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Crash Course Anatomy & Physiology #13: Autonomic Nervous System

Name: _____ Date: _____

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1. The _____ nervous system is the branch of your peripheral nervous system that regulates internal organs and controls smooth and cardiac muscles and glands.
2. The autonomic nervous system has two complementary divisions: the _____ nervous system and the parasympathetic nervous system.
3. The _____ nervous system is responsible for the "fight or flight" response.
4. The _____ nervous system is responsible for "resting and digesting."
5. The nerve fibers of the sympathetic system are _____, meaning they originate between the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae.
6. The nerve fibers of the parasympathetic system are _____, meaning they originate from the base of the brain and the sacral spinal cord.
7. A _____ is a cluster of neuron cell bodies where two neurons in the autonomic pathway meet.
8. Sympathetic ganglia are located close to the _____.
9. Parasympathetic ganglia are located near or inside their _____ organs.
10. Neurons before the ganglion have axons called _____ fibers.
11. Neurons after the ganglion have axons called _____ fibers.
12. In the sympathetic system, preganglionic fibers are _____ and postganglionic fibers are long.
13. In the parasympathetic system, preganglionic fibers are _____ and postganglionic fibers are short.
14. Sympathetic anatomy allows a single stress signal to reach many _____ at once.
15. Parasympathetic activity communicates with organs _____ rather than all at once.

Crash Course Anatomy & Physiology #13: Autonomic Nervous System KEY

1. The **autonomic** nervous system is the branch of your peripheral nervous system that regulates internal organs and controls smooth and cardiac muscles and glands.
2. The autonomic nervous system has two complementary divisions: the **sympathetic** nervous system and the parasympathetic nervous system.
3. The **sympathetic** nervous system is responsible for the "fight or flight" response.
4. The **parasympathetic** nervous system is responsible for "resting and digesting."
5. The nerve fibers of the sympathetic system are **thoracolumbar**, meaning they originate between the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae.
6. The nerve fibers of the parasympathetic system are **craniosacral**, meaning they originate from the base of the brain and the sacral spinal cord.
7. A **ganglion** is a cluster of neuron cell bodies where two neurons in the autonomic pathway meet.
8. Sympathetic ganglia are located close to the **spinal cord**.
9. Parasympathetic ganglia are located near or inside their **effector** organs.
10. Neurons before the ganglion have axons called **preganglionic** fibers.
11. Neurons after the ganglion have axons called **postganglionic** fibers.
12. In the sympathetic system, preganglionic fibers are **short** and postganglionic fibers are long.
13. In the parasympathetic system, preganglionic fibers are **long** and postganglionic fibers are short.
14. Sympathetic anatomy allows a single stress signal to reach many **effectors** at once.
15. Parasympathetic activity communicates with organs **one-on-one** rather than all at once.

15 Questions

Answer Key Included

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