18 Proteins in the cell surface membranes of human cells and mouse cells were labelled with fluorescent dyes. The human cells were labelled with a red dye and the mouse cells were labelled with a green dye.

A human cell and a mouse cell were then fused to form a hybrid cell.

At first, the different dyes remained separate. After 40 minutes, the two dyes were evenly distributed in the hybrid cell surface membrane.

What explains this observation?

A All protein molecules in the cell surface membrane are fixed to structures within the cell, but phospholipid molecules move freely between them.

B Groups of protein and phospholipid molecules in the cell surface membrane are attached to each other and move together.

C Only protein molecules in the outer layer of the cell surface membrane can move freely between phospholipid molecules.

D Protein molecules in the outer layer of the cell surface membrane and those which span the bilayer can move freely between phospholipid molecules.