

Group assignment for – Chapter 2/4b

You've just completed reading the chapter on the central nervous system. At first, this may seem daunting, but it can be fun. If you just memorize the names of structures and their definitions, its pretty boring, but if you try to think about how those structures are producing your behaviors, thoughts, feelings and memories, well then, it may seem more relevant.

Here is your challenge for this week. Use your newly acquired knowledge of the anatomy and workings of the brain to describe which brain areas are activated in the individuals in the three scenarios below. I'll get you started on each scenario with an example.

This is a contest. The group that lists the most structures with the accurate rationale for the activation of that brain structure wins three points to be applied to any assignment or exam of their choosing.

As always, choose a recorder for the group; this should be someone who hasn't already served as recorder previously. The recorder should post his/her group's answers to the "Brain Structure and Function" discussion forum for this week immediately following class. I'll review the posts for accuracy, will post corrections, and will announce the winning group before next week's class.

Recorders, the easiest way for you to post your group's answers is to type them into a Word document, then copy and paste your text into a message in the "Brain Structure and Function" Discussion forum. Be sure to provide the name of your group and the member's present.

Here are the scenarios for everyone to analyze:

1. Anne a landscape artist is standing at an easel painting with her right hand as she looks out the window at her garden. She's listening to classical music as she paints.

Sample answer:

- a. left motor cortex is activated to control movement of her right hand

2. Crazy Eddie, the professional wrestler, is in the ring wrestling. The crowd is yelling and his opponent is taunting him. Eddie yells back at his opponent. The two of them are out of breath and sweating profusely. They continue their well-orchestrated series of wrestling moves.

Sample answer:

- a. Wernicke's area is used to understand the spoken taunts and yells

3. Terry is a law student studying for the law exams. S/he is reading about violent rape and murder cases. She is snacking on popcorn and drinking coffee.

Sample answer:

- a. hypothalamus is activated to regulate her eating