Name _____ Date _____ Page _____

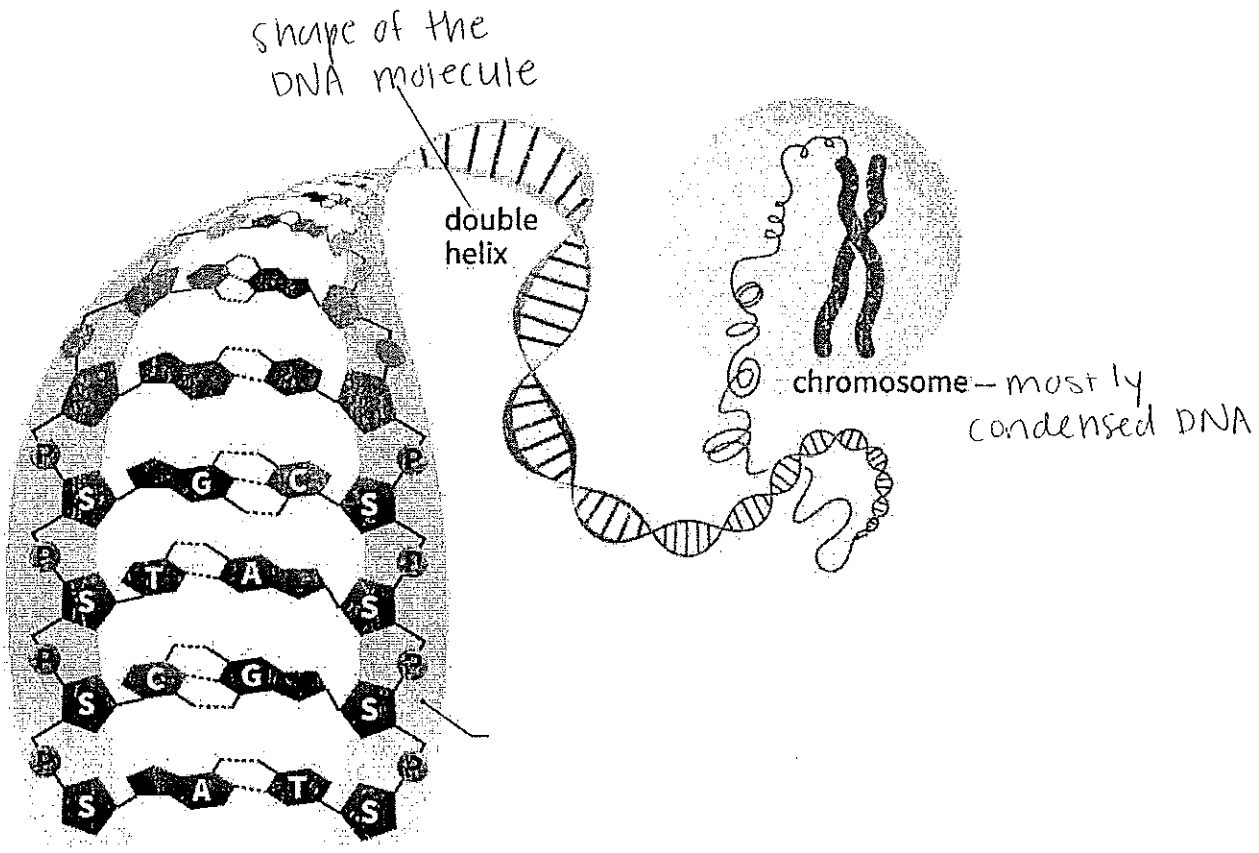
Notes – DNA Structure

DNA structure is important because it holds genetic info (genes)

