

The following pages are an excerpt from *A Visual Analogy Guide to Human Anatomy and Physiology* by Paul A. Krieger.

It consists of five pairs of pages (ten pages total) that cover much of the relevant brain material for Week 13. While this isn't intended to replace your Week 13 reading, you may find that it strips out most of the unnecessary information

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Brain: Largest Regions, Brain Stem, and Diencephalon	210-211
Brain and Cranial Nerves	
Brain Ventricles	
Functional Regions of the Cerebral Cortex	216-217
Lateralization	

In its original printed form, the information is presented like this:

Most of the text about the topic	Relevant illustrations, usually simplified in order to be most helpful.
even page	odd page

Items marked with an asterisk (*) on the Week 13 Reading Guide are probably better answered using this document than the textbook.

Brain: Largest Regions, Brain Stem, and Diencephalon

Description

The three *largest regions* of the brain are the **brain stem**, **cerebellum**, and **cerebrum**.

- 1. The **brain stem** is located at the base of the brain and contains regulatory centers to control things we take for granted, such as respiration, cardiovascular activities, and digestion.
- 2. The cerebellum is located posterior to the brain stem and inferior to the cerebrum. It is divided into two left or right halves, or hemispheres, and is extensively folded to increase surface area. Its general function is to work with the cerebrum to coordinate skeletal muscle movements, and it also allows the body to maintain proper balance and posture.
- 3. The **cerebrum** is the largest part of the brain and contains billions of neurons. Like the cerebellum, it is divided into two **hemispheres**. The deep division between these two hemispheres is called the **longitudinal fissure**. The term **fissure** indicates a deep groove or depression that separates major sections of the brain.

The surface of the cerebrum is not smooth but is folded into many little hills and gulleys. Each hill is called a **convolution** (or gyrus) and each valley is a shallow groove called a **sulcus**.

The cerebrum is the part of the brain associated with higher brain functions including planning, reasoning, analyzing, and storing/accessing memories. Ironically, without it, you would not be able to read and learn about the brain as you are doing now. It also perceives and interprets sensory information and coordinates various motor functions such as those involved in speech. The cerebrum is divided into four major lobes named after the bones that cover them: *frontal*, *parietal*, *temporal*, and *occipital*.

Brain Stem The brain stem consists of three parts: *medulla oblongata*, *pons*, and *midbrain*. The table below gives a description and general function of each part.

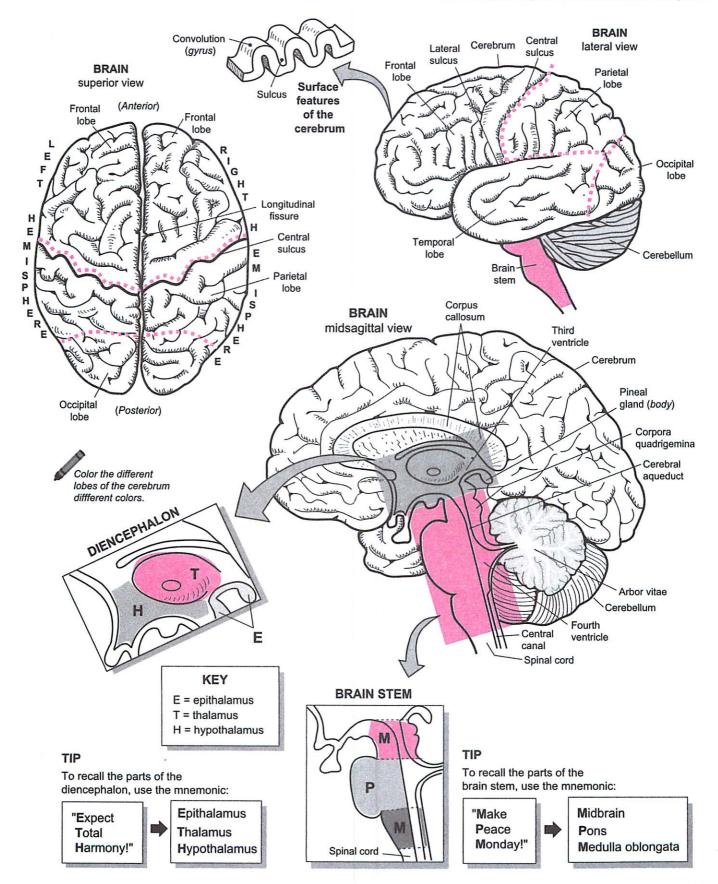
Brain Stem Region	Description	General Functions
Medulla oblongata	Between spinal cord and pons	Respiratory control center; cardio- vascular control center
Pons	Between medulla and midbrain; bulges out as widest region in brain stem	Controls respiration along with medullar relays information from cerebrum to cerebellum
Midbrain	Between diencephalon and pons; includes corpora quadrigemina (sensory relay station) and cerebral aqueduct (connects third and fourth ventricles; contains cerebrospinal fluid)	Visual and auditory reflex centers; provides pathway between brain stem and cerebrum

