I. Objective Question:

- 1. Medulla oblongata controls
 - A. Smelling
 - B. Beating of heart and respiratory movement
 - C. Intelligence and will power
 - D. Balancing the body

Answer: Beating of heart and respiratory movement

Reason — Medulla oblongata controls breathing, heart function, blood vessel function, digestion, sneezing, and peristalsis of the alimentary canal, etc

- 2. Balance of body is controlled by:
 - A. Spinal cord
 - B. Cerebellum
 - C. Cerebrum
 - D. Medulla

Answer: Cerebellum

Reason — Body balance and muscular coordination is controlled by the cerebellum of the brain.

- 3. The smell of good food causes watering of your mouth. It is a
 - A. Natural reflex
 - B. Acquired reflex
 - C. Inborn reflex
 - D. Ordinary reflex

Answer: Acquired reflex

Reason — Salivation on smelling good food is an acquired reflex that occurs because our brain remembers the taste of the food due to a previous experience.

- 4. The structural and functional unit of the nervous system is a
 - A. Axon
 - B. Nephron
 - C. Neuron
 - D. Texon

Answer: Nephron

Reason — Neurons are the structural and functional unit of the nervous system

Answers: Chapter - Nervous System

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- 5. Many short fibres extending from the cell body of a nerve cell are called
 - A. dendrons
 - B. axon
 - C. dendrites
 - D. ganglia

Answer: dendrons

Reason — many short fibres called dendrons arise from the cell body. They further divide to form dendrites.

- 6. Motor nerve carries messages to the
 - A. heart
 - B. spinal cord
 - C. muscles and glands
 - D. brain

Answer: muscles and glands

Reason — Motor nerves carry messages from brain or spinal cord to the muscles and glands of the body.

- 7. These nerves emerge from the brain and reach organs in the head region.
 - A. Spinal
 - B. Cranial
 - C. C.vagus
 - D. pelvic

Answer: cranial

Reason — Cranial nerves emerge from the brain and reach organs in the head region.

- 8. The message that travels along a nerve in the form of a wave of chemical disturbance is called
 - 1. stimulus
 - 2. response
 - 3. sensation
 - 4. impulse

Answer: impulse

Reason — Messages travel along the nerve cells in the form of a wave of chemical disturbance called an impulse. An impulse is like an electrical signal.

- 9. Junction of the two neurons is called
 - A. joint
 - B. synapse
 - C. association neuron

Answers: Chapter – Nervous System Class VIII **ICSE** D. synaptic button Answer: synapse **Reason** — A synapse is a junction where communication between two neurons occurs. 10. The human brain is enveloped by three membranes called A. impulses B. meninges C. synapses D. none of these Answer: meninges **Reason** — The human brain is enveloped by three membranes called meninges. 11. Breathing and heartbeat are controlled by the A. cerebellum B. cerebrum C. medulla D. nerve cells Answer: medulla Reason — The medulla oblongata controls involuntary actions of the body like breathing, heartbeat, coughing, sneezing, etc. 12. The central canal of the spinal cord is surrounded by an H-shaped area called A. grey matter B. white matter C. black matter D. silver matter **Answer**: grey matter **Reason** — The central canal of the spinal cord is surrounded by an H-shaped area called grey matter. 13. Reflex actions are the actions controlled by A. brain

B. spinal cord

C. both brain and spinal cord

	vers: Chapter – Nervous System neither brain nor spinal cord	Class VIII	ICSE	
٩nsw	er: spinal cord			
Reaso	on — Reflex actions are the actions controlled by spi	nal cord.		
14. Tł	ne peripheral nervous system transmits messages to	and from the sense organs a	nd is responsible fo	
Α.	involuntary actions			
В.	reflex actions			
C.	autonomic actions			
D.	. voluntary actions			
Answ	er: voluntary actions			
Reaso	on — Peripheral nervous system is responsible for vo	oluntary actions such as cyclin	g, swimming, etc.	
B. Fil	l in the Blanks:			
Q1: A	Q1: A neuron is the basic structural and functional unit of thesystem.			
Answer: A neuron is the basic structural and functional unit of the nervous system.				
Q2: A single long fibre extending from the cell body of a neuron is called				
Answer: A single long fibre extending from the cell body of a neuron is called axon.				
Q3: T	he central nervous system consists of	and	·	
Answ	er : The central nervous system consists of brain and	spinal cord.		
Q4: T	heis the continuation of the medulla oblo	ngata of the brain.		
4 <i>nsw</i>	er : The spinal cord is the continuation of the medul	la oblongata of the brain.		
Q5: T	he nerve pathway of a reflex action is called a	•		
4 <i>nsw</i>	$m{er}$: The nerve pathway of a reflex action is called a $m{r}$	eflex arc.		
Q6: T	he peripheral nervous system consists of	and	nerves.	
4 <i>nsw</i>	er : The peripheral nervous system consists of cranic	al and <i>spinal</i> nerves.		
Q7: T	he basic structural and functional unit of the nervou	s system is a	·	

