

Esoteric Anatomy and Physiological History

Occult History And Anatomy · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. In the 16th-century Paracelsian system, which organ was believed to be the seat of the 'archaeus' or the internal alchemist of the body?

- A) The Liver
- B) The Stomach**
- C) The Brain
- D) The Heart

2. The concept of the 'vital spirit' or 'pneuma' in ancient Galenic medicine, which influenced occult physiology, was primarily thought to be processed in which organ?

- A) The Lungs**
- B) The Kidneys
- C) The Spleen
- D) The Pancreas

3. In Theosophical and occult literature, the 'etheric double' is said to correspond to what biological structure?

- A) The nervous system
- B) The endocrine system**
- C) The skeletal system
- D) The digestive system

4. Medieval occultists often associated the 'four humors' with bodily health. Which humor was physically linked to the spleen and associated with melancholy?

- A) Blood
- B) Yellow Bile
- C) Black Bile**
- D) Phlegm

5. What is the actual scientific term for the vestigial structure that Rene Descartes famously, but incorrectly, identified as the 'seat of the soul' in the human brain?

- A) The Hypothalamus
- B) The Pineal Gland**
- C) The Pituitary Gland
- D) The Amygdala

6. In Ayurveda and various Western occult traditions, 'chakras' are often mapped to physical locations; the heart chakra is anatomically near which nerve plexus?

- A) Solar Plexus
- B) Cardiac Plexus**
- C) Sacral Plexus
- D) Cervical Plexus

7. During the Renaissance, 'iatrochemistry' (medical alchemy) focused heavily on the health of which organ as the body's primary filter for 'mercurial' impurities?

- A) The Liver**
- B) The Skin
- C) The Bladder
- D) The Appendix

8. The occult tradition of 'melothesia' assigns each zodiac sign to a body part. To which body part is Aries traditionally assigned in this system?

- A) The Feet
- B) The Heart
- C) The Head**
- D) The Knees

9. What is the modern medical definition of the 'vagus nerve,' a structure that ancient occultists referred to as part of the 'wandering spirit' pathway?

- A) Cranial Nerve X**
- B) Cranial Nerve I
- C) Cranial Nerve V
- D) Cranial Nerve XII

10. In traditional occult anatomy, the 'Silver Cord' is described as connecting the physical body to the subtle body; biologically, what is the primary component of the spinal cord's protective tissue?

- A) Dura Mater**
- B) Epiglottis
- C) Cartilage
- D) Epidermis

11. The 'Macrocosm and Microcosm' analogy often compared the human skeleton to the structure of the universe; how many bones are in the average adult human skeleton?

- A) 186
- B) 206**
- C) 226
- D) 256

12. Esoteric practitioners historically linked the 'Third Eye' to the function of which biological hormone producer?

- A) Thyroid
- B) Pineal Gland**
- C) Adrenal Gland
- D) Testes

13. Which physiological process was described by early alchemists as 'transmutation' and is now understood as the body's metabolism?

- A) Cellular Respiration**
- B) Photosynthesis
- C) Osmosis
- D) Meiosis

14. Ancient occult 'pulse reading' systems were based on observing the rhythm of which part of the circulatory system?

- A) Capillaries
- B) Veins
- C) Arteries**
- D) Lymphatic vessels

15. The 'Spleen' was historically viewed as the organ of spiritual absorption in some occult schools. What is its primary actual function in the immune system?

- A) Filtering blood**
- B) Producing insulin
- C) Regulating body heat
- D) Digesting proteins

16. Some occult texts claim that the 'thymus' gland shrinks with age; what is the actual biological term for this process?

- A) Hypertrophy
- B) Atrophy
- C) Involution**
- D) Necrosis

17. The 'Seven Seals' in occultism are sometimes compared to the seven major endocrine glands. Which gland is considered the 'master gland'?

- A) Pituitary**
- B) Pineal
- C) Thyroid
- D) Pancreas

18. In alchemy, the 'salt' principle was often associated with the solid parts of the human body. Which of these is the most abundant mineral in human bones?

- A) Iron
- B) Calcium**
- C) Potassium
- D) Magnesium

19. What is the scientific term for the state of 'suspended animation' that some 19th-century occultists claimed to achieve through breath control?

- A) Tachycardia
- B) Hypometabolism**
- C) Hyperventilation
- D) Apnea

20. The 'Golden Section' or 'Phi' is frequently found in the proportions of the human body, such as in the ratio of the segments of the:

- A) Phalanges**
- B) Ribcage
- C) Skull
- D) Clavicle