


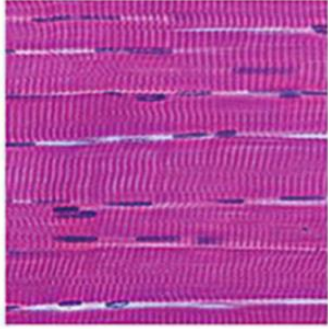

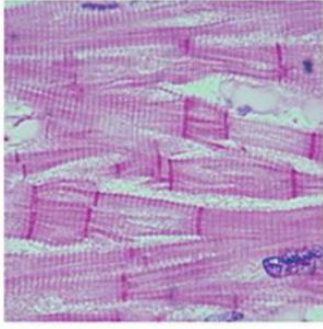

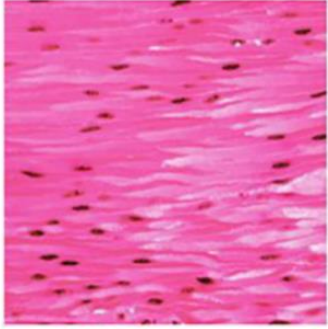

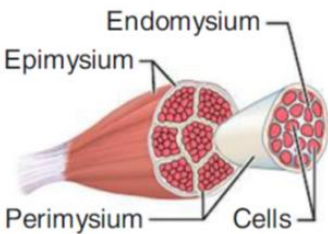
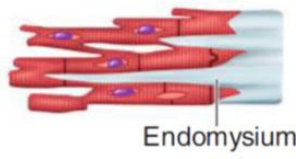
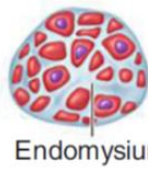
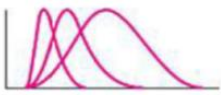
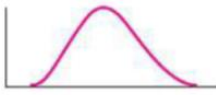
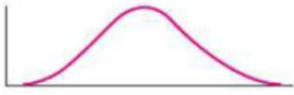


**Table 6.1** Comparison of Skeletal, Cardiac, and Smooth Muscles

Characteristic	Skeletal	Cardiac	Smooth
Body location	Attached to bones or, for some facial muscles, to skin 	Walls of the heart 	Mostly in walls of hollow visceral organs (other than the heart) 
Cell shape and appearance	Single, very long, cylindrical, multinucleate cells with very obvious striations  	Branching chains of cells; uninucleate, striations; intercalated discs  	Single, fusiform, uninucleate; no striations  
Connective tissue components	Epimysium, perimysium, and endomysium 	Endomysium attached to the fibrous skeleton of the heart 	Endomysium 
Regulation of contraction	Voluntary; via nervous system controls	Involuntary; the heart has a pacemaker; also nervous system controls; hormones	Involuntary; nervous system controls; hormones, chemicals, stretch
Speed of contraction	Slow to fast 	Slow 	Very slow 
Rhythmic contraction	No	Yes	Yes, in some