Answer: The basic structural and functional unit of the nervous system is a **nerve cell or neuron**.

Answers: Chapter – Nervous System Class VIII **ICSE** Q8. is covered by a sheath called myelin sheath. **Answer**: Axon is covered by a sheath called myelin sheath. Q9______ is the largest part of the brain. Answer: Cerebrum is the largest part of the brain. Q10. The ______ fluid nourishes the brain and absorbs shocks. **Answer**: The *Cerebrospinal* fluid nourishes the brain and absorbs shocks. Q11. The . coordinates the movement of the voluntary muscles. **Answer**: The **Cerebellum** coordinates the movement of the voluntary muscles. C. True or False. If False, correct the following statements: Q1: Each nerve cell consists of a cell body, many short fibres and a long fibre. Answer: True Q2: Motor nerves carry impulses from the sense organs to the spinal cord. Answer: False **Corrected statement** — Motor nerves carry impulses from the spinal cord to the sense organs. Q3: The largest portion of the brain is the cerebellum. Answer: False **Corrected statement** — The largest portion of the brain is the cerebrum. Q4: Thinking, reasoning and memory are controlled by the medulla.

Answer: False

Corrected statement — Thinking, reasoning and memory are controlled by the cerebrum.

Q5. A reflex action is a spontaneous response to a stimulus.

Answer: True

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Q6: The central nervous system consists of nerves only.

Answer: False

Corrected statement — The central nervous system consists of brain and spinal cord.

D. Find the odd one out. Give reason for your choice:

Q1. Dendron, cyton, cerebrum, dendrite, axon

Answer: cerebrum

Reason — cerebrum is part of brain while Dendron, cyton, dendrite and axon are parts of neuron cell.

Q2. Cerebrum, cerebellum, medulla oblongata, dendrite

Answer: dendrite

Reason — cerebrum, cerebellum and medulla oblongata are parts of brain but dendrite is part of neuron

E. Write one word in the space provided to complete the second pair of the related words pertaining to the nervous system.

Memory: cerebrum:: breathing: ?

Balance: cerebellum:: reasoning: ?

Solution:

Memory: cerebrum:: breathing: medulla oblongata

Function of cerebrum is to store memory and breathing function is controlled by the medulla oblongata.

Balance: cerebellum:: reasoning: cerebrum

Cerebellum function is to maintain the balance of the body and cerebrum is the main center for reasoning and analytical thinking.

F. Name the following:

- (a) The long, extended process of a neuron
- (b) The point of contact between two neurons
- (c) The kind of nerve which carries both sensory and motor neurons
- (d) The nerve which connects the eyes to the brain
- (e) The nerve which connects the nose to the brain
- (f) The nerve which connects the ears to the brain

- (g) Two sub-divisions of the peripheral nervous system
- (h) Two parts of the autonomic nervous system

Answer

- (a) Axon
- (b) Synapse
- (c) Mixed nerve
- (d) The Optic nerve
- (e) Olfactory nerve
- (f) Auditory nerve
- (g) Somatic nervous system and Autonomic nervous system.
- (h) Sympathetic and Parasympathetic systems

II. Short Answer Questions:

Q1. Name the two types of coordination which take place in our body.

Solution:

- (a) Nervous coordination: By nerves and brain
- (b) Chemical coordination: By hormones
- Q2.(a) Name the three major divisions of the human nervous system.

Solution:

- 1. The peripheral nervous system
- 2. The central nervous system
- 3. The autonomic nervous system
- (b) Name the three main parts of the human brain.

Solution:

- 1. Cerebrum
- 2. Cerebellum
- 3. Medulla oblongata

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Q3. Mention the three functions of spinal cord.

Answer

Spinal cord has the following functions —

- 1. To control reflexes below the neck.
- 2. To conduct messages from the skin and muscles to the brain.
- 3. To conduct commands from the brain to muscles of the trunk (or torso) and limbs.

