

Linguistics and the Human Body

Linguistics · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which organ is primarily responsible for producing the vibrations that create human voice?

- A) Lungs
- B) Larynx**
- C) Tongue
- D) Lips

2. Which part of the human brain is most commonly associated with language production?

- A) Broca's area**
- B) Occipital lobe
- C) Cerebellum
- D) Brain stem

3. What is the primary muscle used to shape sounds by moving within the oral cavity?

- A) Masseter
- B) Diaphragm
- C) Tongue**
- D) Orbicularis oris

4. Which human body system provides the airflow necessary to produce audible speech?

- A) Digestive system
- B) Respiratory system**
- C) Circulatory system
- D) Skeletal system

5. Which cranial nerve is essential for controlling the muscles of the tongue, impacting speech?

- A) Hypoglossal nerve**
- B) Optic nerve
- C) Olfactory nerve
- D) Facial nerve

6. What are the fleshy folds in the larynx that vibrate to produce sound called?

- A) Vocal cords**
- B) Bronchi
- C) Trachea
- D) Pharynx

7. Which facial muscle is primarily used to close the lips, which is necessary for sounds like 'p' and 'b'?

A) Zygomaticus

B) Orbicularis oris

C) Temporalis

D) Frontalis

8. In language development, which sense is typically used first to perceive the rhythm of language?

A) Sight

B) Hearing

C) Smell

D) Taste

9. What is the name of the cavity above the larynx that helps shape and resonate speech sounds?

A) Esophagus

B) Pharynx

C) Alveoli

D) Diaphragm

10. Which part of the brain is typically associated with language comprehension?

A) Wernicke's area

B) Medulla

C) Pons

D) Hypothalamus

11. Which teeth are frequently used as a point of contact for the tongue to produce sounds like 't' and 'd'?

A) Molars

B) Incisors

C) Canines

D) Premolars

12. What structure separates the oral cavity from the nasal cavity, influencing speech nasalization?

A) Soft palate

B) Epiglottis

C) Larynx

D) Tonsils

13. Which condition describes a speech disorder caused by muscle weakness or lack of motor control?

A) Dysarthria

B) Hyperopia

C) Asthma

D) Anemia

14. What is the medical term for the loss of ability to understand or express speech?

A) Aphasia

B) Amnesia

C) Ataxia

D) Alopecia

15. Which major muscle, located at the base of the chest, controls the breath support required for speaking?

A) Diaphragm

B) Biceps

C) Pectoralis major

D) Rectus abdominis

16. Which structure prevents food from entering the windpipe, allowing for safe swallowing and speaking?

A) Epiglottis

B) Uvula

C) Esophagus

D) Tonsil

17. The study of the physical production of speech sounds is known as what?

A) Articulatory phonetics

B) Syntax

C) Semantics

D) Morphology

18. Which paired facial bones form the upper jaw and house the upper teeth used in speech?

A) Maxilla

B) Mandible

C) Zygomatic bone

D) Temporal bone