

ORGANS OF SENSES: Words to Know

Aqueous humor	Tissue fluid filling the cavity of the eye between the cornea and the lens.
Ceruminous glands	Exocrine glands in the skin of the auditory canal of the ear that secrete earwax (cerumen).
Chemoreceptors	Receptors sensitive to various chemicals substances.
Choroid	Middle, pigmented layer of the eye.
Ciliary body	Circular muscle that surrounds the edge of the lens of the eye and changes the shape of the lens.
Cochlea	Spiral-shaped cavity in the inner ear that contains the receptors for hearing in the organ of Corti.
Cones	Photoreceptors in the retina of the eye that detect colours.
Cornea	Transparent front part of the sclera of the eye.
Conjunctiva	Mucous membrane lining the eyelids and covering the front surface of the eyeball.
Eardrum	Thin membrane at the end of the outer ear that vibrates when sound waves strike it.
Eustachian tube	Slender air passage between the middle ear cavity and the pharynx, which equalizes air pressure on the two sides of the eardrum.
External auditory canal	Also called the ear canal, the tunnel in the ear between the pinna and eardrum.
Gustatory cells	Chemoreceptors located within taste buds.
Iris	Pigmented (colored) part of the eye between the cornea and lens made of two sets of smooth muscle fibers.
Lacrimal gland	Gland located at the upper, outer corner of each eyeball that secretes tears.
Lens	Clear, oval, flexible structure behind the pupil in the eye that changes shape for the focusing of light rays.
Mechanoreceptors	Receptors sensitive to mechanical or physical pressures such as sound and touch.
Olfactory epithelium	Section of mucous membrane in the roof of the nasal cavity that contains odor-sensitive olfactory nerve cells.
Organ of Corti	Structure in the cochlea of the inner ear that contains the receptors for hearing.
Ossicles	Three bones of the middle ear: hammer, anvil, and stirrup.
Papillae	Projections on the tongue that contain taste buds.
Photoreceptors	Receptors sensitive to light.
Pinna	Commonly referred to as the ear, the outer, flaplike portion of the ear.
Pupil	Opening in the center of the iris through which light passes.
Retina	Innermost layer of the eyeball that contains the photoreceptors—the rods and cones.
Rods	Photoreceptors in the retina of the eye that detect the presence of light.
Sclera	Outermost layer of the eyeball, made of connective tissue.
Semicircular canals	Three oval canals in the inner ear that help to maintain balance.
Taste buds	Structures on the papillae of the tongue that contain chemoreceptors that respond to chemicals dissolved in saliva.
Utricle	Membranous sac in the vestibule of the inner ear that contains receptors for the sense of balance.
Vestibule	Bony chamber of the inner ear that contains the utricle and the saccule (the smaller of two membranous sacs in the vestibule of the inner ear).
Vitreous humor	Transparent, gellike substance that fills the cavity of the eye behind the lens.

Words necessary to know.

Words **not** necessary to know.