

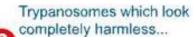
Caution!



1 Caution!



Trypansomes are organisms that infest the blood of vertebrates, and are usually transmitted by the bite of an insect.







are actually pathogens of man and animals.

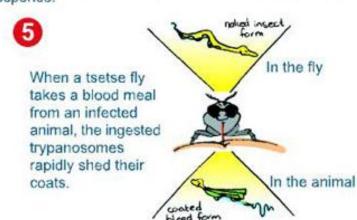


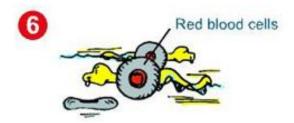
The trypanosomes are so successful because of frequent changes of their antigenic coats.

Antigenic - A chemical capable of causing an immune response.



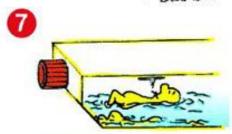
Therefore, an extensive wardrobe of different coat types is indispensable equipment for them.





Injected back into their hosts's blood, these causative agents of sleeping sickness are ruthless.

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But many lead a more cultured life in research laboratories.



Investigations of the shedding of the surface coat may lead to successful chemotherapy because naked trypanosomes are destroyed by the host's immune defence.



Chemotherapy - Use of chemicals in the treatment or control of a disease.