















TABLE 8-2 Ion Concentrations and Equilibrium Potentials					
ION	EXTRACELLULAR FLUID (mM)	INTRACELLULAR FLUID (mM)	Eion AT 37° C		
K+	5 mM (normal range: 3.5–5)	150 mM	-90 mV		
Na ⁺	145 mM (normal range: 135-145)	15 mM	+60 mV		
CI-	108 mM (normal range: 100–108)	10 mM (range: 5–15)	-63 mV		
Ca ²⁺	1 mM	0.0001 mM	see Concept Check question 6		

TABLE 8-3 Compa	arison of Graded Potential and Action Pote	ential in Neurons
	GRADED POTENTIAL	ACTION POTENTIAL
Type of signal	Input signal	Regenerating conduction signal
Occurs where?	Usually dendrites and cell body	Trigger zone through axon
Types of gated ion channels involved	Mechanically, chemically, or voltage-gated channels	Voltage-gated channels
lons involved	Usually Na ⁺ , Cl ⁻ , Ca ²⁺	Na ⁺ and K ⁺
Type of signal	Depolarizing (e.g., Na ⁺) or hyperpolarizing (e.g., Cl)	Depolarizing
Strength of signal	Depends on initial stimulus; can be summed	All-or-none phenomenon; cannot be summed
What initiates the signal?	Entry of ions through channels	Above-threshold graded potential at the trigger zone
Unique characteristics	No minimum level required to initiate	Threshold stimulus required to initiate
	Two signals coming close together in time will sum	Refractory period: two signals too close together in time cannot sum
	Initial stimulus strength is indicated by fre- quency of a series of action potentials	

















