Diencephalon

The diencephalon is located above the brain stem and contains three parts: *epithalamus*, *thalamus*, and *hypothalamus*. The table below gives a description and general function of each part.

Diencephalon Region	Description	General Functions
Epithalamus	Roof of third ventricle; includes pineal gland; choroid plexus (forms cerebro- spinal fluid)	Pineal gland makes hormone melatonin, which regulates day-night cycles.
Thalamus	Two egg-shaped bodies that surround the third ventricle Relays sensory information to cortex; relays information for mactivities; information filter	
Hypothalamus	Forms floor of third ventricle; between thalamus and chiasm	Controls autonomic centers for heart rate, blood pressure, respiration, digestion, hunger center, thirst center, regulation of body temperature, production of emotions

Brain: Largest Regions, Brain Stem, and Diencephalon



Brain and Cranial Nerves

Description	There are 12 pairs of cranial nerves that are best observed on the inferior view of a whole brain.
12	Beginning near the frontal lobe of the cerebrum and moving down toward the spinal cord, they are
	numbered using Roman numerals from one (I) to twelve (XII).

Study Tips

• Use the following mnemonic device to recall the proper order of the cranial nerves:

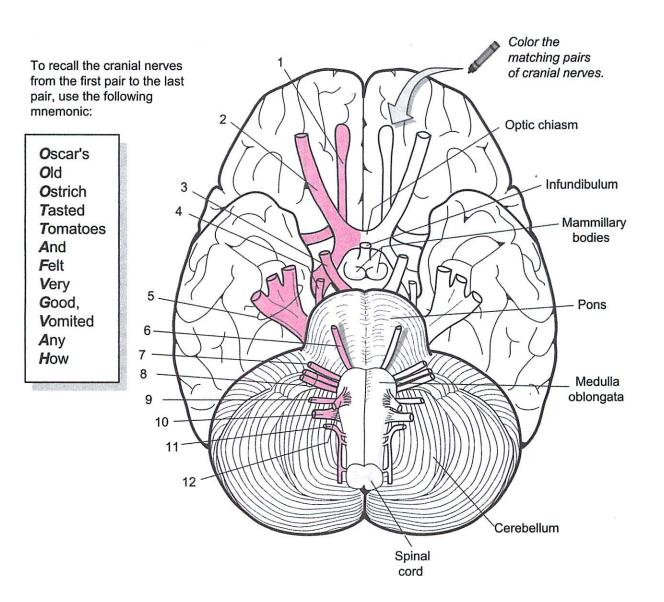
Oscar's	=	Olfactory nerve (I)
Old	=	Optic nerve (II)
Ostrich	=	Oculomotor nerve (III)
Tasted	=	Trochlear nerve (IV)
Tomatoes	=	Trigeminal nerve (V)
And	=	Abducens nerve (VI)
Felt	=	Facial nerve (VII)
Very	=	Vestibulocochlear (acoustic or auditory) nerve (VIII)
Good,	=	Glossopharyngeal nerve (IX)
Vomited	=	Vagus nerve (X)
Any	=	Accessory nerve (XI)
How	=	Hypoglossal nerve (XII)

