

The Circulatory System

Chapter 23: The Circulatory System · Topic 1

Key Concept

The heart has four chambers - two atria and two ventricles - working together to pump blood to the lungs and the rest of the body.

Arteries carry oxygenated blood away from the heart, while veins carry deoxygenated blood back, with capillaries connecting them at the cellular level.

Blood consists of plasma (liquid), red blood cells (oxygen transport), white blood cells (immunity), and platelets (clotting).

Understanding the circulatory system helps us appreciate how our body delivers essential resources and maintains overall health.

Quick Revision Notes

- The heart has four chambers: two atria, two ventricles.
- They pump blood to lungs and body.
- Arteries carry oxygenated blood from the heart.
- Veins carry deoxygenated blood to the heart.
- Capillaries connect arteries and veins at cells.
- Blood has plasma, red cells, white cells, platelets.
- Red cells transport oxygen.
- White cells provide immunity; platelets aid clotting.

Practice Questions

- 1 Draw and label the heart's four chambers.
- 2 Discuss the difference between arteries and veins.
- 3 Explain the role of capillaries.
- 4 Research what plasma contains.
- 5 Discuss the functions of blood components.
- 6 Feel your pulse and discuss what it represents.