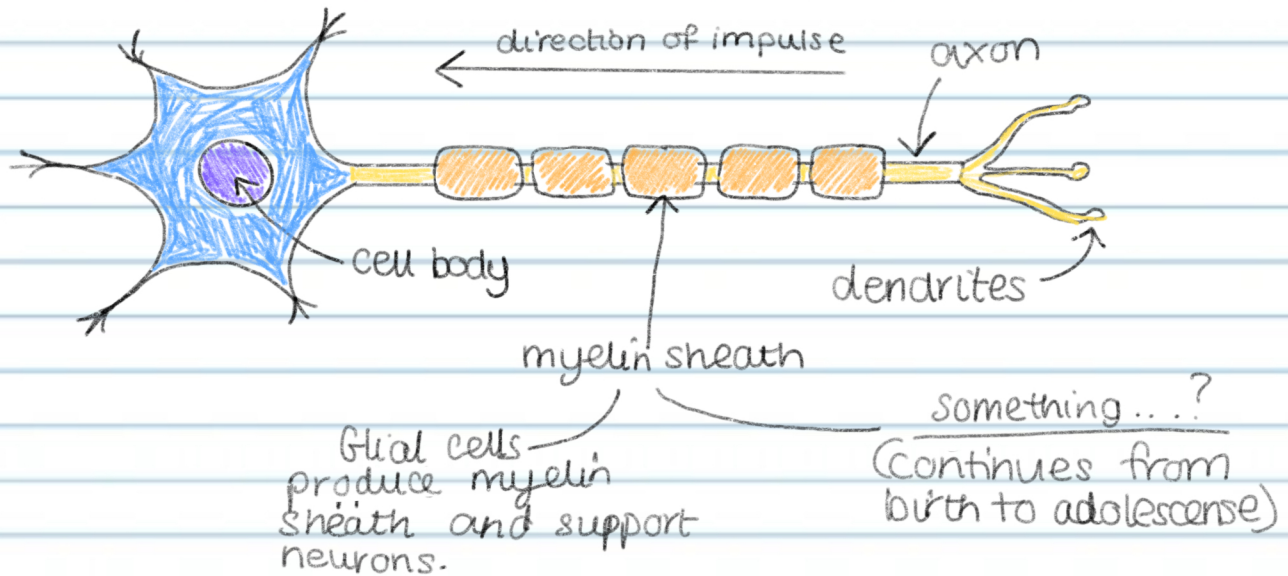


3.4

The cells of the nervous system and neurotransmitters at synapses



Neurotransmitters relay impulses across the synaptic cleft.

Neurotransmitters are stored in vessels in the axon end of the post-synaptic neuron, they are then released and bind to receptors on the presynaptic neuron.

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

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