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Crash Course Anatomy & Physiology #17: Hearing and Balance

Name: _____ Date: _____

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1. Sounds create vibrations in the air that beat against the _____, starting the process of hearing.
2. The ear's important role in balance is called maintaining _____.
3. The pinna funnels sound into the external acoustic meatus, also known as the _____.
4. The _____ membrane separates the outer ear from the middle ear.
5. The middle ear contains three small bones called the auditory _____.
6. The three auditory ossicles are the malleus, incus, and _____.
7. The fluid-filled structure shaped like a snail's shell in the inner ear is the _____.
8. The stiff tissue inside the cochlea that responds to specific sound frequencies is the _____ membrane.
9. The sensory structure on top of the basilar membrane that contains hair cells is the organ of _____.
10. When hair cells are triggered, they open mechanically gated _____ channels.
11. Electrical impulses from the cochlea travel to the brain via the _____ nerve.
12. The series of sacs and canals in the inner ear that help maintain balance are called the _____ apparatus.
13. The vestibular apparatus contains three _____ canals that detect head rotation.
14. The _____ and saccule contain hair cells that sense fluid motion in the vestibular system.
15. A disconnect between visual and vestibular signals can cause _____ sickness.

Crash Course Anatomy & Physiology #17: Hearing and Balance KEY

1. Sounds create vibrations in the air that beat against the **eardrum**, starting the process of hearing.
2. The ear's important role in balance is called maintaining **equilibrium**.
3. The pinna funnels sound into the external acoustic meatus, also known as the **auditory canal**.
4. The **tympanic** membrane separates the outer ear from the middle ear.
5. The middle ear contains three small bones called the **auditory ossicles**.
6. The three auditory ossicles are the **malleus, incus, and stapes**.
7. The fluid-filled structure shaped like a snail's shell in the inner ear is the **cochlea**.
8. The stiff tissue inside the cochlea that responds to specific sound frequencies is the **basilar** membrane.
9. The sensory structure on top of the basilar membrane that contains hair cells is the organ of **corti**.
10. When hair cells are triggered, they open mechanically gated **sodium** channels.
11. Electrical impulses from the cochlea travel to the brain via the **cochlear nerve**.
12. The series of sacs and canals in the inner ear that help maintain balance are called the **vestibular apparatus**.
13. The vestibular apparatus contains three **semicircular** canals that detect head rotation.
14. The **utricle** and saccule contain hair cells that sense fluid motion in the vestibular system.
15. A disconnect between visual and vestibular signals can cause **motion** sickness.

15 Questions

Answer Key Included

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