Functions of The Cerebral Hemisphere

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# Phineas Gage





#### **Phineas Gage**

- In 1848 in Vermont, had a 3.5-footlong, 13 lb. metal rod blown into his skull, through his brain, and out of the top of his head. Gage survived. In fact, he never even lost consciousness.
- Friends reported a complete change in his personality after the incident. He lost all impulse control.

# <u>Overview</u>

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-58/03



#### **Components of The Brain**

# ► <u>A/ Telencephalon →</u>

(1) Cerebrum and

 (2) Basal Ganglia ( collection of grey matter situated inside the cerebral hemispheres )

#### ▶ <u>B/ Diencephalon →</u>

► Mainly :

 (1) Thalamus ( mainly a relay station for sensory pathways in their way to the cerebral cortex )

 (2) Hypothalamus ( contains vesnter for autonomic and endocrine control )



- C/ Brainstem →
- (1) Midbrain
- (2) Pons
- (3) Medulla
- <u>E/ Cerebellum</u>

#### The Brainstem

The term " brainstem " is actually an anatomic rather than physiologic term, because it is easier, in terms of anatomy, to group <u>" all</u> <u>CNS structures that hang</u> <u>between the cerebrum and</u> <u>spinal cord " together.</u>

However , in terms of Physiology , the situation is more complicated , because

brainstem structures are involved in many diverse & different bodily functions.



These functions include
(1) regulation of Consciousness, Wakefulness & Sleep,
(2) Respiratory, Cardiovascular and Gastrintestinal control,
(3) Balance (Vestibular nuclei).
(4) Moreover, it contain several Cranial Nerve nuclei.

- Most people ( about 90 %) have the left cerebral hemisphere dominant , and are therefore right-handed .
- The remaining (around 10 %) of the population usually have their right hemisphere dominant, and are therefore left-handed.
- The frontal lobe of the dominant hemisphere contains Broca's area (the area for production of speech).
- Therefore, if a right-handed person gets a stroke

involving his left cerebral hemisphere, he is likely to have right-sided hemiplegia (paralysis) and aphasia (loss of the power of speech)

# The Cerebrum

Lobes, the Cerebral Cortex, and Cortical Regions of the Brain

# **Objectives:**

Students will be able to describe the general structure of the Cerebrum and Cerebral Cortex.

• Students will be able to identify the Cerebrum, the Lobes of the Brain, the Cerebral Cortex, and its major regions/divisions.

• Students will be able to describe the primary functions of the Lobes and the Cortical Regions of the Brain.

**Cerebrum** - The largest division of the brain. It is divided into two hemispheres, each of which is divided into four lobes

Cerebr um \_Cerebrum

Cerebellum

http://williamcalvin.com/BrainForAllSeasons/img/bonoboLH-humanLH-viaTWD.gif

Cerebral Cortex - The outermost layer of gray matter making up the superficial aspect of the cerebrum.



http://www.bioon.com/book/biology/whole/image/1/1-6.tif.jpg

#### <u>Cerebral Features:</u>

- <u>Gyri</u> Elevated ridges "winding" around the brain.
- <u>Sulci</u> Small grooves dividing the gyri
  - Central Sulcus Divides the Frontal Lobe from the Parietal Lobe
- Fissures Deep grooves, generally dividing large regions/lobes of the brain
- Longitudinal Fissure Divides the two Cerebral Hemispheres

 Transverse Fissure – Separates the Cerebrum from the Cerebellum

 – Sylvian/Lateral Fissure – Divides the Temporal Lobe from the Frontal and Parietal Lobes



#### Fissure (deep groove)

http://williamcalvin.com/BrainForAllSeasons/img/bonoboLH-humanLH-viaTWD.gif

Sulci

ove

#### **Specific Sulci/Fissures:**



# Lobes of the Brain (4)

Frontal
Parietal
Occipital
Temporal



\* Note: Occasionally, the Insula is considered the fifth lobe. It is located deep to the Temporal Lobe.

Lobes of the Brain - Frontal
 The Frontal Lobe of the brain is located deep to the Frontal Bone of the skull.

- It plays an integral role in the following functions/actions:
  - Memory Formation
  - Emotions
    Decision
    Making/Reasoning
    - Personality

(Investigation: Phineas Gage)



# Frontal Lobe

Responsible for initiation and execution of voluntary movement.

Also contains Broca's area of speech in the dominnat hemisphere (i.e., in the left hemisphere in most people).

- $\blacktriangleright$ Lesion can cause  $\rightarrow$
- (1) paralysis on opposite side of the body

 (2) aphasia (loss of ability to speak) if lesion involves Broca's area in the dominant hemisphere).

#### Frontal Lobe - Cortical Regions

• Primary Motor Cortex (Precentral Gyrus) – Cortical site involved with controlling movements of the body.

• Broca's Area – Controls facial neurons, speech, and language comprehension. Located on <u>Left</u> Frontal Lobe.

 Broca's Aphasia – Results in the ability to comprehend speech, but the decreased motor ability (or inability) to speak and form words.