Q4. You are driving your bicycle at a fast speed. Suddenly, a small boy comes in front of your cycle and without wasting any time in thinking, you immediately apply the brakes and the accident is avoided. What name is given to such an action?

Answer: This is a Conditioned or Acquired Reflex action. This reflex is one which is developed during the lifetime due to experience or learning.

Q5. Define nervous system.

Answer: The organ system in our body that brings about coordination and integration of different body activities is called the nervous system.

Q6. What are motor nerves?

Answer: The nerves that carry messages in the form of responses from the brain or spinal cord to other parts of the body such as muscles and glands are called motor nerves. They contain only motor fibres. For example, nerves arising from the brain leading to muscles of the eye balls are motor nerves.

Q7. What is a synapse?

Answer: A synapse is a junction where communication between two neurons occurs.

Q8. Write the function of the cerebrospinal fluid.

Answer: The functions of the cerebrospinal fluid are:

- 1. It nourishes the brain.
- 2. It protects the brain from shocks by absorbing them.

Q9. Give two examples of reflex actions.

Answer: Two examples of reflex actions are:

- 1. Blinking of eyes when a foreign particle enters the eye.
- 2. Immediate withdrawal of hand if you unknowingly touch a hot object.

Q10. When you smell tasty food, your mouth waters. Which part of the nervous system makes this happen?

Answer: The watering of mouth with smell of tasty food is a conditioned reflex. Thus, Spinal cord is involved in it.

Q11. Rakesh was walking barefoot in a park. Suddenly, he stepped on a nail and withdrew his foot spontaneously. Name the pathway involved in this action. Which organ in our body controls such actions?

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Answer: Below flowchart shows the reflex arc pathway involved in the action. The organ that controls such action is **spinal cord**.

Q12. What is Central Nervous System?

Answer: The Central Nervous System is the nerve network in the body that helps to regulate nearly every function of the body. The Central Nervous System is made of the brain & the spinal cord. Also, there are millions of nerves are present that regulate the function of the body.

Q13. What are the four lobes of the brain?

Answer: There are four lobes in the brain. They are termed the Temporal Lobe, Occipital Lobe, Parietal Lobe & Frontal Lobe. They all have the necessary significance in controlling the operations of the brain. They all are involved in the Central Nervous System communication process.

Q14. How many cranial nerves are coming out from the brain?

Answer::There are 12 pairs of cranial nerves are present in the body. All these nerves are coming out from the brain using some holes in the skull. This helps to regulate the function of certain organs.

Q15. How many spinal nerves are coming from the spinal cord?

Answer:

There are 31 pairs of spinal nerves are present in the body. All these nerves are coming out from the spinal cord & coming to be merged with the Peripheral Nervous System. This help to regulate the function of the motor neurons.

Q16:.Which part of the Central Nervous System is responsible for the reflex action?

Answer: The spinal cord is responsible for the reflex action in the body. Reflex action is a certain action provided by the body without getting any command from the Central Nervous System. The brain is not the controller of the reflex action. Rather the spinal cord helps to do that.

Q17.Mention the three functions of spinal cord.

Answer: Spinal cord has the following functions.

- 1. It is the centre of reflex actions below the neck.
- 2. It carries messages from the skin and muscles to the brain.
- 3. All the stimuli and responses are passed from and to the brain through the spinal cord.

Q18. What constitutes the central and peripheral nervous systems?

Answer: The central nervous system is composed of the brain and the spinal cord.

The peripheral nervous system is composed of cranial nerves, spinal nerves and the autonomous nervous system.

III. Long Answer Questions:

Q1. Differentiate between Sensory and Motor Neuron.

Answer:

Differentiating Property	Sensory Neuron	Motor Neuron
Definition	Sensory neurons are nerve cells	Motor neuron is a nerve cell
	that are responsible for	whose cell body is located in the
	converting external stimuli into	spinal cord and axon fiber
	internal electrical impulses.	projects outside of the spinal
		cord. It directly or indirectly
		controls effector organs like
		muscles and glands.
Axon	Sensory neurons consist of a short	Motor neurons consist of a long
	axon.	axon.
Receptor	Sensory neurons consist of a	Motor neurons do not consist of a
	receptor.	receptor.
Cell Body	Cell body of the sensory neuron is	Cell body of the motor neuron
	situated in the dorsal root	situated in the ventral root
	ganglion of the spinal cord, and	ganglion of the spinal cord and
	no dendrites are found in it.	consists of dendrites.
Dendrons	Sensory neuron consists of one	Motor neuron consists of many
	long dendron.	short dendrons.
Function	Sensory neurons carry signals	Motor neurons carry signals from
	from the outer	the central nervous system to the
	part of the body into the	outer parts of the body
	central nervous system.	

