

## KEY FACTS

- Bacteria: reproduce rapidly, release TOXINS → cause symptoms
- Viruses: invade host cells, replicate, lyse the cell → destroy host cells
- Fungi: grow on/in host (e.g. rose black spot, athlete's foot)
- Protists: spread by vectors (e.g. malaria spread by *Anopheles* mosquito)
- Pathogens spread by: contaminated water/food, droplets, direct contact, vectors

## KEY TERMS

<b>Pathogen</b>	Microorganism causing disease (bacteria, virus, fungus, protist)
<b>Toxin</b>	Poisonous substance produced by bacteria — causes symptoms
<b>Vector</b>	Organism transmitting pathogen without being affected (e.g. mosquito)

■ EXAM TIP: BACTERIA cause disease via TOXINS. VIRUSES cause disease by destroying HOST CELLS. This distinction is often tested.