

1H10.02

Analyze the function of the respiratory system.

- A. Cilia – hair in nose that traps dirt and particles
- B. Sinuses
 - 1. Lined with mucous membrane to warm and moisten air
 - 2. Give resonance to the voice
- C. Pharynx
 - 1. Common passageway for air and food
 - 2. When food swallowed, epiglottis closes over opening to larynx, preventing food from entering lungs
- D. Larynx
 - 1. Produces sound (voice box)
 - 2. Made of cartilage fibrous plates
- E. Trachea
 - 1. C-shaped cartilage rings keep trachea open and more rigid
 - 2. Coughing and expectoration get rid of dust-laden mucous
- F. Bronchi and bronchioles – passageway for air from trachea to alveoli in lungs
- G. Alveoli
 - 1. Surfactant – keep alveoli from collapsing
 - 2. O₂ and CO₂ exchange takes place between alveoli and capillaries
- H. Pleura – pleural cavity filled with pleural fluid to prevent friction
- I. Pulmonary ventilation (breathing)
 - 1. Inspiration (inhalation)
 - a. Intercostal muscles lift ribs outward
 - b. Sternum rises and the diaphragm contracts and moves downward
 - c. This increases the volume of the lungs and air rushes in
 - 2. Expiration (exhalation)
 - a. Opposite action from inhalation
 - b. Passive process
- J. Respiratory movements
 - 1. 1 inspiration + 1 expiration = 1 respiration
 - 2. Normal adult = 14 – 20 respirations/min
 - 3. Increases with exercise, body temperature, certain diseases
 - 4. Newborn resp = 40 – 60/min
 - 5. During sleep – resps decrease
 - 6. Emotion can change rate of respiration
 - 7. Coughing – deep breath followed by forceful expulsion of air – to clear lower respiratory tract
 - 8. Hiccups – spasm of the diaphragm and spasmodic closure of the glottis
 - 9. Sneezing – air forced through nose to clear respiratory tract
 - 10. Yawning – deep prolonged breath that fills lungs, increases blood O₂
- K. Control of breathing
 - 1. Neural factors
 - a. Respiratory center located in medulla oblongata
 - b. Increase or decrease of O₂ or CO₂ in the blood will trigger respiratory center
 - c. Phrenic nerve – stimulates diaphragm
 - 2. Chemical factors
 - a. Depends on level of blood CO₂
 - b. Chemoreceptors in aorta and carotid arteries sensitive to the amount of blood O₂