

The processes used by organisms to obtain energy and to do chemical work are the basis of the functioning of ecosystems. ₁

Energy currency of cells

- ATP
 - used to transfer energy from cell's energy-conserving systems to the systems that carry out cellular work

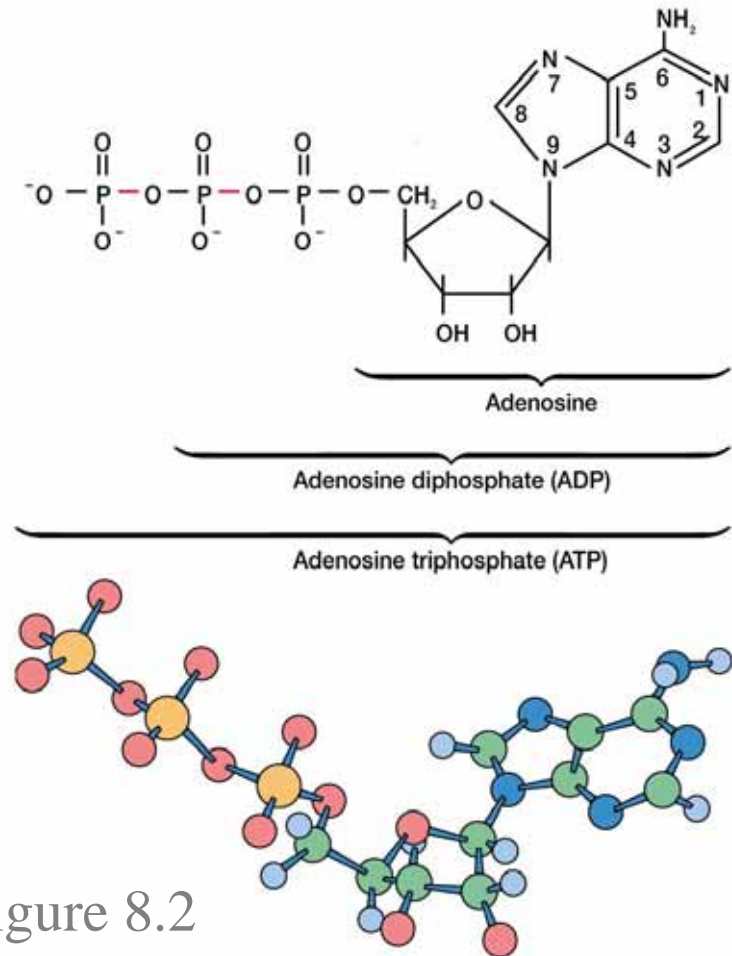


Figure 8.2

The cell's energy cycle

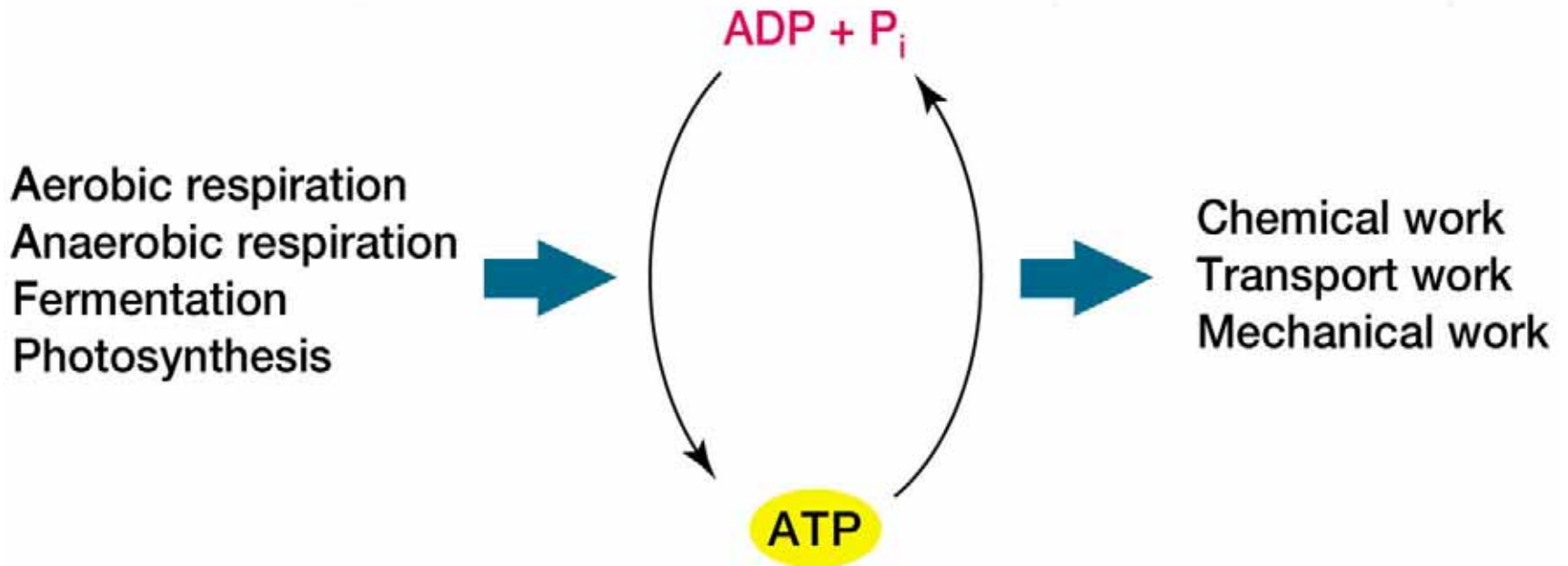


Figure 8.3

The Role of ATP in Metabolism

- exergonic breakdown of ATP is coupled with endergonic reactions to make them more favorable

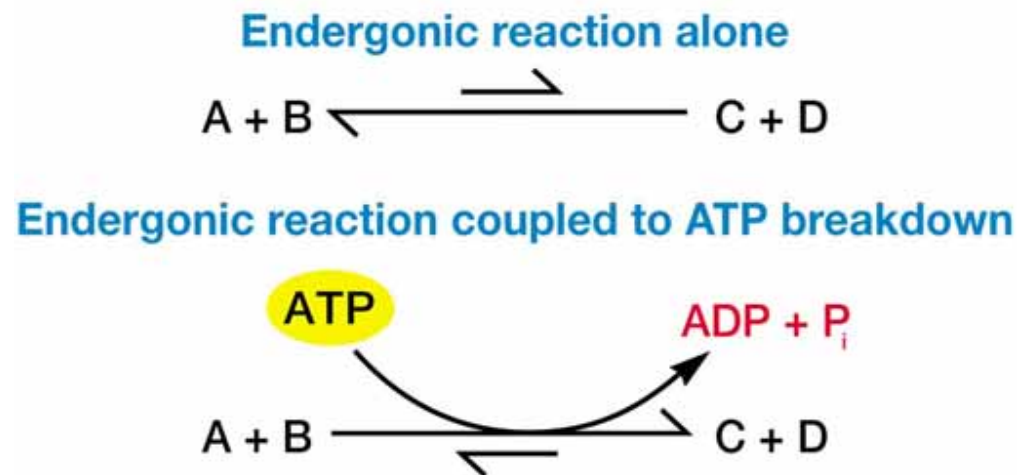


Figure 8.6

Oxidation-Reduction Reactions and Electron Carriers

- many metabolic processes involve oxidation-reduction reactions (electron transfers)
- electron carriers are often used to transfer electrons from an electron donor to an electron acceptor

Oxidation-reduction (redox) reactions

- transfer of electrons from a donor to an acceptor
- can result in energy release, which can be conserved and used to form ATP

Table 8.1**Selected Biologically Important Redox Couples**

| Redox Couple | E'_0 (Volts) ^a |
|--|-----------------------------|
| $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{H}_2$ | -0.42 |
| Ferredoxin(Fe^{3+}) + $\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ ferredoxin (Fe^{2+}) | -0.42 |
| $\text{NAD(P)}^+ + \text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{NAD(P)H}$ | -0.32 |
| $\text{S} + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{S}$ | -0.274 |
| Acetaldehyde + $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ ethanol | -0.197 |
