

Nova's Circulatory System Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and explain the functions of the main parts of the human circulatory system.

Nova the owl has been studying how blood travels around the human body. Use the word bank to complete the sentences below, describing how the heart, blood vessels, and lungs work together. Once you have filled in the gaps, write a short explanation of why the heart is considered the 'engine' of the circulatory system.

Word bank: heart · oxygen · vessels · carbon dioxide · lungs · pump · circulatory

1. 1. The _____ system is responsible for moving blood, nutrients, and gases throughout the human body. (1 mark)

2. 2. The _____ acts as a powerful muscular _____ that keeps blood moving through the body at all times. (2 marks)

3. 3. Blood travels through a network of tube-like structures called blood _____. (1 mark)

4. 4. In the _____, blood picks up fresh _____ and drops off waste gases like _____. (3 marks)

5. 5. Why do we describe the heart as the 'engine' of the body? Use your own words to explain its importance. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a simple diagram of the circulatory system. Use red to show blood carrying oxygen away from the heart, and blue to show blood returning to the heart.



Extension challenge: Research how exercise affects your heart rate. Write a short paragraph explaining why your heart beats faster when you are running or playing sports.