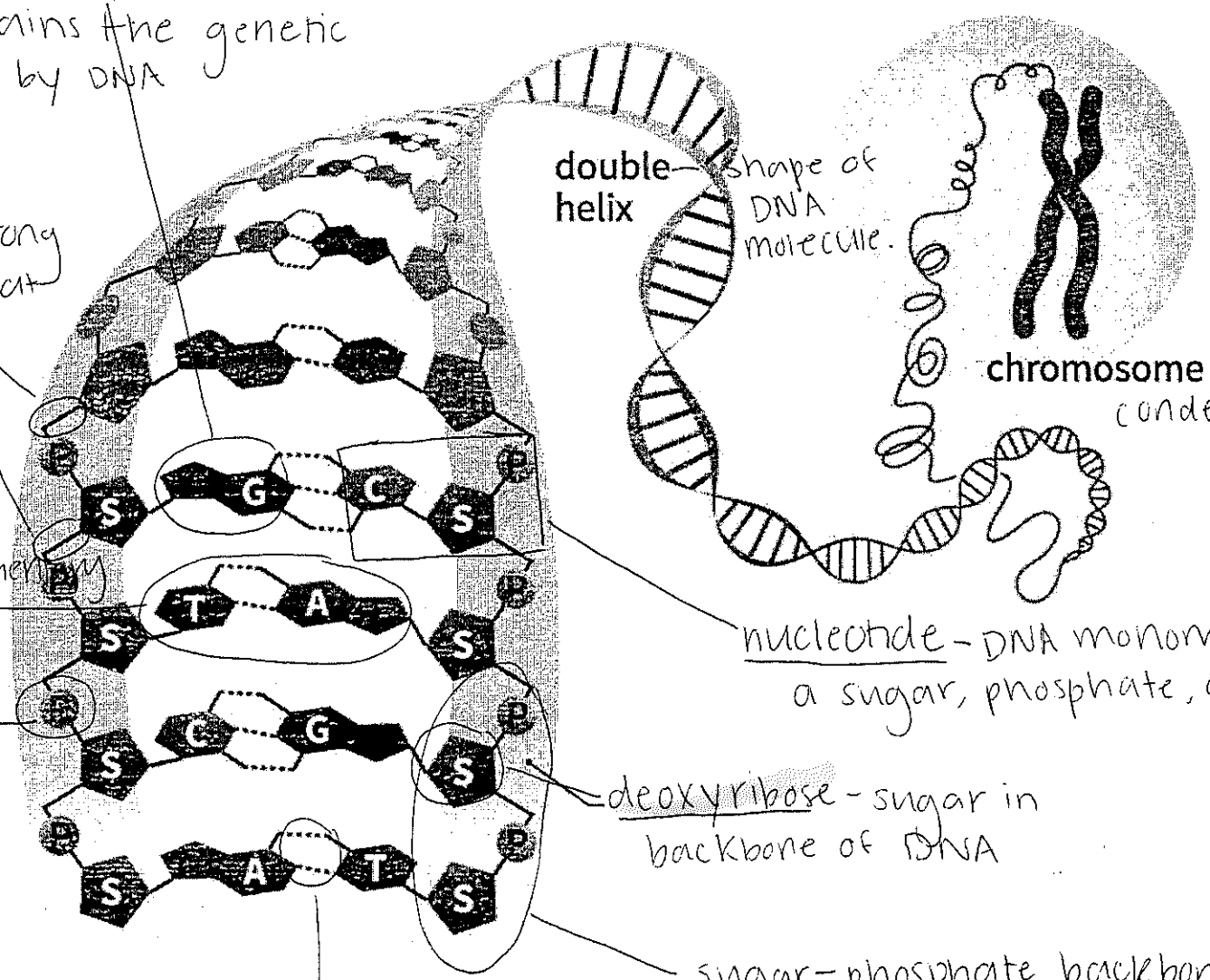
- molecule of heredity - how traits are passed from parent to offspring
- controls all cell functions - holds instructions for making proteins

The 2 most important features of the DNA molecule are:

- double stranded - easy to copy
- opposite strands are complimentary (A-T) (C-G)
  - complimentary base pairing



nitrogenous base - the order of the sequence of these contains the genetic info stored by DNA



covalent bonds - strong chemical bonds that hold DNA's backbone together

base pair - complimentary pair of bases A-T, C-G

phosphate group connected to sugar backbone.

double helix - shape of DNA molecule.

chromosome - mostly condensed DNA

nucleotide - DNA monomer includes a sugar, phosphate, and base.

deoxyribose - sugar in backbone of DNA

sugar-phosphate backbone - strong outside part of DNA; does not contain information.

hydrogen bonds - weak chemical bonds between the nitrogen base pairs