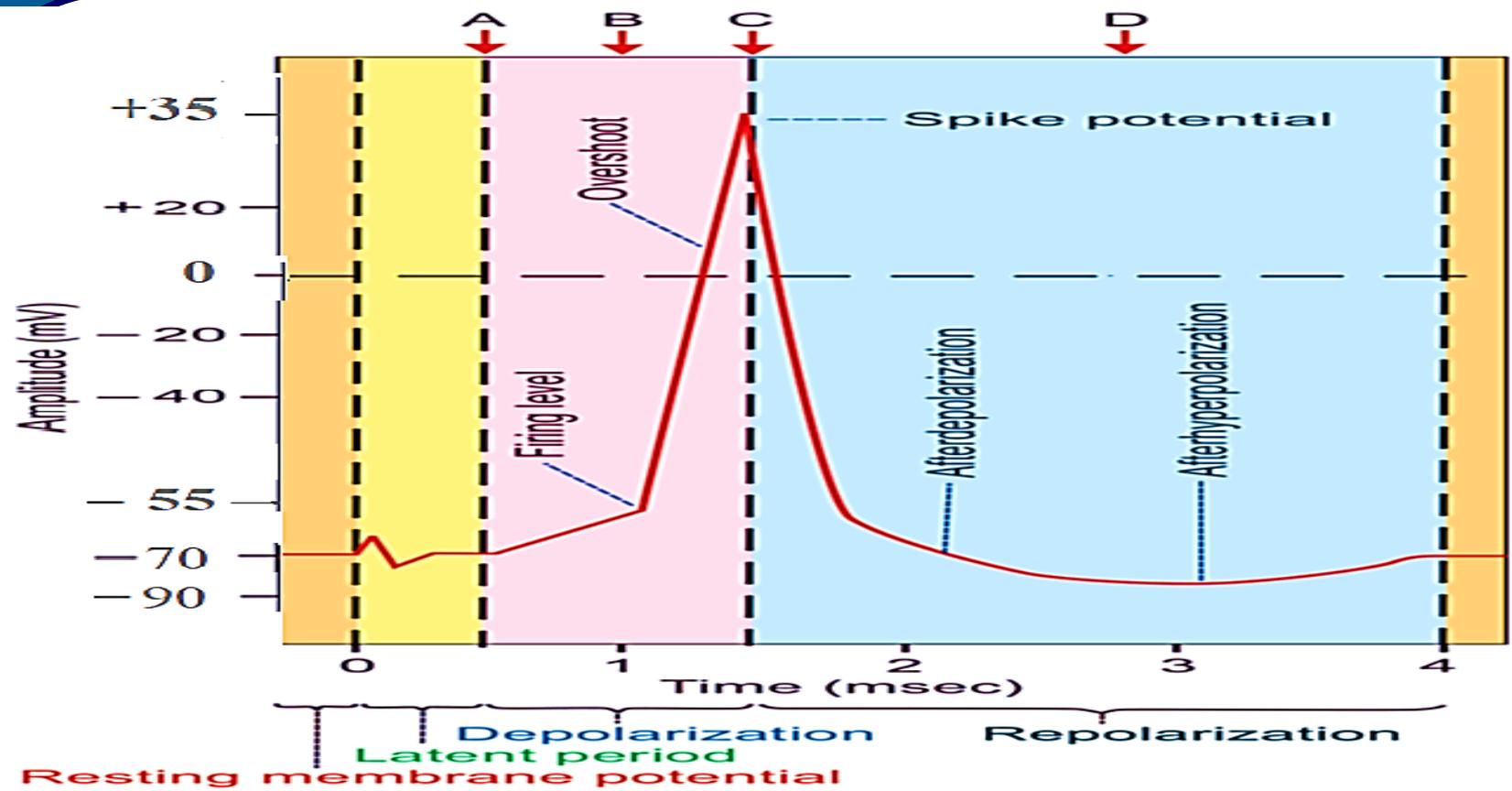


# Action Potential

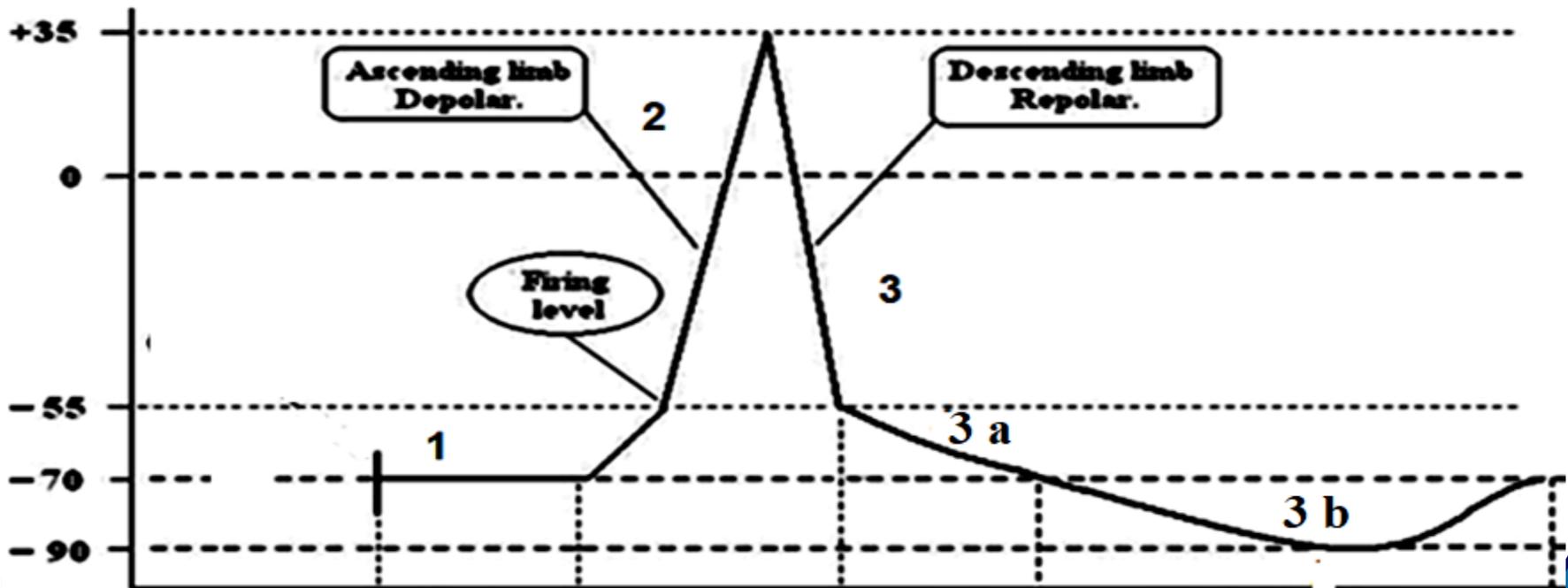


**PROF. KHALED ABDEL-SATER,**

# The Action Potential

## Stages and Ionic Bases of Action Potential

1- Latent period: *Def.* It is the time between application of the stimulus and the beginning of the curve.



# The Action Potential

## Stages and Ionic Bases of Action Potential

### 2- Depolarization (Ascending Limb):

From -70 mV to -55 mV	due to the opening of a few voltage-gated Na <sup>+</sup> channels.
At -55 (firing level)	due to the rapid opening of all voltage-gated Na <sup>+</sup> channels. $\frac{+ + + -}{- - - +} \frac{Na^+}{K^+} \frac{Cl^-}{pr^-} \frac{sul^-}{ph^-}$
At zero (isopotential = depolarization).	the potential difference between the outer and inner surface of the membrane is zero $\frac{++}{--} \frac{--}{++} \frac{Na^+}{K^+} \frac{Cl^-}{pr^-} \frac{sul^-}{ph^-}$
From zero level to +35 mV (reversal of polarity)	The inside becomes positive (due to Na <sup>+</sup> & K <sup>+</sup> ) and the outer negative (due to Cl <sup>-</sup> ). $\frac{-}{+} \frac{-}{+} \frac{-}{+} \frac{-}{+} \frac{Cl^-}{Na^+} \frac{pr^-}{K^+} \frac{sul^-}{ph^-}$

