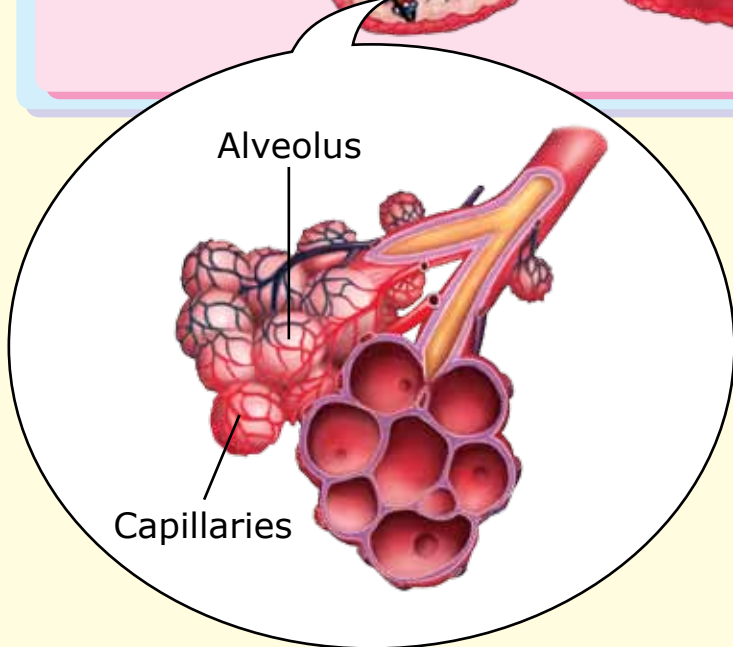
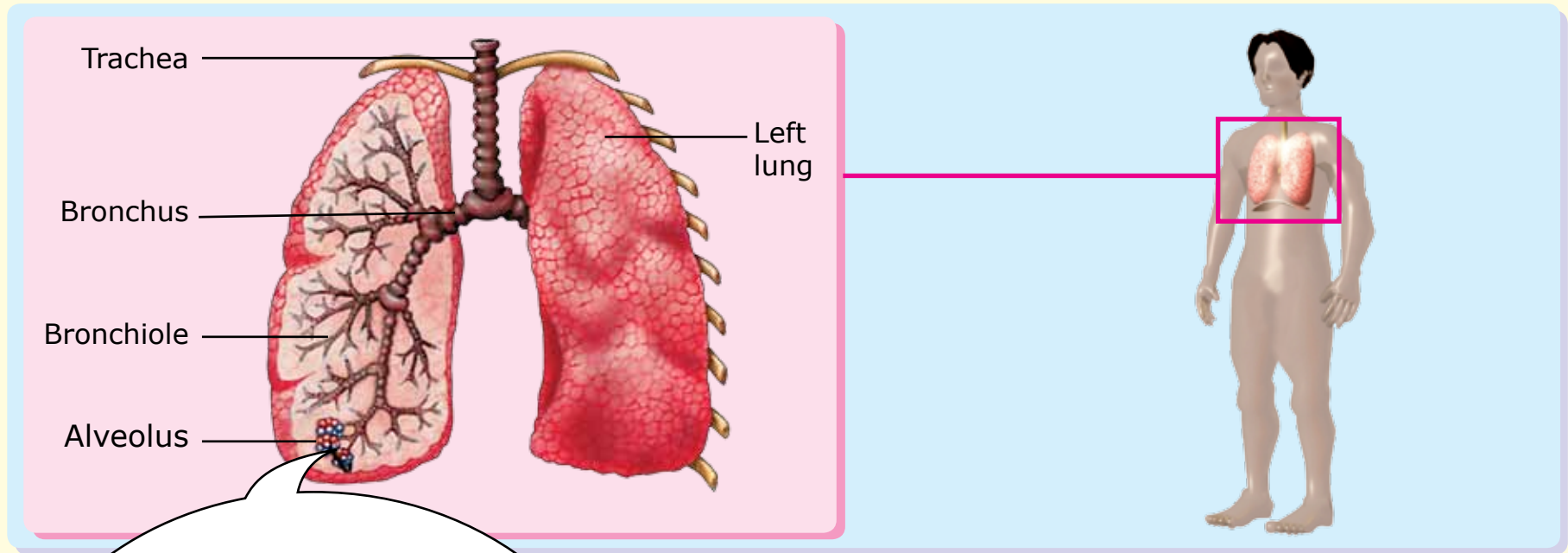


Structure of the Human Respiratory System



Factors affecting the efficiency of gas exchange:

Large surface area

Millions of alveoli to provide surface area for gas exchange

Very thin alveolar walls

One-cell thick alveolar wall to ease the diffusion of gas

Moist inner surface of alveolus

Enables oxygen to dissolve in the moisture before diffusing across the alveolar wall

Surrounded by numerous blood capillaries

Help to transport gases to and from the alveoli quickly