| Pyruvate ⁻ + $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ lactate ²⁻ | -0.185 |
| $\text{FAD} + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{FADH}_2$ | -0.18 ^b |
| Oxaloacetate ²⁻ + $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ malate ²⁻ | -0.166 |
| Fumarate ²⁻ + $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ succinate ²⁻ | 0.031 |
| Cytochrome <i>b</i> (Fe^{3+}) + $\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ cytochrome <i>b</i> (Fe^{2+}) | 0.075 |
| Ubiquinone + $2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ ubiquinol | 0.10 |
| Cytochrome <i>c</i> (Fe^{3+}) + $\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ cytochrome <i>c</i> (Fe^{2+}) | 0.254 |
| Cytochrome <i>a</i> (Fe^{3+}) + $\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ cytochrome <i>a</i> (Fe^{2+}) | 0.29 |
| Cytochrome <i>a</i> ₃ (Fe^{3+}) + $\text{e}^- \longrightarrow$ cytochrome <i>a</i> ₃ (Fe^{2+}) | 0.35 |
| $\text{NO}_3^- + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{NO}_2^- + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 0.421 |
| $\text{NO}_2^- + 8\text{H}^+ + 6\text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{NH}_4^+ + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 0.44 |
| $\text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{e}^- \longrightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+}$ | 0.771 ^c |
| $\text{O}_2 + 4\text{H}^+ + 4\text{e}^- \longrightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ | 0.815 |