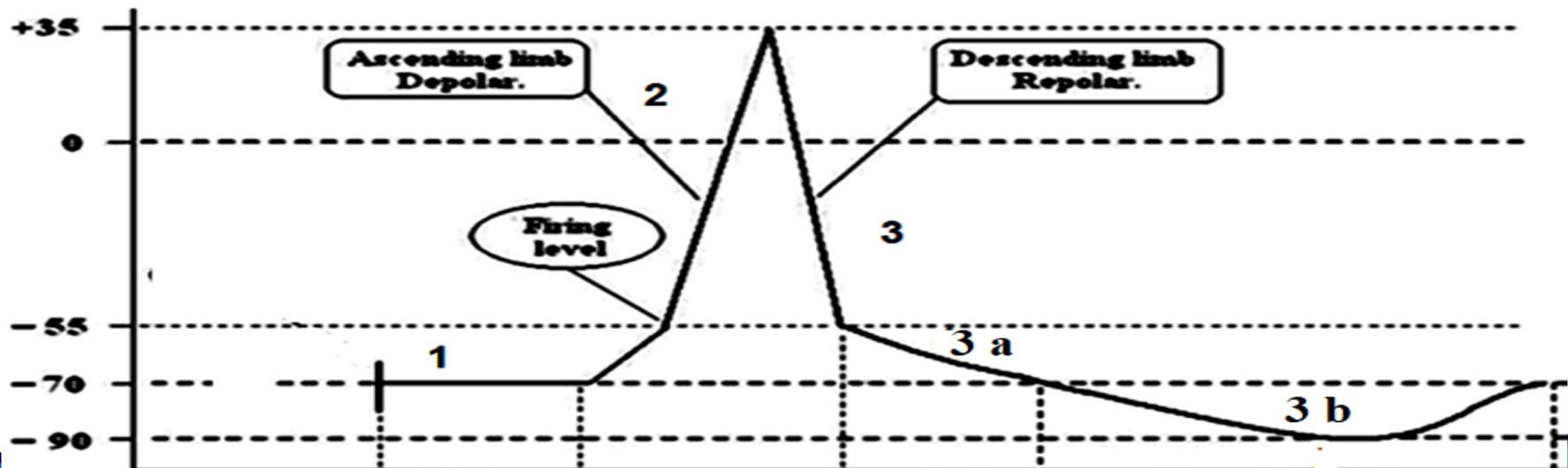
# The Action Potential

## Stages and Ionic Bases of Action Potential

### 2- Depolarization (Ascending Limb):

#### *Causes of Depolarization:*

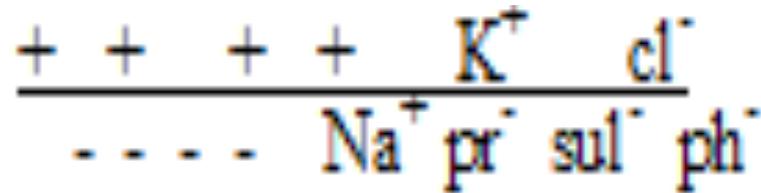
- Opening of fast voltage gated  $\text{Na}^+$  channels.
- At +35 mV  $\text{Na}^+$  channels are closed.



## 3- Repolarization (Descending Limb)

### A-Rapid repolarization :

70% of curve



-Rapid depolarization and rapid repolarization is called **spike potential** .

