

The Terminology Relay Game

Example Key for Terms Related to the Cardiovascular System

Directions: Pick the top card from the deck at the front of the room. Read the term on the front of the card and find the definition that best matches the term. Write the term into the box that corresponds to the correct definition. Return to the deck to pick a new card and repeat. **You may not fill in terms from memory.**

Heart	A muscular organ responsible for pumping blood throughout the body.
Tricuspid Valve	This is located between the right atrium and right ventricle.
Deoxygenated Blood	Blood that has delivered oxygen to the body and picked up carbon dioxide.
Cardiovascular system	An organ system responsible for transporting blood throughout the body.
Systole	The contraction phase, when the heart pumps blood out.
Right Atrium	Receives deoxygenated blood from the body via the superior and inferior vena cava.
Sympathetic System	This part of the autonomic nervous system speeds up heart rate.
Ventricular Systole	The ventricles contract to pump blood to the lungs and the rest of the body in this phase of a heartbeat.
Arterioles	Small branches of arteries that lead into capillary beds.
Functions of the System	Deliver oxygen and nutrients to cells and remove waste products.
Pulmonary Circulation	Right side of the heart to the lungs to the left side of the heart.
Sinoatrial (SA) Node	The heart's natural pacemaker. It creates electrical signals that start each heartbeat.
Capillaries	Tiny vessels where oxygen, nutrients, and waste are exchanged between blood and tissues.

Pericardium	The protective sac around the heart.
Cardiac Cycle	The sequence of events during one complete heartbeat.
Chamber	A hollow structure that receives or pumps blood. The heart has four.
Right Ventricle	Pumps deoxygenated blood to the lungs via the pulmonary artery.
Oxygenated Blood	Blood that has been replenished with oxygen in the lungs.
Relaxation Phase	Blood flows into the atria and begins filling the ventricles in this segment of a heartbeat.
Systemic Circulation	Left side of the heart to the body to the right side of the heart.
Pulmonary Valve	This is located between the right ventricle and pulmonary artery.
Diastole	The relaxation phase, when the heart chambers fill with blood.
Left Atrium	Receives oxygenated blood from the lungs via the pulmonary veins.
Autonomic Nervous System	This system regulates how fast or slow the body's heart beats.
Handles Deoxygenated Blood	The right side of the heart.
Venules	Small vessels that collect blood from capillary beds and transport it to veins.
Parasympathetic System	This part of the autonomic nervous system slows down heart rate.
Left Ventricle	Pumps oxygenated blood to the body via the aorta.
Arteries	Thick-walled vessels that carry blood away from the heart.
Pulmonary Veins	Blood vessels that carry oxygenated blood from the lungs to the left atrium of the heart.

Aorta	The largest artery in the body. It carries oxygenated blood from the left ventricle to systemic circulation.
Bicuspid (Mitral) Valve	This is located between the left atrium and left ventricle.
Blood	A specialized connective tissue composed of formed elements suspended in a liquid extracellular matrix called plasma.
Atrial Systole	The atria contracts to push the remaining blood into the ventricles in this phase of a heartbeat.
Vasoconstriction	When blood vessels get narrower.
Carotid Arteries	Major arteries located in the neck that supply oxygenated blood to the brain and head.
White Blood Cells	Also called leukocytes, they defend the body against infection, pathogens, and foreign invaders.
Handles Oxygenated Blood	The left side of the heart.
Pulmonary Arteries	Blood vessels that carry deoxygenated blood from the right ventricle of the heart to the lungs.
Pulmonary Gas Exchange	This takes place in the alveoli of the lungs, where oxygen from inhaled air diffuses into the blood and carbon dioxide diffuses out.
Blood Pressure	The force of blood pushing against the walls of arteries.
Systemic Gas Exchange	In the capillary beds of body tissue, when oxygen diffuses from the blood into cells, and carbon dioxide diffuses from cells to blood.
Inferior Vena Cava	Returns deoxygenated blood from the lower body (abdomen, pelvis, legs) to the right atrium.
Veins	Vessels that return blood to the heart.
Vasodilation	When blood vessels get wider.
Aortic Valve	This is located between the left ventricle and aorta.