^a E'_0 is the standard reduction potential at pH 7.0.^bThe value for FAD/FADH₂ applies to the free cofactor because it can vary considerably when bound to an apoenzyme.^cThe value for free Fe, not Fe complexed with proteins (e.g., cytochromes).

The greater the difference between the E_0 of the donor and the E_0 of the acceptor
 \Downarrow
 the more negative the $\Delta G^{\circ'}$

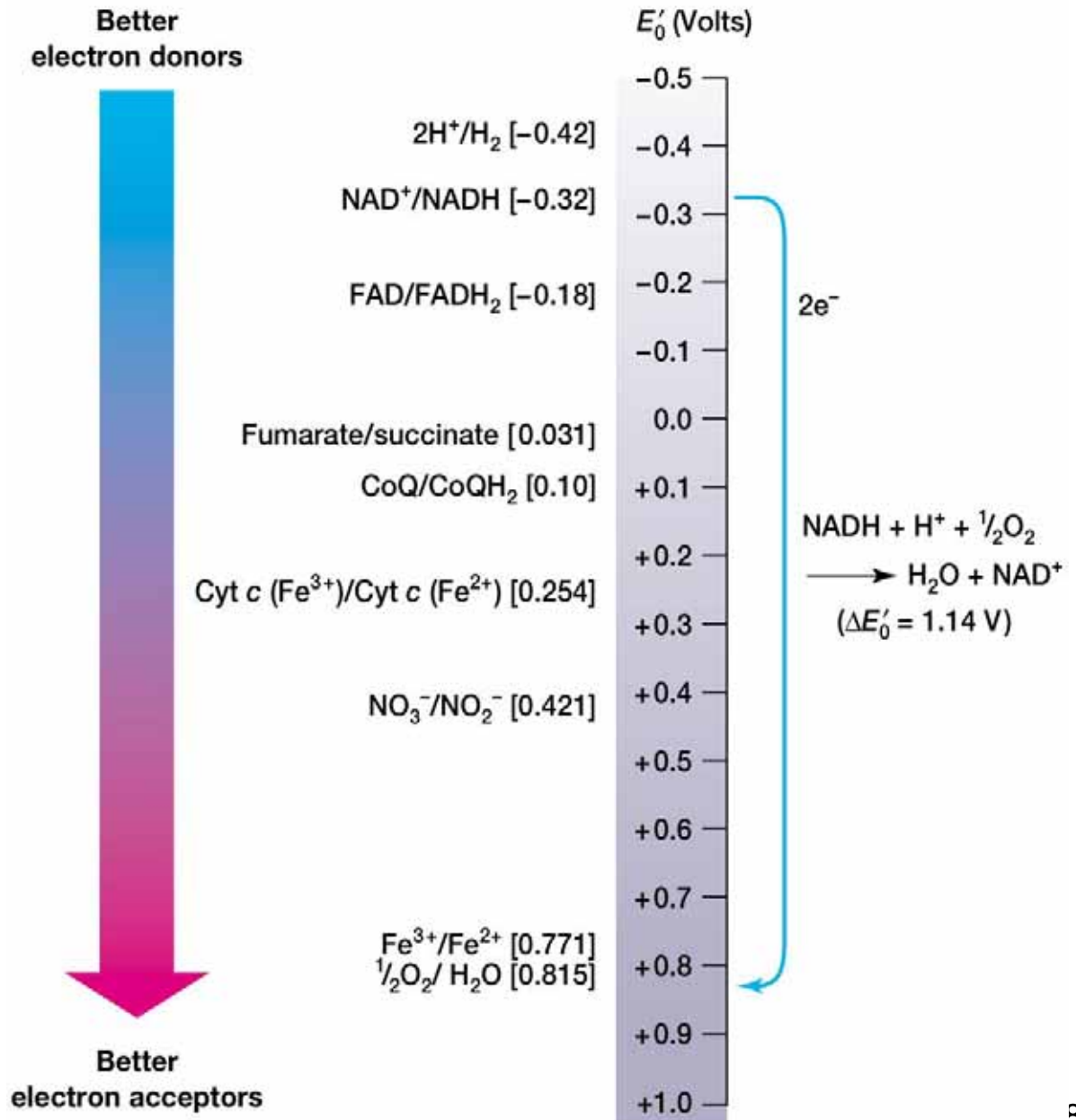


Figure 8.7

Energy and electron flow in metabolism

- flow of electrons down the tower releases energy
- light energy is used to drive electrons up the tower during photosynthesis

