The Human Body
The Human Brain

The brain is the control center for the entire human body. Everything the body does, every action, is **initiated**[1] in the brain. The brain works a lot like a computer. It constantly receives information. It analyzes and processes the information. Then it responds instantly by sending out signals that cause the body to take action. When you lift your left pinky finger, a signal first went through your brain to lift that finger. You stand up and already the signal to stand up went through the brain. There is nothing you do that does not involve your brain. Your breathing, **circulation**[2], five senses, everything originates in the brain.

The brain is split up into three main parts: the cerebrum, the cerebellum and the brain stem. They are each responsible for different functions in your body.

The cerebrum is the largest part of the brain. It is divided into two sides, the right and the left. The left side of the cerebrum controls the **functions**[3] of the right side of the body, and the right side of the cerebrum controls the functions of the left side of your body. It is in charge of muscular activity, the five senses, and general maintenance of the internal organs.

The cerebellum can be found under the back of the cerebrum, and it is the second largest part of the brain. It has a right side, a left side, and a middle part. All the parts work together to control balance, posture, and coordination throughout the body.

The brain stem connects the cerebrum to the spinal cord. The brain stem controls breathing, circulation, and other body processes. This is also the part of the brain that controls the movement of the eyes. It also regulates body temperature and hunger, and it is the command center of the nervous system. The brain stem connects the brain to the spinal cord, which is the messenger. The spinal cord carries messages between the brain and other parts of the body.

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[1] **Initiated-** introduced
[2] **Circulation-** the movement of blood in blood vessels throughout the body
[3] **Functions-** purposes or roles