

National Institutes of Health

Lobe-eratorium™



Q&A Transcript:

Information to help you understand how different parts of the brain work!

Below is a description of the brain's lobes and their primary functions, followed by 12 questions and answers.

The four brain lobes and their primary functions are:

- The **frontal lobe** plays a large role in problem solving, judgment, personality, and fine motor control.
- The **parietal lobe** is necessary for perceiving touch, pain and body position. It also helps you understand symbols and the space around you.
- The **occipital lobe** is needed for vision. Even when the eyes are normal, damage to this lobe can cause blindness.
- The **temporal lobe** is needed to hear and understand sound. It also affects brain functions such as memory and emotion.



Q1. Which part of the brain enables you to feel your way around in the dark?

A1. The parietal lobe helps with our sense of touch, and enables us to identify things by shape and feel, even in the dark.



Q2. Which part of the brain is considered the brain's decision maker?

A2. The frontal lobe plays a large role in planning and reflection, and is considered the brain's decision maker.



Q3. Which part of the brain will help you remember the facts you learned playing this game?

A3. Your temporal lobe plays a role in forming and retrieving memories, and helping you remember the facts you just learned.



Q4. Which part of the brain plays an important role in reading, writing and arithmetic?

A4. Because the parietal lobe helps you understand symbols, it also helps you with reading, writing, language and math.



Q5. Which part of the brain seems to change the most as people age?

A5. The frontal lobe grows dramatically from birth to adolescence, and begins to shrink by about age 30.



Q6. Which part of the brain is needed for you to see the images and words in this game?

A6. Other parts of your brain help you understand the game, but your occipital lobe is needed to see the images and words.



Q7. Which part of the brain has an important role in common fears – like the fear of snakes?

A7. Parts of the temporal lobe control our emotions, including fear of snakes.



Q8. Which part of the brain is essential for listening and talking to other people?

A8. The temporal lobe is needed not only for listening to speech, but for understanding it.



Q9. Which part of the brain enables you to enjoy 3-D movies?

A9. Your occipital lobe processes information about color, form, motion and depth in a visual scene, and enables you to enjoy 3-D movies.



Q10. Which part of the brain helps you identify things by sight, like exotic birds?

A10. The occipital lobe is important for visual memory and for recognizing things you have seen before.



Q11. Which part of the brain would help you decide what to do with money that's not yours?

A11. The frontal lobe is important for making moral and social decisions.



Q12. Which part of the brain enables you to tell whether things are warm or cold to the touch?

Q12. Your parietal lobe helps you judge the temperature of things you touch.

For more educational resources and information on the brain, visit: www.ninds.nih.gov