Questions

- Water is a polar molecule. Explain how the polarity of water accounts for its lattice structure.
- How does the structure of water account for its properties, such as its boiling point, surface tension, and adhesion?
- Potassium bromide, KBr, is an ionic compound. Describe what happens to its ions when it is dissolved in water.
- Will water form a surface coat around a molecule such as octane, CH₃(CH₂)₆CH₃ (Figure 7)? Explain.



Figure 7

- How do acids and bases differ in terms of how they behave when added to pure water?
- What determines whether an acid or a base is classified as strong or weak? Explain your answer.
- Why is it important that we help to maintain the proper pH of our environment? Make a connection between the proper pH of our environment and your life and surroundings.
- How do buffers in your cells help to keep your body functioning properly?

- 10. Why would it be inaccurate to say that a buffer is a solution that maintains a constant pH?
- Vitamin C is also known by its chemical name, ascorbic acid.
 - (a) What does this name suggest about its chemical and physical properties?
 - (b) Which of these properties might you notice if you ate some pure vitamin C?
- 12. Ants belong to the family Formicidae, named after their ability to release formic acid (Figure 8). Do online research to find out why ants produce formic acid. What other well-known insects produce formic acid?



Figure 8

