

The Nervous System ▪ *Reading/Notetaking Guide*

Divisions of the Nervous System (pp. 606–613)

This section explains the two major parts of the nervous system. It also describes what a reflex is.

Use Target Reading Skills

Write a definition of each Key Term in your own words below.

central nervous system

peripheral nervous system

brain

spinal cord

cerebrum

cerebellum

brain stem

somatic nervous system

autonomic nervous system

reflex

concussion

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Central Nervous System (p. 607)

1. Is the following sentence true or false? The central nervous system is the control center of the body. _____
2. The part of the central nervous system that controls most functions in the body is the _____.
3. The thick column of nerve tissue that links the brain to most of the nerves is the _____.

The Brain and Spinal Cord (pp. 608–610)

4. Is the following sentence true or false? All the neurons in the brain are interneurons. _____
5. What helps protect the brain from injury?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Match the parts of the brain with their functions. Each part of the brain may be used more than once.

Functions	Parts of the Brain
_____ 6. Coordinates the actions of the muscles	a. cerebrum
_____ 7. Controls involuntary body actions, such as breathing	b. cerebellum
_____ 8. Interprets input from the senses	c. brain stem
_____ 9. Gives the body its sense of balance	
_____ 10. Carries out learning, remembering, and making judgments	

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Divisions of the Nervous System *(continued)*

11. Is the following sentence true or false? The right half of the cerebrum controls the right side of the body. _____
12. Creativity and artistic ability are usually associated with the _____ side of the cerebrum.
13. The spinal cord is the link between the _____ and the _____.
14. What protects the spinal cord?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Peripheral Nervous System (pp. 610–611)

15. What does the peripheral nervous system consist of?

16. What is the function of the two groups of nerves making up the peripheral nervous system?
Somatic nervous system: _____
Autonomic nervous system: _____

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Reflexes (pp. 611–612)

17. What is a reflex?

18. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about reflexes.

- a. In some reflex actions, the spinal cord, rather than the brain, directs the muscles to contract.
- b. Reflexes protect you from getting hurt badly.
- c. Nerve impulses move to the brain faster than they do to the spinal cord.
- d. The reflex action takes longer than it does for you to feel pain.

Nervous System Injuries (p. 613)

19. A bruiselike injury of the brain is called a(n) _____.

20. What can you do to decrease your chances of getting a brain injury?

21. What happens when the spinal cord is cut or crushed?
