CEREBRUM	the largest portion of the brain, accounts for about 80% of the brain's mass, contains tools which are responsible for most of the brain's function; is divided into a right and left hemisphere
CORPUS CALLOSUM	thick band of fibers that connects the left and right brain hemispheres
CEREBRAL CORTEX	the outer 3 millimeters of "gray matter", consists of tightly packed neurons that control most of our body functions; is divided into four sections known as lobes
FRONTAL LOBE	controls several elements including creative thought, problem solving, intellect, judgment, behavior, attention, abstract thinking, physical reactions, muscle movements, coordinated movements, smell and personality
MOTOR CORTEX	lies at the back of the frontal lobe, near the central sulcus; receives information from various lobes which it combines to carry out body movements
ORBITOFRONTAL CORTEX	sits just above the eye sockets; manages emotional impulses in socially appropriate ways; creates productive behaviors including emotions, empathy, altruism, understanding facial expressions
DORSO-LATERAL PREFRONTAL CIRCUIT	region in the frontal lobes toward the top and side; organizes responses to complex problems (searching memory for relevant experience, adapting strategy for new data, guiding behavior with verbal skills)
PARIETAL LOBE	processes sensory information to do with taste, temperature, pressure, touch, and pain; contains the somatosensory cortex; combines sensory information to form a single perception; constructs a spatial coordinate system
SENSORY CORTEX	receives information relayed from the spinal cord regarding the position of various body parts and how they are moving
TEMPORAL LOBE	location of the primary auditory cortex; crosses both hemispheres of the brain, helps process sensory input, including pain and sound stimuli; controls memory storage, emotion, hearing, and, on the left side, language
WERNICKE'S AREA	formed around the auditory cortex, helps the body formulate or understand speech

OCCIPITAL LOBE	associated with interpreting visual stimuli and information; home to the primary visual cortex; receives and interprets data from the retinas of the eyes
BROCA'S AREA	controls the facial neurons as well as the understanding of speech and language; is located in the triangular and opercular section of the inferior frontal gyrus
BRAIN STEM	part of the brain that connects to the spinal cord; all basic life functions originate in in this area, including heartbeat, blood pressure and breathing; contains the medulla, midbrain and pons
RETICULAR FORMATION	nerve fibers located inside the brainstem; regulates awareness and sleep
THALAMUS	located at the top of the brain stem; sorts, processes, and directs signals from the spinal cord and midbrain structures up to the cerebrum; conveys messages from the cerebrum down the spinal cord to the nervous system
MIDBRAIN	also known as the mesencephalon; often considered the smallest brain part; controls many vital functions such as the visual and auditory systems as well as eye movement; includes the red nucleus and the substantia nigra
SUBSTANTIA NIGRA	contains a large number of dopamine-producing neurons; helps to control voluntary movement; regulates mood
HINDBRAIN	also known as the proto-reptilian brain; coordinates basic homeostatic functions; the pons and medulla are major structures found there
PONS	relays sensory information between the cerebrum and cerebellum; interprets information that is used in sensory analysis or motor control; creates the level of consciousness necessary for sleep
LOCUS COERULEUS	a nucleus in the pons of the brainstem involved with physiological responses to stress and panic
MEDULLA OBLONGATA	maintains vital body functions such as heart rate and breathing

HYPOTHALAMUS	controls mood, thirst, hunger, temperature and homeostasis; also contains glands which control the hormonal processes throughout the body
PITUITARY GLAND	endocrine gland involved in homeostasis; regulates other endocrine glands
PINEAL GLAND	endocrine gland involved in biological rhythms; secretes the hormone melatonin
BASAL GANGLIA	group of large nuclei that partially surround the thalamus under the cortex; important in the control of movement; primarily used for motor control, they are also involved in motor learning, executive functions, behaviors and emotions
CEREBELLUM	commonly referred to as "the little brain," receives information from the balance system of the inner ear, sensory nerves, and the auditory and visual systems; involved in the coordination of movements, balance and posture
LIMBIC SYSTEM	is associated with the sense of smell, behavior, learning, long-term memory; contains glands which help relay emotions and drives; includes the amygdala, hippocampus, hypothalamus and thalamus
CINGULATE GYRUS	the curved fold covering the corpus callosum; a component of the limbic system involved in processing emotions and behavior regulation; also helps to regulate autonomic motor function
AMYGDALA	helps the body respond to emotions, memories and fear
HIPPOCAMPUS	used for learning memory, specifically converting temporary memories into permanent memories; also helps people analyze and remember spatial relationships, allowing for accurate movements
SEPTAL AREA	subcortical region that has strong projections to emotion-generating areas and has a key role in feelings of social connectedness and bonding
VENTRICLES	the part of the brain with the function to produce, carry and distribute cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)

OLFACTORY BULB	Bulb-shaped end of the olfactory lobe; involved in the sense of smell
OLFACTORY CORTEX	receives sensory information from the olfactory bulb and is involved in the identification of odors
MENINGES	membranes that cover and protect the brain and spinal cord
FISSURE OF SYLVIUS (LATERAL SULCUS)	deep groove that separates the parietal and temporal lobes

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