- Associate cranial nerves with specific landmarks on the brain—*ex*: Oculomotor nerve (III) is below the mamillary body, Abducens nerve (VI) is between the medulla and the pons
- The Thickest cranial nerve is the Trigeminal nerve (V)
- Accessory nerve (XI) runs parallel to the spinal cord

Key to Illustration

- 1. Olfactory nerve (I)
- 2. Optic nerve (II)
- 3. Oculomotor nerve (III)
- 4. Trochlear nerve (IV)
- 5. Trigeminal nerve (V)
- 6. Abducens nerve (VI)
- 7. Facial nerve (VII)
- 8. Vestibulocochlear (acoustic or auditory) nerve (VIII)
- 9. Glossopharyngeal nerve (IX)
- 10. Vagus nerve (X)
- 11. Accessory nerve (XI)
- 12. Hypoglossal nerve (XII)

Brain and Cranial Nerves



Cranial Nerves

1		
2	8	
3.	9	
4.	10	
5.	10	
6.	12	

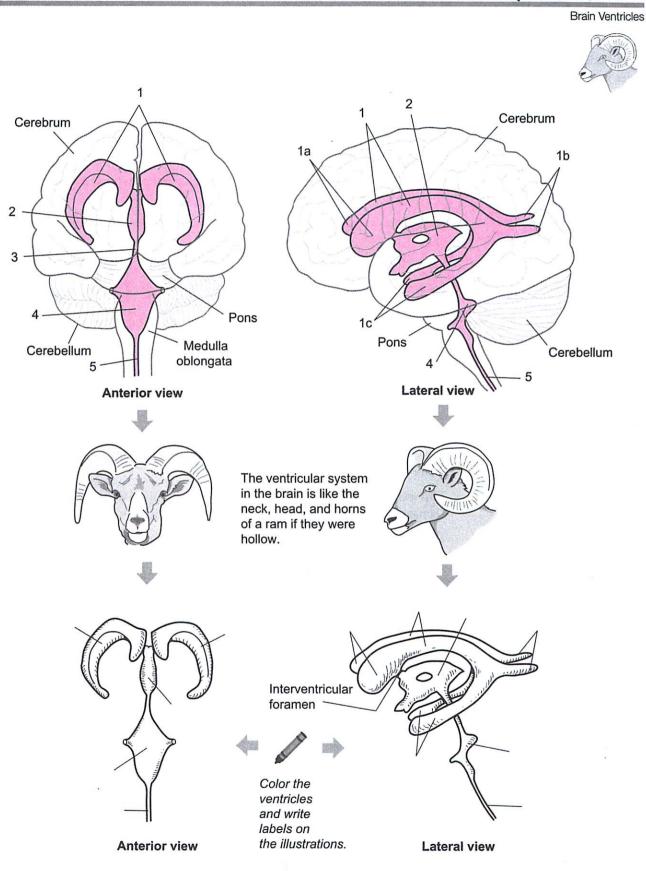
Brain Ventricles

Description	The heart contains ventricles that fill with blood, while the brain contains ventricles that are
	constantly filled with cerebrospinal fluid. In total, the brain has four ventricles inside it: lateral
	ventricle (of left hemisphere), lateral ventricle (of right hemisphere), third ventricle, and fourth ventricle.
	This entire network is referred to as the ventricular system in the brain. The lateral ventricles are
	the largest of the four and do not directly connect to each other as they are separated by a thin
	partition called the septum pellucidum. Both do connect to the third ventricle in the region of the
	diencephalon by small passageways called interventricular foramina. The third ventricle is con-
	nected to the fourth ventricle by a passageway called the cerebral aqueduct (aqueduct of Sylvius). The
	fourth ventricle is located in the pons (of the brain stem) and the cerebellum. It communicates with
	a very narrow passageway called the central canal, which runs through the middle of the spinal cord.