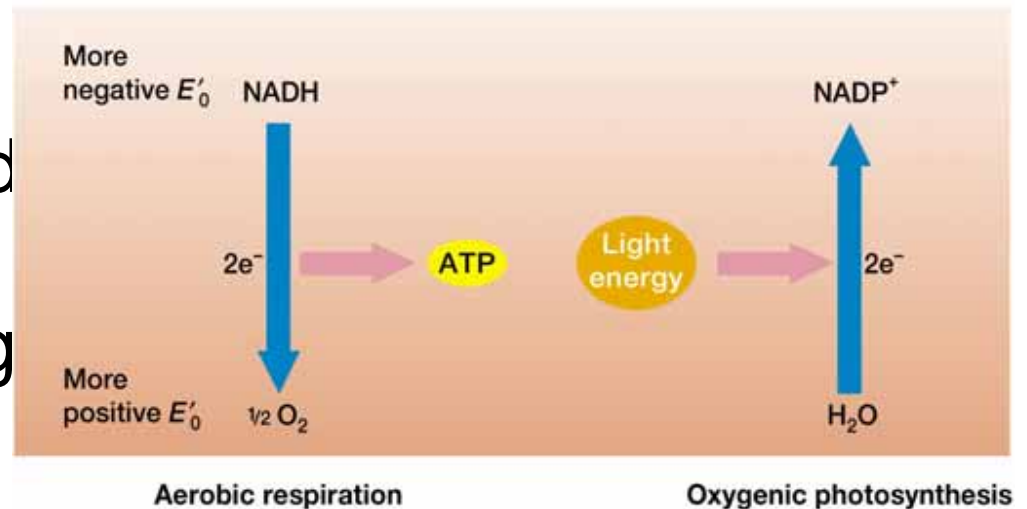


Figure 8.8

Electron carriers

- NAD
 - nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
- NADP
 - nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate

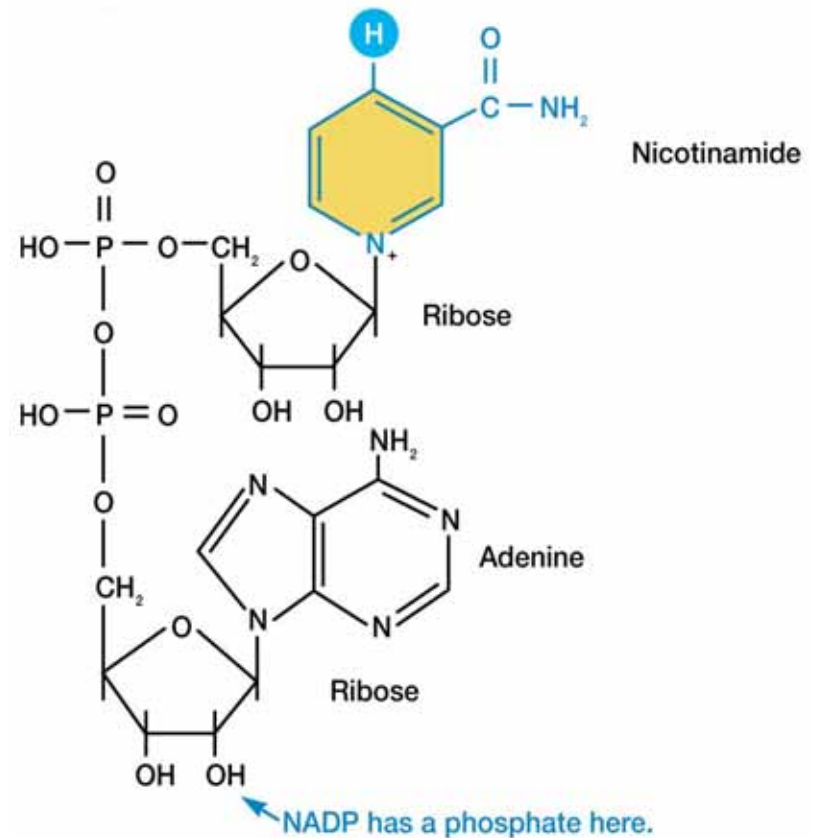


Figure 8.9a

Enzymes

- protein catalysts
 - have great specificity for the reaction catalyzed and the molecules acted on
- catalyst
 - substance that increases the rate of a reaction without being permanently altered
- substrates
 - reacting molecules
- products
 - substances formed by reaction

