Unit 1 — The Human Body



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Artery

a blood vessel that carries blood away from the heart

"The passenger bled to death as the windshield had cut an artery and paramedics couldn't stop the bleeding."

Bile

a bitter fluid that helps with digestion

"The patient's liver isn't producing enough bile to digest these foods properly."

Blood

the fluid that carries oxygen and other elements to the tissues, and carbon dioxide away from the tissues through the heart and vascular system

"People are encouraged to donate blood once a year so that the health service always has a stock."

Brain

the mass of nerve tissue located in the head of animals with spinal cords; it is the center of thought and controls movement

"You have to be very careful if you hit your head in case of brain damage."

Cardiovascular system

the system of organs and tissues involved in circulating blood and lymph through the body

"Research has shown that a glass of red wine a day can help your cardiovascular system."

CNS (Central nervous system)

the part of the nervous system comprising of the brain and the spinal cord

"Epilepsy is a potentially fatal disorder of the central nervous system."

Digestive system

the part of the body that stores and processes food

"The baby's entire digestive system was damaged from drinking liquid floor cleaner."

Gland

an organ or group of cells that releases substances or waste from the body

"The thyroid gland is situated at the base of the throat."

Heart

the organ that controls the flow of blood in the body

"The government is running a series of public information films on the dangers of heart disease."

Intestine

the portion of the alimentary canal extending from the stomach to the anus

"As soon as food enters your small intestine, your brain receives a message saying 'stop eating'."

Joint

a movable or fixed place or part where two bones or elements of a skeleton join

"Elderly people tend to suffer from joint pain as a result of arthritis."

Liver

A reddish-brown organ that helps digest food, removes toxins, and stores energy for the body

"Three weeks after a transplant operation, the man was in the hospital again with liver failure."

Lungs

the pair of organs situated in the rib cage consisting of elastic sacs that support the breathing process

"Lung cancer is particularly common among smokers."

Nerve

fiber forming part of a system that conveys impulses of sensation between the brain or spinal cord and other parts of the body

"The main aim of this surgery is to relieve the pressure on the trapped nerve."

Pancreas

this organ both regulates insulin and secretes enzymes to break down carbohydrates, proteins, and lipids

"Pancreatic cancer is any cancer where malignant cells originated in tissues forming the pancreas."

Respiratory system

the set of organs that allows a person to breathe and exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide throughout the body

"The program is designed for people with respiratory system troubles, such as asthma."

Spinal cord

the thick column of nerve tissue that extends from the base of the brain about two thirds of the way down the backbone

"The spine supports the skeleton and protects the fragile spinal cord."

Spleen

an organ near the stomach that has various roles in purifying and storing the blood

"John's spleen was removed after the accident as it had ruptured."

Tonsil

either of a pair of oval masses of lymphoid tissue, one on each side of the throat at the back of the mouth

"When Timmy was 6 he was diagnosed with tonsillitis and had his tonsils removed."

Vein

a blood vessel that carries depleted blood back to the heart

"After the nurse had found the vein, she gave the injection."