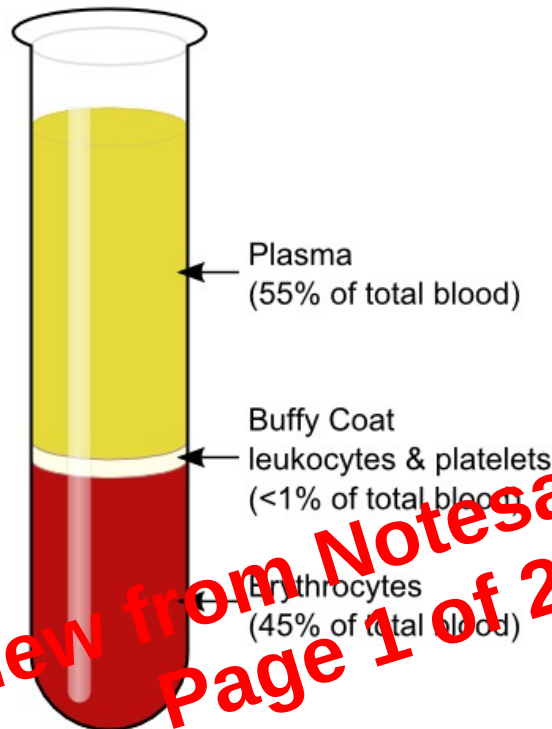


Unit 11- The Blood

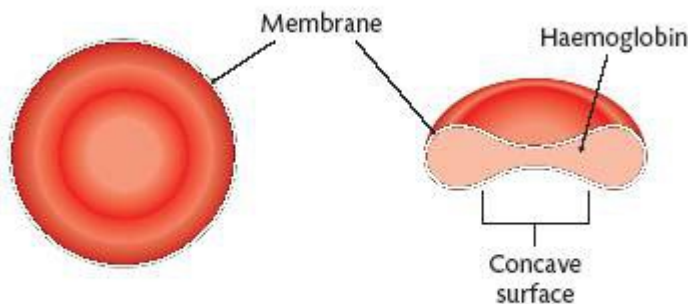
When blood is separated it separates into two layers. The top layer is a yellowish liquid known as plasma which makes up 55% of the blood and surrounds the red blood cells and transports them through the blood vessels. The bottom layer is a dark liquid containing blood cells, this makes up the remaining 45% of blood.



(Source:<https://figures.boundless.com/2013/03/13/1333/large/lood-centrifugation-scheme.png>)

[://figures.boundless.com/2013/03/13/1333/large/lood-centrifugation-scheme.png](https://figures.boundless.com/2013/03/13/1333/large/lood-centrifugation-scheme.png)

'Normal' blood contains a certain number of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. Red blood cells are packed with haemoglobin - the molecule that binds to oxygen and carries it through the blood vessels. In order to ensure that the red blood cells can carry as much oxygen as possible they have no nucleus this means that there is more room for haemoglobin. Red blood cells are usually a flattened disk shape which gives the cell a large surface area thus allowing for efficient diffusion of oxygen into the cell.



(Source: