

1

Cells contain a solution of salts and sugars.

A student is investigating how cells change when they are put into water.

(a) The student:

- looks at a plant cell using a microscope
- adds water to the cell.

The plant cell swells up.

Explain why, as fully as you can.

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(3)

(b) When **animal** cells are put in water, they swell up, and then burst.
When **plant** cells are put in water, they swell up, but do **not** burst.

How does the structure of plant cells prevent them from bursting?

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(1)

(Total 4 marks)

Mark schemes

1

(a) because water enters (the cell / it / named cell)

*do **not** accept salt / sugar / solution entering*

1

by osmosis / diffusion

*if osmosis / diffusion not given accept concentration inside cell
greater than outside cell*

*assume concentration refers to solute concentration unless answer
indicates otherwise*

allow water goes up the concentration gradient

allow water goes down its concentration gradient

*do **not** accept if diffusion of salt / sugar*

1

through a partially permeable membrane

*allow semi / selectively permeable membrane **or** description*

1

(b) (plant cells) have (cell) wall

accept animal cells have no (cell) wall

ignore reference to cell membrane

*do **not** accept reference to other organelles **or** any implication that
animal cells have a cell wall eg plant cells have a thicker cell wall*

1

[4]