Afferent/Efferent Pathways	Sensory neurons follow the afferent	Motor neurons follow the efferent
	pathway.	pathway.
Number	An adult has around 10million	Around half million of motor
	sensory neurons in the body.	neurons are found in the body.
Multipolar/Unipolar	Sensory neurons are unipolar.	Motor neurons are multipolar.
Found in	Sensory neurons are found in skin,	Motor neurons are mainly found in
	eyes, ears, tongue, and nose.	muscles and glands.
Location	Sensory Neurons had placed in the	Motor Neurons had located in the
	dorsal ganglia of the spinal cord of	spinal cord that connects with the
	an individual.	nervous system.
Commands	Sensory Neurons controls the cells	Motor Neurons control the muscles,
	help to find the senses in the spinal	organs, glands
	cord.	

Q2. Give the function of each of the following:

(a) Olfactory nerve:

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(b) Optic nerve:

(C) Facial nerve:

Solution:

(a) Olfactory nerve: The epithelial layers of the nasal chambers has a sense of smell. The sense of smell is carried to the brain by the olfactory nerve. They arise from the anterior ends of the olfactory lobes and are distributed to the lining of nasal chambers.

- **(b) Optic nerve:** optic nerves carries the reflection of the object from the retina to the brain. The image formed on the retina is in a reverted position and the correct picture is formed in the brain as the object is. The optic nerves arise from the side of the diencephalon. They innervate the retina of the eve and are sensory in nature.
- **(c) Facial nerve:** Message and all expressions of the face, mastication work alone by the teeth, movement of the neck and the activities of the salivary glands to the brain are carried by the facial nerve. It arises from the side of the medulla. On the whole facial nerves are mixed in nature.

Q3.Differentiate between natural reflex and conditioned reflex. Give examples to illustrate your answer.

Answer: **Natural reflex:** It is one in which no previous experience or learning is required. These reflexes are inborn i.e. inherited from the parents.

Examples are

- 1. Blinking, coughing, sneezing as these are protective reflexes
- 2. Salivation, swallowing, peristalsis as it provides functional efficiency.
- 3. Dilation of the eyes pupil to look in the dark and vice versa. It is muscular movement.
- 4. Pushing along of swallowed food through the food canal. It is muscular movement.

Conditioned Reflex: It is one which develops during lifetime due to experience or learning.

Examples are:

- 1. Watering of mouth (Salvination) at the sight of a tasty food.
- 2. Surfing the channels while watching the television.
- 3. Typing of a keyboard of a computer.
- 4. Playing a musical instrument.

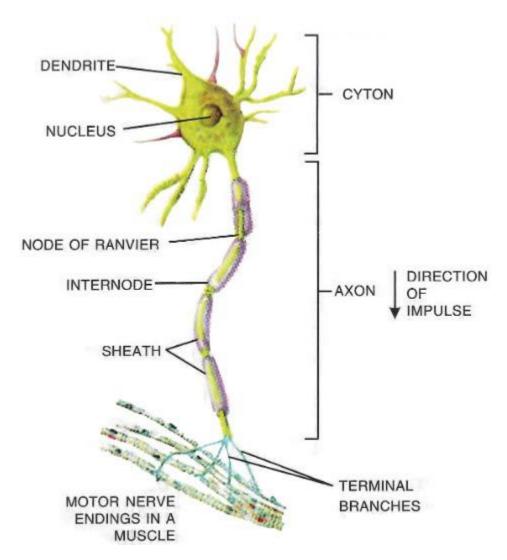
Q4. With the help of a suitable diagram, describe the structure and function of a neuron.

Answer

A neuron is made up of two main parts —

- 1. A main cell body called Cyton
- 2. A long process called **Axon**

The cell body contains a nucleus. The dendrites are cytoplasmic extensions of the cell body. From the cell body arises one long process called the axon. Its length may vary from a few millimetres to 1 metre. The end of the axon terminates in a number of branched filaments called terminal branches.