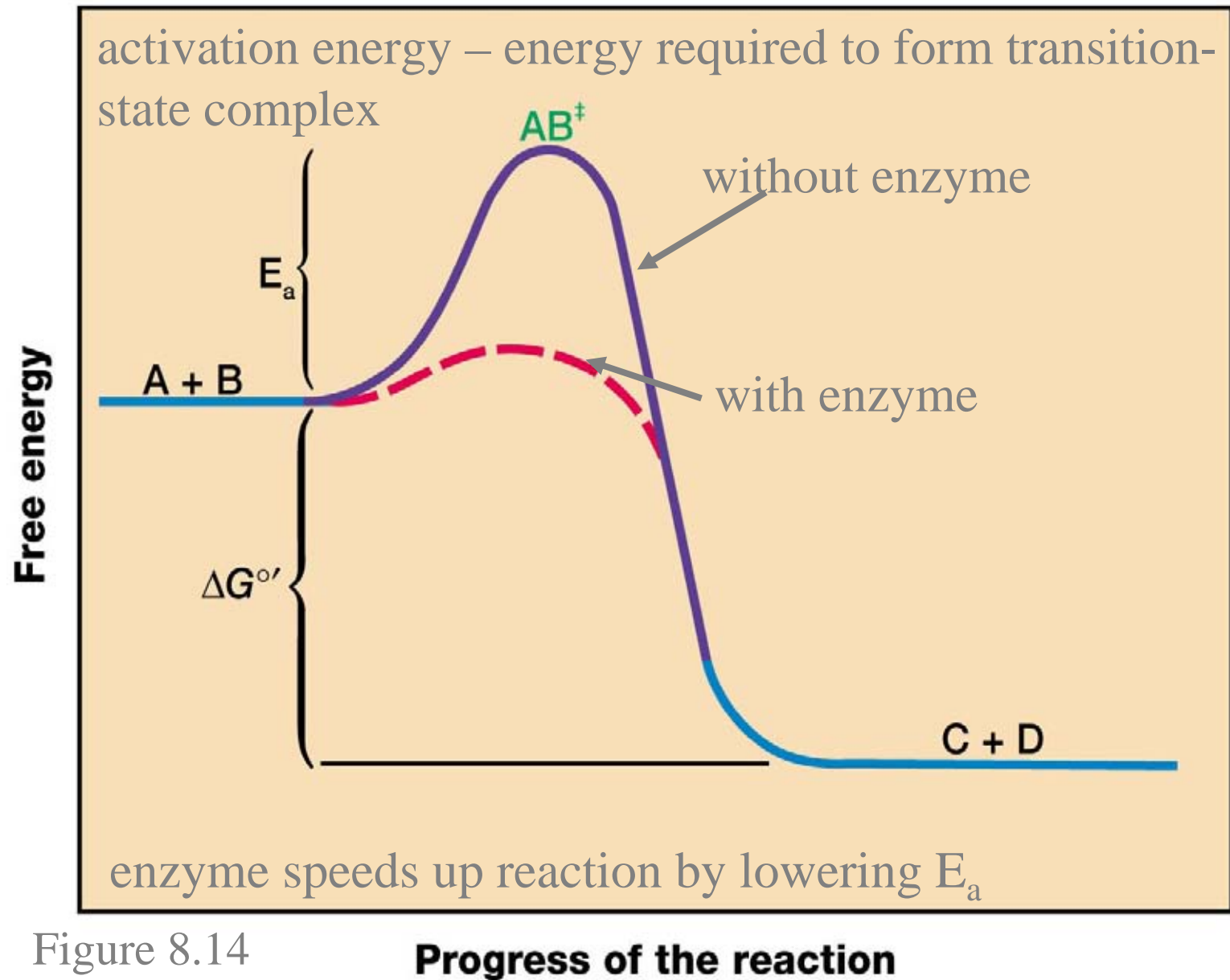


Figure 8.14

The Nature and Significance of Metabolic Regulation

- conservation of energy and materials
- maintenance of metabolic balance despite changes in environment
- three major mechanisms
 - metabolic channeling
 - control enzyme activity
 - control number of enzyme molecules present (discussed in Chapter 12)