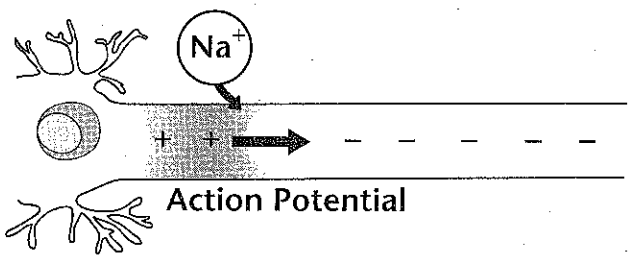
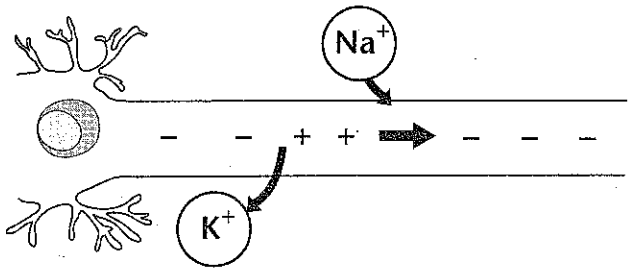
Name_____ Class_____ Date _____

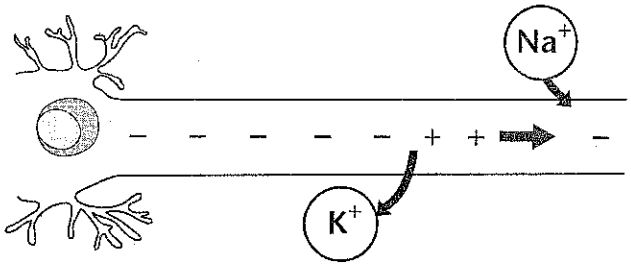
Action Potential

A resting neuron has an overall negative charge. Outside the neuron, the environment has a net positive charge. When a neuron is stimulated, positive ions rush into the cell. The area inside the cell becomes temporarily more positive than the outside. This reversal of charges is called a nerve impulse, or *action potential.* As the action potential passes, positive ions flow out of the cell. This restores the net negative charge inside the cell.

Color the action potential in the appropriate diagrams red. One has been done for you.







Use the diagram to answer the question. Circle the correct answer.

1. In which direction do potassium ions (K^+) flow as the action potential passes?

   into the cell out of the cell