The function of a neuron is to receive messages (impulses) from the organs and transmit them through the cell body into the axon which transmits the message. Message is relayed from one neuron to the other through the synapse which is a small junction used for communication between two neurons.

Q5. Briefly describe the structure of the cerebellum in human brain and mention its functions .

Answer

Cerebellum is much smaller compared to Cerebrum and is located under the cerebrum. Its function is to balance the body and coordinate muscular activities. The cerebrum decides an action, whereas the cerebellum implements the action. For example, if we get an idea to stand up and walk, it arises in the cerebrum, but the muscles involved in this process contract or relax under the control of the cerebellum.

Q6. Distinguish between motor, sensory and mixed nerves with respect to their functions.

Answer:

Motor nerves	Sensory nerves	Mixed nerves
It carries messages in the form of responses from the brain or spinal cord to other parts of the body such as muscles and glands.	It carries messages (impulses) from the sense organs to either the spinal cord or the brain.	It performs the function of both motor and sensory nerves. They transmit electrical impulses from the central nervous system to the muscles of the body.

Q7. Describe the human central nervous system along with its parts and functions.

Answer

The central nervous system consists of the brain and the spinal cord. It is the control centre for all body functions. It is the site for all information processing in the body. It is responsible for processing every sensation and thought a human being experiences. It has two parts — Brain and Spinal Cord.

- 1. **Brain** The Brain is the main control centre of the nervous system situated in the cranium of the skull. It controls our thinking, feelings, movement and senses. It has three parts Cerebrum, Cerebellum and Medulla oblongata.
 - i. **Cerebrum** The cerebrum is the uppermost, largest and the most prominent part of the brain. It is responsible for the sensation of pain, temperature, touch, sight, sound, taste and smell. It also controls mental activities such as memory, intelligence, thinking and reasoning.
 - ii. **Cerebellum** The cerebellum is a small, egg-shaped lobe located at the base under the cerebrum. It helps in the muscle coordination and balance of the body.
 - iii. **Medulla oblongata** The Medulla oblongata is the lowermost part of the brain located at the base of the skull. It controls breathing, heartbeat, coughing, sneezing and other involuntary functions.
- 2. **Spinal cord** The spinal cord is the continuation of the medulla oblongata of the brain. It is like a cord that emerges from a hole at the base of the skull and runs through the vertebral column. The spinal cord conducts reflexes below the neck. It conducts sensory impulses from the skin and muscles to the brain. It conducts motor responses from the brain to the muscles of the trunk and limbs.

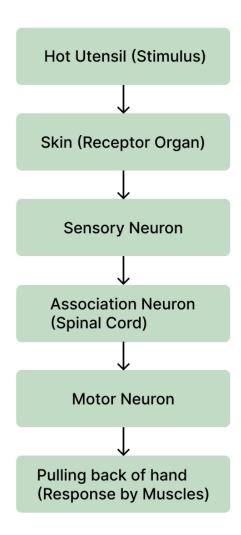
Q8. What is reflex action? Explain the reflex arc with the help of an example.

Answer: An automatic, spontaneous and mechanical response to a stimulus controlled by the spinal cord without the involvement of the brain is called a reflex action.

The path that an impulse takes in a reflex action is called a reflex arc. The reflex arc involves three neurons — sensory neurons, association neurons and motor neurons.

- If we touch a hot object, a stimulus triggers an impulse in a receptor on the skin.
- The impulse then travels from the receptor through a sensory neuron to the spinal cord.
- In the spinal cord, it passes through an association neuron to a motor neuron and finally reaches the muscles.
- The muscles of the effector organ contract moving it away from the hot object.

Below flow chart shows a simple reflex action of immediate withdrawal of hand on touching a hot object:



Q9. Differentiate between Central Nervous System and peripheral Nervous System.

Answer: Nervous system:

The nervous system comprises two parts: the central nervous system and the peripheral nervous system.

The difference between the peripheral and central nervous systems are-

Peripheral Nervous System	Central Nervous System
1	The central nervous system comprises the brain and the spinal cord.
transmit sensory impulses to the central nervous system	The major function of the central nervous system is to organize and process information obtained from sensory organs.
	Damage to the central nervous system would affect the entire body.
1	The central nervous system runs along the axis of the body.

