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VIDEO GUIDE · UNIT 1 · TOPIC 1.4

The Cerebral Cortex

Watch the lesson

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

NOTES: FILL IN THE BLANKS WHILE YOU WATCH

Back and sides

1. The _____, the brain's outer layer, is divided into two hemispheres and into regions called lobes.
2. The _____ relays sensory information to the relevant areas of the cortex for processing.
3. The _____, at the back, process visual information. Memory trick: the name sounds like optical.
4. The _____, by your ears, handle hearing and understanding language. Think: the tempo of music.

Top and back

5. The _____ contain the _____, which processes touch.
6. _____ in the parietal lobes combine different kinds of sensory information, like what you see and feel and where your hand is.

Front

7. The _____, at the very front, handles executive functions such as planning, decision-making, and impulse control.
8. At the rear of the frontal lobes, the _____ controls most voluntary movements; it sits right next to the somatosensory cortex.

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CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. After a head injury, a teenager often blurts out insults and makes risky choices without thinking ahead. Which area is most likely damaged?

(A) Occipital lobes

(B) Prefrontal cortex

(C) Somatosensory cortex

(D) Temporal lobes

2. While a person listens to a favorite song, a brain scan shows increased activity in the area that processes sound. Which lobes are most active?

(A) Frontal

(B) Parietal

(C) Temporal

(D) Occipital

3. During surgery, a doctor gently stimulates a patient's brain, and the patient's finger twitches without his deciding to move it. Which area was most likely stimulated?

(A) Motor cortex

(B) Somatosensory cortex

(C) Prefrontal cortex

(D) Association areas

NOTES

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