



QUESTION WORKBOOK

The fluid mosaic model: what a membrane is made of

Membranes and transport across cells · Unit B04

AQA 3.2.3 · OCR A 2.1.5 (a)–(c) · Edexcel A Topic 4.5 · CAIE 4.1

5 questions · 18 marks

PRINT EDITION

SECTION A · Short, 1 to 2 marks

- A1** Name the two kinds of molecule found on the outer surface of a cell surface membrane that carry short branched carbohydrate chains. [2]

SECTION B · Standard, 3 to 5 marks

- B1** Explain why phospholipids arrange themselves into a bilayer when they are placed in water, and why a torn fragment of membrane reseals itself into a closed vesicle. [4]

- B2** Describe what cholesterol does to a cell surface membrane at high temperature and at low temperature, and describe the effect it has on permeability in each case. [4]

- B3** Compare a channel protein with a carrier protein as routes across a cell surface membrane. [4]

- B4** A student cuts discs of beetroot with a cork borer and places them directly into water baths at a range of temperatures without washing them first. Suggest how this affects her absorbance readings, and suggest one control variable she must still keep the same. [4]