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Q10. Differentiate between the following pairs of terms on the basis of what is indicated within the brackets :

- (a) Stimulus and response (definition)
- (b) Receptor and effector (examples)
- (c) Motor nerve and sensory nerve (function)
- (d) Cranial and spinal nerves (number in pairs)
- (e) Cerebrum and medulla oblongata (function)
- (f) Cerebrum and spinal cord (arrangement of white and grey matter)

Answer

(a) Difference between Stimulus and Response (definition)

Stimulus	Response
Any change in the environment that usually results in change in the activity of the body.	The activity of the body due to the stimulus.

(b) Difference between Receptor and Effector (examples)

Receptor	Effector
The nerve cells in the skin that receives the stimulus is the receptor.	The muscle of the hand receiving the command from the brain is an effector.

(c) Difference between Motor nerve and Sensory nerve (function)

Motor Nerve	Sensory Nerve
Motor nerve carries impulses from the brain and spinal cord to the muscles and glands.	Sensory nerve carries impulses from the sense organs to the spinal cord or brain.

(d) Difference between Cranial and Spinal nerves (number in pairs)

Cranial Nerves	Spinal Nerves
There are 12 pairs of cranial nerves.	There are 31 pairs of spinal nerves.

(e) Difference between Cerebrum and Medulla oblongata (function)

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Cerebrum	Medulla oblongata
The cerebrum is the seat of intelligence, consciousness and will power. It controls all the voluntary activities.	Medulla oblongata controls the activities of the internal organs.

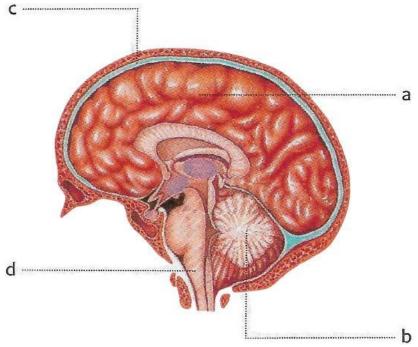
(f) Difference between Cerebrum and Spinal cord (arrangement of white and grey matter)

Cerebrum	Spinal cord
In Cerebrum, the outer portion contains grey matter and inner portion contains white matter.	In Spinal cord, the inner part contains grey matter and the outer part contains white matter.

IV. Picture Study:

Q1: The diagram represents the external view of the human brain. Study it and then answer the questions that follow.

- 1. Name the parts numbered a to d.
- 2. What is the main function of the parts numbered c and d?



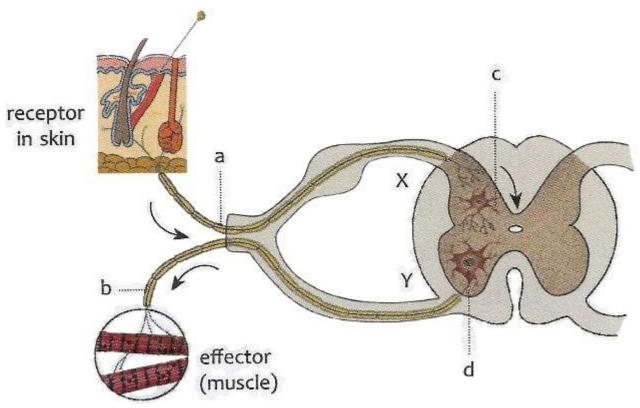
Answer

- 1. The parts numbered a to d are:
 - a → Cerebrum
 - b → Cerebellum
 - c → Meninges
 - d → Medulla oblongata
- 2. The main function of the parts numbered c and d are:

- i. Function of Meninges (Part C) They act as protective covering of brain with cerebrospinal fluid between them. They protect the brain from shock.
- ii. Function of Medulla oblongata (Part D) It controls the heartbeat, breathing and other involuntary movements.

Q2: The diagram shows a reflex arc. Study it and answer the following questions.

- 1. Name the parts numbered a to d.
- 2. Using the letters of alphabet shown in the diagram, indicate the direction in which the impulse enters and leaves part c. X to Y or Y to X?
- 3. What is reflex action?
- 4. With the help of a flow chart, show a simple reflex action.



Answer

- 1. The parts numbered a to d are:
 - a → sensory neurons
 - b → motor neurons
 - c → association neurons
 - $d \rightarrow cell body of motor neurons$
- 2. The impulse enters through X and leaves through Y.
- 3. An automatic, spontaneous and mechanical response to a stimulus; controlled by the spinal cord without the involvement of the brain is called a reflex action.
- 4. Below flow chart shows a simple reflex action of immediate withdrawal of hand on touching a hot object:

