

17 When red blood cells are put into distilled water they burst (haemolysis).

Which statements explain this haemolysis?

- 1 The water potential of the surrounding liquid is lower than the water potential of the contents of the red blood cell.
- 2 The cell surface membranes of red blood cells are **not** supported by cell walls.
- 3 More water moves into the red blood cells by osmosis than leaves the cells.
- 4 Water enters the red blood cells by osmosis but does **not** leave the cells.

A 1 and 3

B 1 and 4

C 2 and 3

D 2 and 4