

# Critical Thinking Skills

## Senses, Nervous System & Respiratory System

Skills For Critical Thinking		Reading								Hands-on Activities	
		Section 1	Section 2	Section 3	Section 4	Section 5	Section 6	Section 7	Section 8		
<b>LEVEL 1</b> Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List Details/Facts</li> <li>Recall Information</li> <li>Match Vocabulary to Definitions</li> <li>Define Vocabulary</li> <li>Label Diagrams</li> <li>Recognize Validity (T/F)</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>LEVEL 2</b> Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrate Understanding</li> <li>Explain Scientific Causation</li> <li>Describe</li> <li>Classify into Scientific Groups</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>LEVEL 3</b> Application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application to Own Life</li> <li>Organize and Classify Facts</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>LEVEL 4</b> Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make Inferences</li> <li>Draw Conclusions Based on Facts Provided</li> <li>Classify Based on Facts Researched</li> </ul>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
<b>LEVEL 5</b> Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compile Research Information</li> <li>Design and Application</li> <li>Ask questions</li> <li>Defend Selections and Reasoning</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Based on Bloom's Taxonomy

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



# The Nervous System – Brain

1. Complete each sentence with a term from the list. Use a dictionary to help you.

brain

spinal cord

nerves

messages

data

- a) The \_\_\_\_\_ is like a computer that controls our body.
- b) The information that is carried along our nervous system is like computer \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) Important \_\_\_\_\_ about the world around us are understood in our brain.
- d) Our \_\_\_\_\_ is protected inside the bones of our spine.
- e) We have millions of \_\_\_\_\_ in our body that carry messages to our brain.

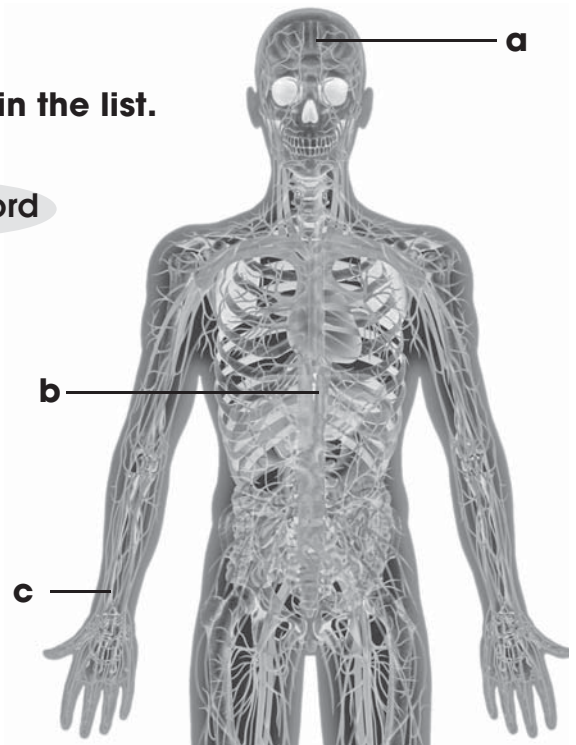
2. Label the nervous system using the terms in the list.

nerves

brain

spinal cord

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_





# The Nervous System – Brain

One of the most important organ systems in our body is the **nervous system**. The nervous system is a **network** of **tissue** that has the job of sending and carrying **messages** to all areas of our body. Our nervous system controls all our movements and reactions to the world around us. The nervous system is made of three important parts – the **brain, spinal cord** and **nerves**.



To understand how the parts of the nervous system works together, think of a **computer system**. The brain is the main computer. The spinal cord is the cable carrying the messages or **data** to and from the computer. All the nerves connect to the spinal cord. These nerves carry the messages to every part of the body and also send important **information** back to the brain.



Why is the brain like a computer?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## The Brain

The brain **manages** our nervous system. It is the control center of our body. The brain is protected inside the bones of the skull. It weighs about three pounds and is made of over 100 **billion** nerve cells. The brain has three main parts.

Brain Part	Description	What It Does
<b>cerebrum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the large, top part of the brain</li> <li>divided into two halves</li> <li>looks pinkish gray in color, is jelly-like and <b>wrinkled</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>controls thinking, <b>memory</b>, all our <b>emotions</b> and <b>language</b></li> <li>also very important for movement</li> </ul>
<b>cerebellum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>also called “the little brain”</li> <li>sits below the cerebrum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>important for movement, <b>balance</b> and <b>posture</b></li> </ul>
<b>brain stem</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>looks like a <b>stalk</b> that connects the brain to the spinal cord</li> <li>the simplest part of our brain.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>controls <b>involuntary</b> movements like our breathing and heart beat</li> </ul>

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



# The Nervous System - Brain

1. Fill in each blank with a term from the list.

- |                    |                   |              |                  |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>control</b>     | <b>cerebrum</b>   | <b>brain</b> | <b>protected</b> | <b>brain stem</b> |
| <b>one hundred</b> | <b>cerebellum</b> | <b>three</b> | <b>skull</b>     |                   |

The        **a** manages our nervous system; it is the        **b** center of the body.

The brain is        **c** inside the        **d** which are the bones of our head.

The brain weighs        **e** pounds and is made of over        **f** billion cells. The

brain has three main parts: the        **g** controls memory; the        **h** controls

balance; and the        **i** controls involuntary movements.

2. Underline the words and ideas that describe what the nervous system does.

- |                               |                    |                  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| control center                | carries messages   | controls emotion |
| helps us understand the world | controls breathing | controls posture |
| understanding language        |                    |                  |

3. Use the information from the reading passage to label the parts of the brain.

**brain stem**

**cerebrum**

**cerebellum**

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

