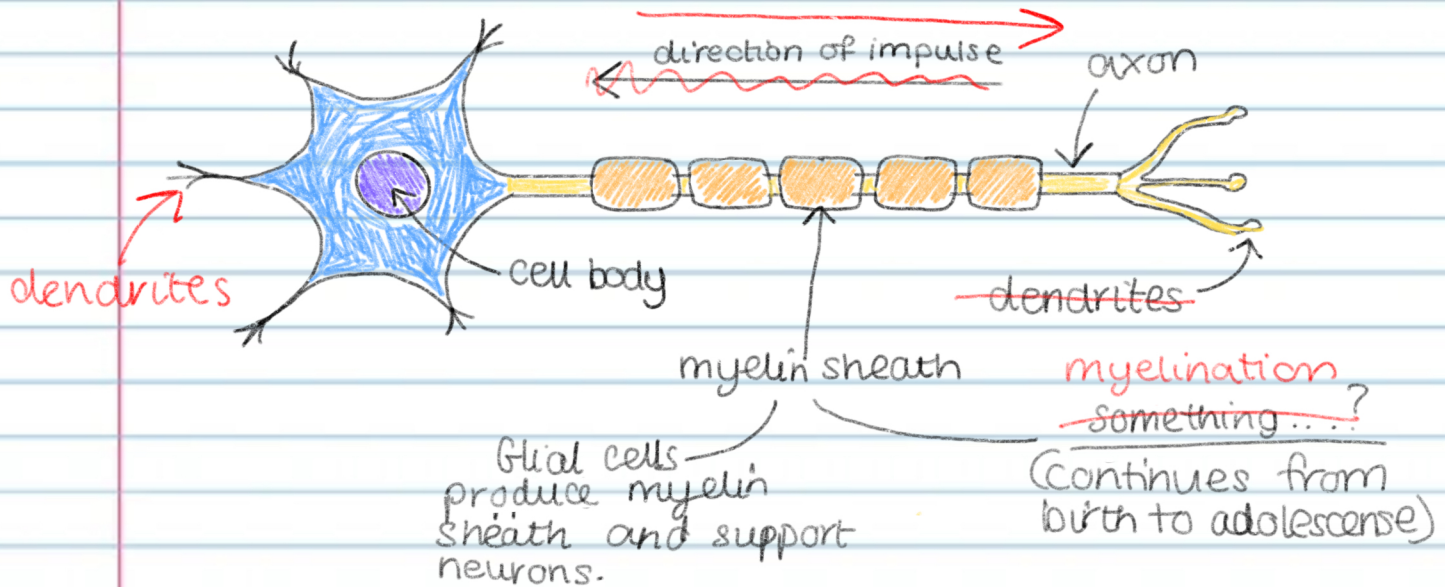


3.4

The cells of the nervous system and neurotransmitters at synapses



Neurotransmitters relay impulses across the synaptic cleft.

Neurotransmitters are stored in ~~vessels~~ ^{vesicles} in the axon end of the ~~post~~ ^{pre}-synaptic neuron, they are then released and bind to receptors on the ~~pre~~ ^{post}-synaptic neuron.

Neurotransmitters are removed only by enzymes* to prevent continuous stimulation of the post-synaptic neurons.

^{Receptors}
~~Neurotransmitters~~ determine whether a signal is excitatory or inhibitory. Synapses can filter out weak stimuli arising from insufficient secretion of neurotransmitters.

* or reuptake back into a vesicle.