**-Causes of Rapid Repolarization:** Closure of  $Na^+$  channels and increasing of  $K^+$  outflow. The maximal opening of  $K^+$  channels just at the same time that the  $Na^+$  channels are closed i.e. at +35 mv.

## 4- Repolarization (Descending Limb)

**B-After Potential:** slow 30 % of the curve.

**a- Negative after potential** (after depolarization).

- Outer surface becomes less positive than in resting condition.

-**Causes:** The outward diffusion of potassium ion is decreased due to concentration and electric gradient.

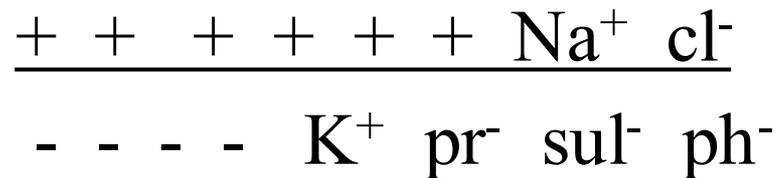
**b- Positive after potential** (after hyperpolarization).

-Outer surface becomes more positive than in resting condition.

-**Causes:** Slow closure of  $K^+$  channels.

## 4- Repolarization (Descending Limb)

**\*\* The resting membrane potential is re-established again by  $\text{Na}^+$  -  $\text{K}^+$  pump.**

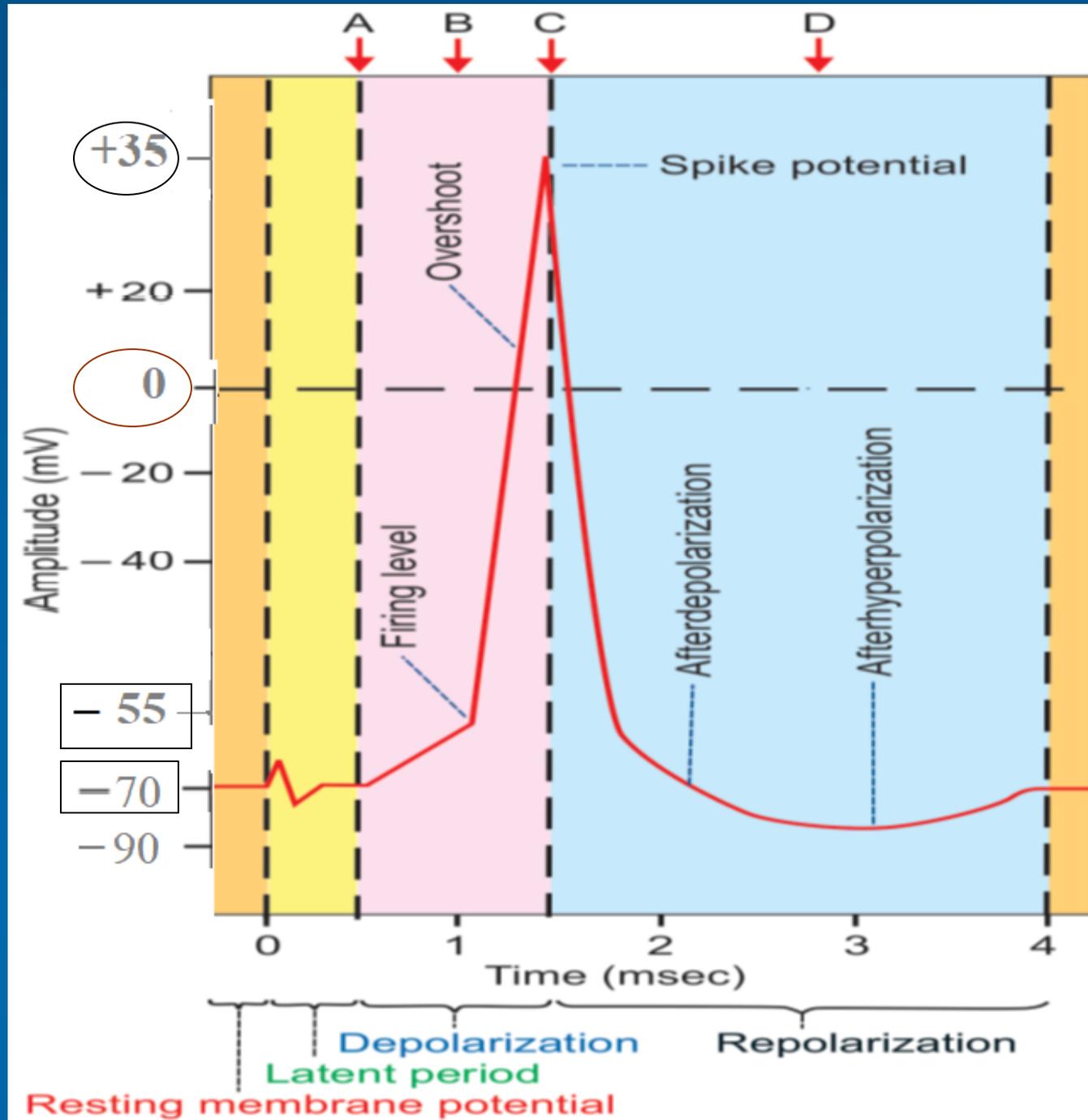


**A = Opening of few Na<sup>+</sup> channels**

**B = Opening of many Na<sup>+</sup> channels**

**C = Closure of Na<sup>+</sup> channels and opening of K<sup>+</sup> channels**

**D = Closure of K<sup>+</sup> channels**



**Test your self**

# The action potential results from:

1

- A. a decrease in membrane permeability for  $K^+$  ions.
- B. a decrease in membrane permeability for  $K^+$  ions.
- C. a large increase in membrane permeability to  $Na^+$  ions;
- D. a large increase in membrane permeability to  $K^+$  ions (100 times);
- E. opening of leakage channels;

Concerning the action potential phases, latent period is the time between the :

2

- A. beginning of depolarization & the beginning of the repolarization.
- B. beginning of repolarization & the beginning of the RMP.
- C. application of the stimulus & the beginning of repolarization.
- D. application of the stimulus & the beginning of depolarization.

