

VIRUSES: A CASE APART

1. Read this text and then tell whether each of the following statements is TRUE or FALSE:

Viruses are parasites that attack cells and cause diseases in living organisms.

A virus is much smaller than a cell. Indeed, it is a molecule encapsulated in a protein-based structure that carries genetic material.

Viruses are not made up of cells. For this reason, they are not considered living organisms.

In addition, viruses cannot perform any life processes by themselves: they need to infect a host cell and use its machinery to reproduce.

We classify viruses by their biochemical properties, reproductive mechanisms, and the type of cell they infect. Their system of classification is different from that of all living organisms.

Facts about viruses	TRUE/FALSE
Viruses belong to the monera kingdom.	
Viruses can only multiply when they have infected a cell.	
Viruses have their own system of classification.	
Viruses are not living organisms, because they are not made up of cells.	
Viruses are not living organisms, because they do not have genetic material.	
Viruses are smaller than the smallest known cell.	
A virus is simply a molecule of genetic material sheltered by a protein coat.	

2. Translate the following sentences into Spanish. Use an online dictionary if you need it.

ENGLISH	SPANISH
Viruses can only multiply when they have infected a cell	
Viruses have their own system of classification.	
Viruses are not living organisms, because they are not made up of cells.	
Viruses are smaller than the smallest known cell.	

3. Go to this website and watch the video. Then, answer the questions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-HThHRV4uo>

- a) What is a microbe?
- b) Which two organisms are considered microbes?
- c) Which is the smallest microbe?
- d) Can viruses survive outside the body for months?
- e) Do all bacteria we have in our intestines cause problems?
- f) When is effective an antibiotic?
- g) What recommendations are explained in the video to prevent spreading viruses?

4. Look at the following pictures and explain in SPANISH what is happening in them. Try to explain the pictures as much as possible.

			
			
			
			