



CHECK YOUR LEARNING

Suggested Answers

1. Unlike other body cells, stem cells are not specialized for particular functions.
2. Blood is taken from a patient. Stem cells are isolated from the sample and sorted according to type. The appropriate type is selected and grown in the laboratory until there are several million cells, which then are injected into the damaged areas of the patient's heart.
3. Obstacles to adult stem cell therapy include the fact that researchers have not yet identified stem cells for all specialized cells, that adult stem cells are scarce, and that stem cells may be damaged due to age and exposure to toxins.
4. Sample answer: Stem cell therapy could help a person with lung disease grow new, healthy lung tissue.