere

the region where spindle fibres attach during cell division

during interphase, chromosomes are organised in the nucleus

chromosomes organise themselves into discrete patches (chromosome territories)

active genes (the euchromatic regions of chromosomes) tend to be located near the boundary of the chromosome territory

genome

genome: the complete set of genes of an organism (ie. all of the DNA found in a body cell)

genomics: the genome-wide analysis of gene structure and expression

genomes can be entirely sequenced (eg. the human genome project)

e.g. the human genome is:

21% LINES

13% SINES

8% retroviral-like elements

3% DNA-only transposon "fossils"

3% segmental duplications

5% simple sequence repeats

3% 5'-introns (non-coding regions)

1% exons (protein-coding regions)

8% heterochromatin

the size of a genome is not directly related to its biological complexity

the bulk of genomes are heterochromatin (not sequenced) and introns/other non-coding parts of genes from euchromatin

comparisons of genomes among species can suggest evolutionary and functional relationships among genes