

# 2.8 Mechanisms of Membrane Transport

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: 10 marks

## Objective

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Build the skills to answer exam questions on **mechanisms of bulk membrane transport**.

**You must be able to:**

- describe **endocytosis** 内吞 and **exocytosis** 外排
- distinguish phagocytosis from pinocytosis
- explain that bulk transport uses vesicles and ATP

## 1 Worked examples

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Study these first. Each one shows the method for a question type used later —follow the steps and you can do the Practice and Exam-style questions yourself.

### ■ Bulk transport with vesicles

Large materials cross the membrane in **vesicles**, using energy (**ATP**):

- **Endocytosis** —the membrane folds inward to bring material **in**.
- **Exocytosis** —a vesicle fuses with the membrane to release material **out**.

### ■ Types of endocytosis

- **Phagocytosis** (“cell eating”) —engulfing large particles or cells.
- **Pinocytosis** (“cell drinking”) —taking in droplets of fluid.

### ■ A worked example

A white blood cell **phagocytoses** (engulfs) a bacterium into a vesicle to destroy it —endocytosis. A gland cell releases hormones by **exocytosis**.

### ■ Why it needs energy

Reshaping the membrane and moving vesicles requires **ATP**, so bulk transport is an active process.

## 2 Practice

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Now apply the methods above.

**2.1** Which process brings material into the cell in a vesicle? [1]

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**2.2** Distinguish phagocytosis from pinocytosis. [2]

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**2.3** Does bulk transport require ATP? [1]

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### 3 Exam-style questions

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**3.1** A vesicle fusing with the membrane to release its contents is [1]

- **A** endocytosis
- **B** exocytosis
- **C** diffusion
- **D** osmosis

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**3.2** A white blood cell engulfs a bacterium.

(a) Name the process. [1]

(b) Explain why this requires energy. [2]

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**3.3** A gland cell releases insulin made inside it. Describe how the insulin leaves the cell. [2]

### 4 Go further

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You are now ready for the real exam questions on this subtopic:

- work through the **2.8 Mechanisms of Membrane Transport** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Mechanisms of Membrane Transport** section of the AP Biology handout on the **Know** page.

## Solutions

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**2.1** Endocytosis.

**2.2** Phagocytosis engulfs large solid particles/cells; pinocytosis takes in fluid droplets.

**2.3** Yes.

**3.1 B** —exocytosis.

**3.2** (a) Phagocytosis (endocytosis). (b) The membrane must reshape and form a vesicle to engulf the bacterium, which requires ATP.

**3.3** The insulin is packaged in a vesicle that moves to and fuses with the cell membrane, releasing the insulin outside by exocytosis.