During the ascending limb of the action potential: 3

- (A) there is net outward current and the cell interior becomes more negative
- (B) there is net outward current and the cell interior becomes positive
- (C) there is net inward current and the cell interior becomes more negative
- (D) there is net inward current and the cell interior becomes positive

The most important factor in generating an action potential is:

4

- a) Leak channels
- b) Electrically gated channels
- c) Chemically gated channels
- d) The phospholipids of the cell membrane
- e) The Na-K pump

Regarding the ascending limb of action potential curve : §

- A.  $K^+$  out flux takes place during this phase.
- B. activation of voltage gated  $Na^+$  channels takes place.
- C. the rate of  $Na^+$  movement increases after reaching a level of  $(-55 \text{ m.v})$
- D. both b & c are correct.

During the depolarization phase of the nerve action potential: 6

- A. there is an increased influx of both  $K^+$  and  $Na^+$  ions.
- B. there is an increased influx of  $Na^+$  ions.
- C. the membrane becomes more permeable to  $K^+$  than  $Na^+$  ions 100 times.
- D. Leak  $Na^+$  channels are activated.

## Depolarization would lead to:

7

- A. Net current in an outward direction
- B. Cell interior becomes more negative
- C. Cell interior becomes less negative
- D. Cell exterior becomes more positive

# During reversal of polarity



- A. Cell exterior becomes positive due to presence of  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{K}^+$ .
- B. Cell exterior becomes negative due to presence of protein and sulfate.
- C. Cell interior becomes negative due to presence of protein and sulfate.
- D. Cell interior becomes positive due to presence of  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{K}^+$ .

