

Cell Casters: Level 1

By

DAULTON SCOTT

FADE IN:

INT. CELL CITY SECONDARY, SCHOOL CAFETERIA — DAY

It's a busy afternoon at Cell City Secondary. Groups of students are seen walking around and sitting in the cafeteria. Most are chatting with their friends.

VICTOR is spotted in a quiet corner of the cafeteria, reading a "Grade 11 Biochemistry" textbook before an exam. He enjoys a grilled cheese sandwich, cucumber slices, and apple juice as he works. VICTOR is focusing intensely and is startled by the sound of a school bell ringing. He starts eating his cucumber slices quickly, almost choking on one.

From off-screen, we hear DIMITRI speak to VICTOR:

DIMITRI [O.S]

Victor Navarro, please return to
your classroom. You're late for
your exam.

DIMITRI appears with a mischievous smile on his face. He shows his phone to VICTOR. It has a recording of the school bell on it. VICTOR throws a cucumber slice at DIMITRI's head. It gently bounces off his forehead.

DIMITRI

Ow!!! Very rude, Victor!

VICTOR

Stop it, Dimitri! There's no way
that hurt.

Oh yeah? Quickly, how many blood
cells does a human have? How do
bruises form on the body? How does
the density of, oh, let's just
say, a large green flying object
hitting your skin affect the size
and shape of a bruise?

VICTOR

I can answer all of those
questions and more once you let me
focus on studying. Thanks!

DIMITRI sits beside VICTOR and kicks his feet up on the desk. DIMITRI leans back, closes his eyes, and puts his hands behind his head.

DIMITRI

Alright, whatever, but I've got a drama club performance tomorrow night, so if I gotta use extra make-up to cover my noggin' thanks to your vegetable-based weaponry, it's your fault.

VICTOR grabs two cucumber slices into his hand.

VICTOR

Here, as an apology, why don't you use these to help you relax?

VICTOR places the cucumber slices in his hand onto DIMITRI's eyelids. DIMITRI is caught off guard. He jumps in his seat and then, losing his balance, falls back on his chair and bumps the back of his head against the floor.

DIMITRI

Ow! Victor, what the heck!

VICTOR

I'm sorry, but at least no one will be staring at the back of your head tomorrow night.

VICTOR begins laughing as we hear a teacher yelling from across the cafeteria.

TEACHER [O.S]

Settle down, you two!

VICTOR

Sorry!

VICTOR gets up from his chair and leans over to help DIMITRI up.

ZOOM TO:

INT. CELL CASTERS HEADQUARTERS — DAY

We see NOVA holding a quiz sheet at the team's central station. They have everyone gathered around in a semi-circle, facing

NOVA. RUSTY and GIA are focused on NOVA, while LYSA and MITO look confused.

NOVA

Question #27: Name the molecule that is a cell's main chemical energy source.

MITO quickly raises his hand.

MITO

Oh, that's me! Mitochondria!

NOVA

Incorrect!

MITO falls face down on the ground with his legs up. He is shaking from his "defeat." RUSTY raises his hand.

RUSTY

The molecule is "ATP!"

NOVA

That is correct!

RUSTY

(critically)

Come on, Mito! That's your organelle. You should know this!

MITO

There's a lot I have to keep track of in my station, okay? It's hard!

LYSA

(complaining)

Do we really have to keep doing this? I'm getting hungry!

GIA

Come on, Lysa! Don't give up!

(MORE)

GIA

We need to be on top of how our organelles function, and with Victor studying just that, we should take the opportunity to review.

NOVA stares daggers at MITO.

NOVA

And apparently, some of us need a review more than others.

MITO cowers in shame.

LYSA

Can we at least take a snack break? I think my glucose levels are getting low.

NOVA

We're almost done, Lysa. Only 73 more questions left to go!

Just as LYSA looks like she's about to keel over from boredom, the room is filled with red light as a siren starts blaring. The room's main monitor, "URGENT WARNING! INCOMING TRANSMISSION!"

LYSA

Finally, thank you!

LYSA sprints towards the monitor. NOVA rolls his eyes with a cheeky grin. They put down the quiz sheet and walk with the rest of the group to the monitor. COMMANDER CORTEX appears on screen.

COMMANDER CORTEX

This is Commander Cortex speaking. We have an incoming glucose spike that needs your attention.

