

Human Brain Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Human Brain trivia explores the remarkable organ that coordinates the body, shapes behavior, and underpins consciousness. Long studied by physicians and scientists, the brain has inspired breakthroughs in anatomy, neuroscience, and psychology, while still holding many mysteries. This page offers a family-friendly mix of easy, funny, and challenging facts that highlight both well-known functions and lesser-known curiosities.

HARD HUMAN BRAIN TRIVIA

1. In what year did the bilateral medial temporal lobe surgery of patient H.M. take place?
Answer: 1953
2. Broca's celebrated patient was nicknamed for the only syllable he could reliably utter. What was it?
Answer: Tan
3. What year is attached to Wernicke's description of fluent yet often nonsensical speech as a language disorder?
Answer: 1874
4. Camillo Golgi and Santiago Ramon y Cajal shared a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in which year?
Answer: 1906
5. Hans Berger's first published human EEG recordings appeared in what year?
Answer: 1929
6. Marcus Raichle and colleagues prominently described the resting-state network later called the default mode network in which year?
Answer: 2001
7. Donald Hebb's influential book 'The Organization of Behavior' was published in what year?
Answer: 1949
8. Roger Sperry's Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine came in which year?
Answer: 1981
9. Hodgkin and Huxley built key action-potential work around what famously oversized preparation?
Answer: the giant squid axon
10. Which Brodmann area corresponds to primary visual cortex?
Answer: Brodmann area 17
11. Bliss and Lomo first described long-term potentiation in the rabbit hippocampus in what year?
Answer: 1973

12. Which patient became especially famous for research on the amygdala and fear?

Answer: S.M.

13. Name the ventral temporal region specialized for face perception.?

Answer: the fusiform face area

14. Which structure helps orient the eyes and head toward visual stimuli?

Answer: the superior colliculus

FUNNY HUMAN BRAIN TRIVIA

1. If your cerebral cortex were a tree, what would its name literally suggest in Latin?

Answer: Bark.

2. True or false: Brain tissue itself can directly feel pain because it has its own pain receptors.?

Answer: False

3. That ice-cream headache ambush is commonly called what, and is thought to involve rapid cooling at the roof of the mouth plus trigeminal nerve signaling?

Answer: Brain freeze.

4. Which side of the body does the left hemisphere usually run, like a very bossy manager?

Answer: The right side of the body.

5. In the brain's weird cross-wiring setup, the right hemisphere usually controls which side of the body?

Answer: The left side of the body.

6. What is the name of the surgery in which one cerebral hemisphere is removed, despite sounding like an extreme way to declutter?

Answer: Hemispherectomy.

7. Split-brain studies often followed what surgery, which cuts the major connection between the hemispheres?

Answer: Corpus callosotomy.

8. What delusion makes someone think a familiar person has been replaced by an impostor, basically turning real life into terrible spy fiction?

Answer: Capgras delusion.

9. Which neurological condition means a person cannot recognize familiar faces, making every reunion awkward for reasons beyond social anxiety?

Answer: Prosopagnosia.

10. What is the name for the phenomenon where letters or numbers can show up in specific colors to the mind, like your alphabet got its own art department?

Answer: Synesthesia.

11. Which effect shows that watching someone's lips can change the speech sound you think you hear?

Answer: The McGurk effect.

12. What illusion can convince your brain that a fake hand belongs to you, proving your brain may accept questionable paperwork?

Answer: The rubber hand illusion.

13. What do we call the feeling that a brand-new situation somehow seems like a rerun?

Answer: Déjà vu.

FUN HUMAN BRAIN TRIVIA

1. Why does the brain have all those wrinkly folds instead of looking smooth like a balloon?

Answer: The folds help pack more cortex into the skull.

2. At rest, about what share of the body's oxygen does the brain use?

Answer: About 20 percent.

3. What is the name of the big fiber bridge connecting the brain's left and right hemispheres?

Answer: The corpus callosum.

4. Which brain structure works like a major sensory switchboard, relaying information to the cortex?

Answer: The thalamus.

5. If your body is juggling hunger, thirst, and temperature like a tiny control room, which brain region is on duty?

Answer: The hypothalamus.

6. Which part of the brain helps keep breathing and heart rate going without asking for your permission?

Answer: The medulla oblongata.

7. True or false: The pons is part of the brainstem.?

Answer: True

8. Which structure near the front of the brain processes smell information?

Answer: The olfactory bulb.

9. Your inner 'maybe don't do that' system depends heavily on which brain region?

Answer: The prefrontal cortex.

10. Mirror neurons were first described in which decade?

Answer: The 1990s.

11. What helps nerve signals zip faster along axons, like insulation around a wire?

Answer: Myelin.

12. Neurotransmitters carry signals across what tiny gap between nerve cells?

Answer: Synapses.

13. Which neurotransmitter is strongly tied to reward and motivation?

Answer: Dopamine.

HUMAN BRAIN FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which famous patient survived an 1848 accident and later became well known in brain science?

Answer: Phineas Gage

2. Paul Broca gave his name to a brain region linked to what ability: speech, balance, or vision?

Answer: Speech

3. Whose name is connected to a brain area involved in understanding language?

Answer: Carl Wernicke

4. Who introduced electroencephalography, better known as EEG?

Answer: Hans Berger

5. Which scientist is especially famous for major discoveries about human memory?

Answer: Brenda Milner

6. The landmark patient often called H.M. was actually named whom?

Answer: Henry Molaison

7. Who mapped parts of the human cortex during brain surgery?

Answer: Wilder Penfield

8. Which Nobel Prize winner is famous for split-brain research?

Answer: Roger Sperry

9. Who won a Nobel Prize for work on the biological basis of memory?

Answer: Eric Kandel

10. Who shared a Nobel Prize for discovering nerve growth factor?

Answer: Rita Levi-Montalcini

11. Which scientist shared the 1906 Nobel Prize for studies of the nervous system: Camillo Golgi or David Eagleman?

Answer: Camillo Golgi

12. Who shared the 1906 Nobel Prize and championed the neuron doctrine?

Answer: Santiago Ramón y Cajal

EASY HUMAN BRAIN TRIVIA

1. Into how many hemispheres is the adult human brain divided?

Answer: Two hemispheres

2. What is the largest part of the human brain?

Answer: The cerebrum

3. Which brain part sits at the back of the brain and helps coordinate movement?

Answer: The cerebellum

4. What connects the brain to the spinal cord?

Answer: The brainstem

5. Which lobe is most associated with planning and decision-making?

Answer: The frontal lobe

6. Which lobe is primarily responsible for vision?

Answer: The occipital lobe

7. Hearing is strongly linked to which lobe of the brain?

Answer: The temporal lobe

8. Which lobe helps process touch and body position?

Answer: The parietal lobe

9. What are the brain's main signaling cells called?

Answer: Neurons

10. What test records brain activity using electrodes placed on the scalp?

Answer: Electroencephalography

11. Vivid dreaming is strongly associated with which stage of sleep?

Answer: REM sleep

12. In which lobe is the primary visual cortex located?

Answer: The occipital lobe

13. The primary motor cortex is found in what brain structure?

Answer: The precentral gyrus

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/human-brain>