Orbitofrontal Cortex – Site of Frontal Lobotomies

- \* **Desired Effects:** 
  - Diminished Rage
  - Decreased
  - Aggression
  - Poor Emotional
  - Responses

- \* **Possible Side Effects:**
- Epilepsy
- Poor Emotional Responses
- Perseveration (Uncontrolled, repetitive actions, gestures, or words)

• Olfactory Bulb - Cranial Nerve I, Responsible for sensation of Smell



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#### Lobes of the Brain - Parietal Lobe

The Parietal Lobe of the brain is located deep to the Parietal Bone of the skull.

• It plays a major role in the following functions/actions: - Senses and integrates sensation(s)Spatial awareness and perception (Proprioception -Awareness of body/ body parts in space and in relation to each other)



#### Parietal Lobe - Cortical Regions

Primary Somatosensory Cortex (Postcentral Gyrus) – Site involved with processing of tactile and proprioceptive information.

 Somatosensory Association Cortex - Assists with the integration and interpretation of sensations relative to body position and orientation in space. May assist with visuomotor coordination.

 Primary Gustatory Cortex – Primary site involved with the interpretation of the sensation of Taste.

# Parietal Lobe

- ✓ (1) Primary Somatosensory in the post-central gyrus → to receive general sensations from opposite
  - ( contralateral ) half of the body
- (2) Sensory Association Cortex
   ( for integration & association of sensory information )
- Parietal lobe is essential for our feeling of touch, warmth/heat, cold, pain, body position and appreciation of shapes of palpated objects.
- When damaged , the person loses the ability to recognize shapes of complex objects by palpation (palpation = examaination of objects by touch )
- ✓ & develops Sensory Inattention on opposite side

#### **Primary** Parietal Central Somatosensory lobe sulcus **Cortex**/ **Postcentral Gyrus** Somatosensory **Association Cortex** Primary **Gustatory Cortex**

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# <u>Lobes of the Brain – Occipital</u>

- The Occipital Lobe of the Brain is located deep to the Occipital Bone of the Skull.
- Its primary function is the processing, integration, interpretation, etc. of VISION and visual stimuli.



# <u>Occipital Lobe – Cortical</u> <u>Regions</u>

Primary Visual Cortex – This is the primary area of the brain responsible for sight recognition of size, color, light, motion, dimensions, etc.

• Visual Association Area – Interprets information acquired through the primary visual cortex.



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# Lobes of the Brain – Temporal The Temporal Lobes are located on the sides of the brain, deep to the Temporal Bones of the skull.

 They play an integral role in the following functions:

 Hearing
 Organization/Comprehend
 nsion of language



- Information Retrieval (Memory and Memory Formation)

### <u>Temporal Lobe – Cortical</u> <u>Regions</u>

- Primary Auditory Cortex Responsible for hearing
- Primary Olfactory Cortex Interprets the sense of smell once it reaches the cortex via the olfactory bulbs. (Not visible on the superficial cortex)
- Wernicke's Area Language comprehension. Located on the <u>Left</u> Temporal Lobe.

- Wernicke's Aphasia – Language comprehension is inhibited. Words and sentences are not clearly understood, and sentence formation may be inhibited or non-sensical.

# **Temporal Lobe**

- (1) contain centers for hearing and taste
- (2) contribute to smell perception .
- ►(3) essential for memory function.
- ►(4) lesion → may lead to memory impairment & can be associated with temporal lobe epilepsy



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Regions

• Arcuate Fasciculus - A white matter tract that connects Broca's Area and Wernicke's Area through the Temporal, Parietal and Frontal Lobes. Allows for coordinated, comprehensible speech. Damage may result in:

- Conduction Aphasia - Where auditory comprehension and speech articulation are pleserved, but people find it difficult to repeat heard speech.



![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Functional Principles of the Cerebral hemispheres

- 1. Each cerebral hemisphere receives sensory information from, and sends motor commands to, the <u>opposite side of body</u>
- 2. The 2 hemispheres have somewhat different functions although their structures are alike
- 3. Correspondence between a specific function and a specific region of cerebral cortex is not precise
- 4. No functional area acts alone; conscious behavior involves the entire cortex

**Higher level: Prefrontal** Cortex Most complicated region, coordinates info from all other association areas Important in intellect, planning, reasoning, mood, abstract ideas, judgement, conscience, and accuratley predicting consequences Phineas Gage?

#### **Hemispheric Lateralization**

- Functional differences between left and right hemispheres
- In most people, left hemisphere (dominant hemisphere) controls:
  - reading, writing, and math, decisionmaking, logic, speech and language (usually)
- Right cerebral hemisphere relates to:
  - recognition (faces, voice inflections), affect, visual/spatial reasoning, emotion, artistic skills

![](_page_37_Figure_0.jpeg)

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Q: Assuming this comical situation was factually accurate, what Cortical Region of the brain would these doctors be stimulating?

#### A: Primary Motor Cortex

![](_page_38_Picture_1.jpeg)

\* This graphic representation of the regions of the Primary Motor Cortex and Primary Sensory Cortex is one example of a HOMUNCUL Homunculus