- Analogy To visualize the relative positions of the ventricles, compare the whole ventricular system to the hollow head of a ram. The fourth ventricle is like the neck of the ram, the third ventricle is like the head, and the lateral ventricles are like the two horns. The ram's horns also follow the same general shape of the paired lateral ventricles.
- **Study Tip** The first and second ventricles are not numbered because they are the lateral ventricles. If you think of the two lateral ventricles as *first ventricle* and *second ventricle*, the numbering makes sense in relation to the **third ventricle** and **fourth ventricle**. Ah, the goofy things that anatomists do! As the saying goes, "you are not a good anatomist unless you know 87 different names for the same structure."

Key to Illustration

- 1. Lateral ventricles
- 1a. Anterior horns of lateral ventricles
- 1b. Posterior horns of lateral ventricles
- 1c. Inferior horns of lateral ventricles
- 2. Third ventricle
- 3. Cerebral aqueduct (aqueduct of Sylvius)
- 4. Fourth ventricle
- 5. Central canal



Functional Regions of the Cerebral Cortex

This module will describe some of the selected functional areas of the cerebral cortex. These areas have been divided into three general groups: **sensory areas**, **motor areas**, and **association areas**. Note that the words *cortex* and *area* are often used interchangeably.

SENSORY AREAS Control regions where sensations are perceived

1.	Primary somatic sensory cortex	This important region is shown in dark gray behind the central sulcus. General sensory input (e.g. touch, temperature, pressure, and pain) from all parts of the body is perceived here.
2.	Gustatory cortex	Located in the parietal lobe; taste sensations are perceived here, such as the flavors of the ice cream shown in the icon.
3.	Auditory cortex	Located in the temporal lobe; auditory stimuli are processed by the brain here.
4.	Visual cortex	Located in the occipital lobe; visual images are perceived here (like the star shown in the icon).

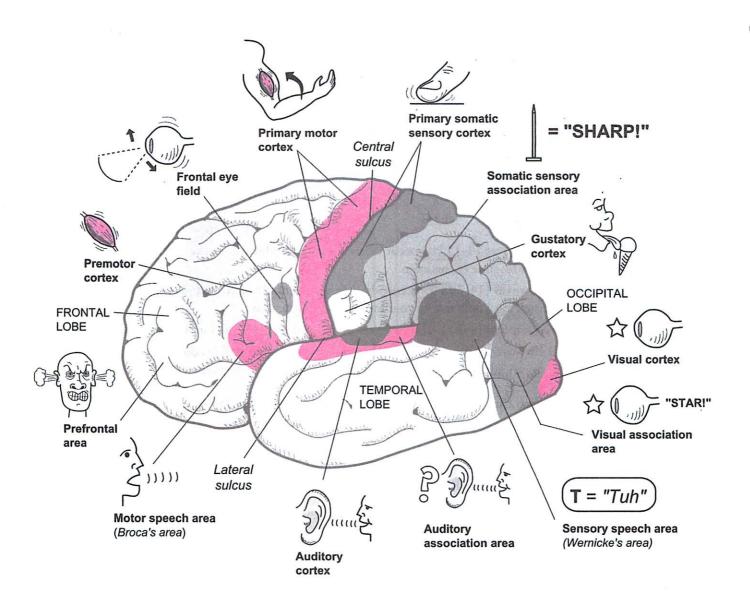
MOTOR AREAS Control centers for conscious muscle movements

1.	Primary motor cortex	This important area is shown in color in front of the central sulcus. It controls voluntary muscle movements throughout the body, including those of the hands and feet, arms and legs, face and tongue.
2.	Premotor cortex	This area serves as the "choreographer" for the primary motor cortex. It decides which muscle groups will be used and how they will be used prior to stimulating the primary motor cortex.
3.	Motor speech area (Broca's area)	This area controls and coordinates the muscles involved in normal, fluent speech. Damage to this area can result in strained speech with disconnected words.
4.	Frontal eye field	This area controls muscle movements of the eye, such as those needed to read this page.

