

The Nervous System

Chapter 20: The Nervous System · Topic 1

Key Concept

The brain, the control centre of the nervous system, processes information and controls thoughts, movement, and body functions.

The spinal cord connects the brain to the rest of the body, carrying messages back and forth through nerves.

Nerves carry electrical signals throughout the body, allowing us to sense things (like touch or pain) and respond (like moving a hand away from heat).

A reflex action, like pulling your hand away from something hot, happens very quickly without needing conscious thought from the brain.

Quick Revision Notes

- The nervous system controls and coordinates body functions.
- The brain is the control centre.
- It processes information and controls the body.
- The spinal cord connects brain to body.
- Nerves carry electrical signals.
- They enable sensing and responding.
- A reflex action happens very quickly.
- Reflexes don't need conscious brain thought.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw and label the nervous system.
- 2 Discuss the role of the brain.
- 3 Explain what nerves do.
- 4 Research an example of a reflex action.
- 5 Discuss why reflexes are fast.
- 6 Explain how the spinal cord connects the brain and body.