The first phase of the action potential, called the ..... phase and is produced through the opening of ..... :

4

- A. Repolarization / voltage gated sodium channels
- B. Depolarization / voltage gated sodium channels
- C. Depolarization / ligand gated sodium channels
- D. Depolarization / voltage gated potassium channels
- E. Depolarization / ligand gated potassium channels

## The firing level of a stimulated nerve fiber:

VO

- A. Is reached when the membrane potential changed by 15 m.v.
- B. Is reached at the end of the spike potential.
- C. Is reached by  $\text{Na}^+ - \text{K}^+$  pump.
- D. At which the permeability to  $\text{K}^+$  increases.

# The firing level is equal :

- a) (-70 m.v).
- b) (-90 m.v).
- c) (-55 m.v).
- d) ( zero m.v).
- e) (+35 m.v).



## Isopotential or zero potential means:

12

- A. Repolarization
- B. No potential difference between inside and outside
- C. Cell interior becomes less negative
- D. Cell exterior becomes more positive

Which of the following describes an “action potential”?

13

- A. The high concentration of  $\text{Na}^+$  outside the cell and of  $\text{K}^+$  inside the cell
- B. The permeability of membrane to K is 100 time than Na.
- C. The opening of simple channels.
- D. The movement of  $\text{Na}^+$  across the cell membrane into the cell, followed by the movement of  $\text{K}^+$  out of the cell.

When a nerve fibre is stimulated, depolarization phase stops at +35 mV. This is because:

14

- A. Activation of the Na<sup>+</sup>-K<sup>+</sup> pump.
- B. Activation of Na efflux.
- C. Closing of the Na<sup>+</sup> channels.
- D. Closing of the K<sup>+</sup> channels.

# Repolarization is due to :

- A. influx of  $K^+$
- B. efflux of  $K^+$
- C. influx of  $Na^+$
- D. efflux of  $Na^+$
- E. Influx of  $Ca^{2+}$ .

VS

Repolarization of the membrane begins  
when:

✓6

- A. Sodium channels are inactivated
- B. Potassium channels close
- C. Sodium entry slows down
- D. Sodium channels are activated

Repolarization of an axon during an action potential is produced by 17

- A. increasing of  $K^+$  outflow.
- B. increasing of  $K^+$  inflow.
- C. increasing of  $Na^+$  outflow.
- D. increasing of  $Na^+$  inflow.
- E. increasing of  $Ca^{+2}$  outflow.

The following is true about changes in cell membrane potential:

LB

- a) Repolarization is faster than depolarization
- b) Repolarization takes longer than depolarization
- c) firing level is at isopotential.
- e)  $\text{Na}^+$  efflux is always the primary cause of repolarization

It is correct to say: 1A

- A. During RMP, the voltage gated Na<sup>+</sup> channels are opened.
- B. During early repolarization, the Na<sup>+</sup> channels are opened.
- C. During early repolarization, the Na<sup>+</sup> channels are closed.
- D. During depolarization, the Na<sup>+</sup> channels are closed.

The after hyperpolarization phase of the action potential is due to:      20

- A. Opening of the  $\text{Na}^+$  channels.
- B. Closure of  $\text{Na}^+$  channels.
- C.  $\text{K}^+$  influx.
- D. Slow return of the  $\text{K}^+$  channels to the closed state.

The after depolarization phase of the action potential is due to: 21

- a) is due to  $\text{Na}^+$  influx.
- b) is due to  $\text{K}^+$  influx.
- c) is due to slow  $\text{K}^+$  efflux.
- d) is due to hyperactivity of  $\text{Na}^+$   $\text{K}^+$  pump.

The ..... means outer surface becomes more positive than in resting condition.

- a) Depolarization
- b) Isopotential
- c) Reversal of polarity
- d) After depolarization
- e) After hyperpolarization

22

1. A
2. D
3. D
4. B
5. D
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. B
10. A
11. C
12. C+b
13. D
14. C
15. B
16. A
17. A
18. B
19. C
20. D
21. C
22. E