ASSOCIATION AREAS Control regions—near sensory areas—involved in recognizing and analyzing incoming information

1.	Prefrontal area	This area is most highly developed in humans and other primates. It regulates emotional behavior and mood and also is involved in planning, learning, reasoning, motivation, personality, and intellect.
2.	Somatic sensory association area	This area allows you to <i>predict</i> that sandpaper is rough, for example, even without looking at it. It also stores memories about previous sensory experiences so you can determine when blindfolded, for example, that the object placed in your hand was a pair of scissors.
3.	Sensory speech area (Wernicke's area)	This area seems to be an important part of language development—processing words we hear being spoken. It also appears important for children when they are sounding out new words. Damage to this area may result in deficiencies in recognizing written and spoken words.
4.	Auditory association area	This area allows you to comprehend, interpret, analyze, and question what you are hearing. For example, it enables you to recognize a familiar song or disregard noise.
5.	Visual association area	This allows you to associate the perceived image of the star with the letters "S-T-A-R". You connect the word "star" with the image of a star.

Functional Regions of the Cerebral Cortex



Left Cerebral Hemisphere lateral view

Lateralization

Description

This module explains the concept of lateralization between the left and right cerebral hemispheres. Looking at the illustration of the brain, the left and right cerebral hemispheres appear very similar. In fact, they are anatomically similar, and the two hemispheres work together for many functions. This is evidenced by the corpus callosum—a thick band of nerves connecting the left to the right hemispheres. Each hemisphere also has functional specialization. There is lateralization where certain functions are found only in one of the hemispheres. For example, in most people, the Broca's area for speech production is found only in the left hemisphere. We can make generalizations about the functional differences between the two hemispheres that apply to most people. Consider your left hemisphere to be your "analytical" hemisphere and your right to be your "creative" hemisphere.

The illustration lists the functional differences. Your left brain excels at language and logic. It deals with information in an organized, logical way as a scientist would. It helps you work with mathematical equations, write, and follow directions step by step. In contrast, your right hemisphere excels at musical and artistic abilities. It helps you understand shape and pattern relationships that are useful for facial recognition and drawing. It also is the seat of insight and inspiration.

But these generalizations are not set in stone. Here are some variables that are exceptions to the rule:

- Individual differences. Some individuals have one or more control centers in the hemisphere opposite from the one where it normally is found.
- Gender differences. Lateralization is greater in males than females. In typical females, a portion of the corpus callosum is thicker, indicating greater hemispheric integration. This means that both hemispheres work together more frequently.
- Age differences. Children can "re-wire" their brains more easily than adults. For example, if part of the brain is damaged or surgically removed in a child, the opposite hemisphere can take over and compensate.

One hemisphere doesn't actually dominate the other. Even so, the hemisphere that controls spoken and written language is designated as the *categorical* (or "dominant") hemisphere. As mentioned previously, this is the left hemisphere for most people and correlates to handedness. Because nerves cross over from one side of the body to the opposite side in the brain, motor activity on the right side of the body is controlled by the left hemisphere, and vice versa.

The same usually holds true for handedness. About 91% of the population is right-handed, and in most of these people the left hemisphere is the categorical one. Interestingly, the situation is a bit different for "lefties." In the majority of them, the left hemisphere is still their categorical one. In only about 15% is the right hemisphere categorical. In summary, although the two hemispheres work together all the time, they also specialize in specific functions.

Lateralization

