

Hypothalamus worksheet

1. The brain, as a whole, is interconnected: different regions have connections to each other. The hypothalamus is connected to other parts of the CNS as well. With what other regions and systems is it connected? You'll need your text for this question.
2. Do you see any pattern to its connections—do you think the hypothalamus interacts with all other parts of the CNS to equal extents?
3. What are some similarities between the hypothalamus and the reticular formation?
4. The organization of the hypothalamus is complicated, with many nuclei and subnuclei. Are there any general organizing principles to its organization?
5. Suppose a vicious enemy removed your entire hypothalamus. He thoughtfully provided adequate hemostasis (--i.e., your bleeding was controlled) and kept your level of anesthesia at reasonable levels so that you didn't die from either of those. However, once you awaken, what do you think would kill you first, and why?