Several images of VICTOR appear on the screen. Some show him studying for the exam, and some photos are of the inside of VICTOR's body, showing how glucose affects energy levels.

(MORE)

COMMANDER CORTEX (CONT'D)

Victor ate a grilled cheese sandwich and cucumber slices, then washed it down with a box of Apple Juice. That's a carb intake of 41.9 grams. He hasn't had a chance to exercise since he's been busy studying for his biology exam.

We see images of VICTOR falling asleep at his desk during the exam and receiving a failing grade.

COMMANDER CORTEX (CONT'D)

Victor won't have enough energy for his exam if we don't act quickly. We'll need 20 insulin proteins to balance out the incoming glucose.

The images of VICTOR and his exam begin to close down. We return to COMMANDER CORTEX at his desk. RUSTY takes the quiz sheet NOVA had put down and approaches the monitor.

RUSTY

Hang on, before you go, can you tell us which molecule—

COMMANDER CORTEX

ATP. Everyone knows that.

MITO

No fair, he's a brain! He's got more memory space than me!

NOVA

Thank you, Mito! We'll be sure to review Mitochondria 101 with you after this mission.

NOVA turns to address COMMANDER CORTEX on the monitor.

NOVA (CONT'D)

We'll be on our way now, Commander.

COMMANDER CORTEX signs off. The monitor display returns to normal. NOVA turns to the rest of the group.

NOVA (CONT'D)

You heard the boss; let's get casting!

The group strikes a triumphant team pose before running to their stations. This concludes the opening cutscene for Level 1. After completing the level, the gameplay transitions into the ending cutscene.

FADE TO:

INT. VICTOR'S CLASSROOM, CELL CITY SECONDARY - DAY

The scene opens in a classroom with students sitting at their desks taking an exam. VICTOR is located in the middle of the room. He is currently on question #16, which reads: "Which molecule is the main chemical energy source of a cell?" A frame of MITO appears on the screen. He is watching VICTOR taking his exam through the primary monitor.

MITO

ATP! The answer is ATP!

VICTOR thinks for a moment before writing ATP on his quiz sheet. Below the answer line is a bonus question: "Please explain how this molecule is produced."

WIPE TO:

RUSTY appears from behind MITO.

MITO

I know this! It's called Aerobic Respiration!

RUSTY

Yes, but can you explain how the process works?

MITO

Well, there's these little dots on the electron transport chain, and when the ring closes in around them, I have to press-

RUSTY

Not that process!

MITO

If you're so smart, why don't you
tell me how it works then!

NOVA is seen from further away in the room, looking at the map
of VICTOR. They stop and look at MITO.

NOVA

Oh, Mito! What have you done!

RUSTY

Don't mind if I do, Mito! You see,
Aerobic Respiration consists of
four different stages. The first
of these is Glycolysis. This is
the primary step of aerobic
respiration. During Glycolysis,
the glucose molecules are split
and separated into two ATP and two
NADH molecules.

NOVA

Well, you enjoy yourself, Mito.
I'm going to go grab some
earplugs.

GIA [O.S.]

Grab a pair for me, please!

LYSA [O.S.]

And one for me!

NOVA walks away from the map. MITO sweats, looking confused as
he listens to RUSTY.

WIPE TO:

INT. VICTOR'S CLASSROOM, CELL CITY SECONDARY - DAY

VICTOR finishes his exam. He smiles with confidence as he hands
the exam to his teacher. The bell rings.

TEACHER

Class dismissed! Put your pencils
down, everyone.

The rest of the students begin wrapping up their exams.

VICTOR

Thanks, teach!

TEACHER

You're welcome, Victor. Well done.

VICTOR walks out of the classroom. Ends on a still-shot of
VICTOR mid-strut out the door looking proud.

FADE TO:

INT. CELL CASTERS HEADQUARTERS — DAY

We see the Cell Casters sitting around the main monitor having a party. They eat a platter of snacks that look like organelles and drink a bubbling green liquid. On the screen are VICTOR's exam results. He received an A+. Three smaller images are on screen: one of VICTOR jumping for joy with his exam, one with him watching DIMITRI's performance, and one talking to DIMITRI after the show. At the bottom left of the screen, the word "Congratulations!" is displayed in large text.

FADE OUT.

THE END