

Respiratory System

Respiratory rate - how many breaths taken in one minute

Tidal volume - amount of air taken in our out with EACH BREATH

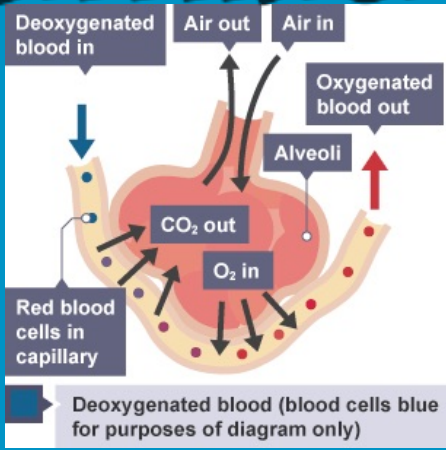
Minute volume - amount of air breathed in, in one minute
 $MV = TV \times RR$

Vital capacity - maximum amount of air that can be breathed out after breathing in as deeply as you can.

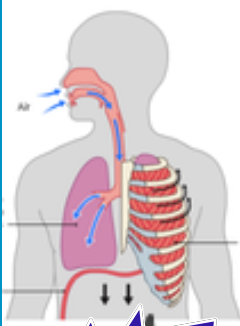
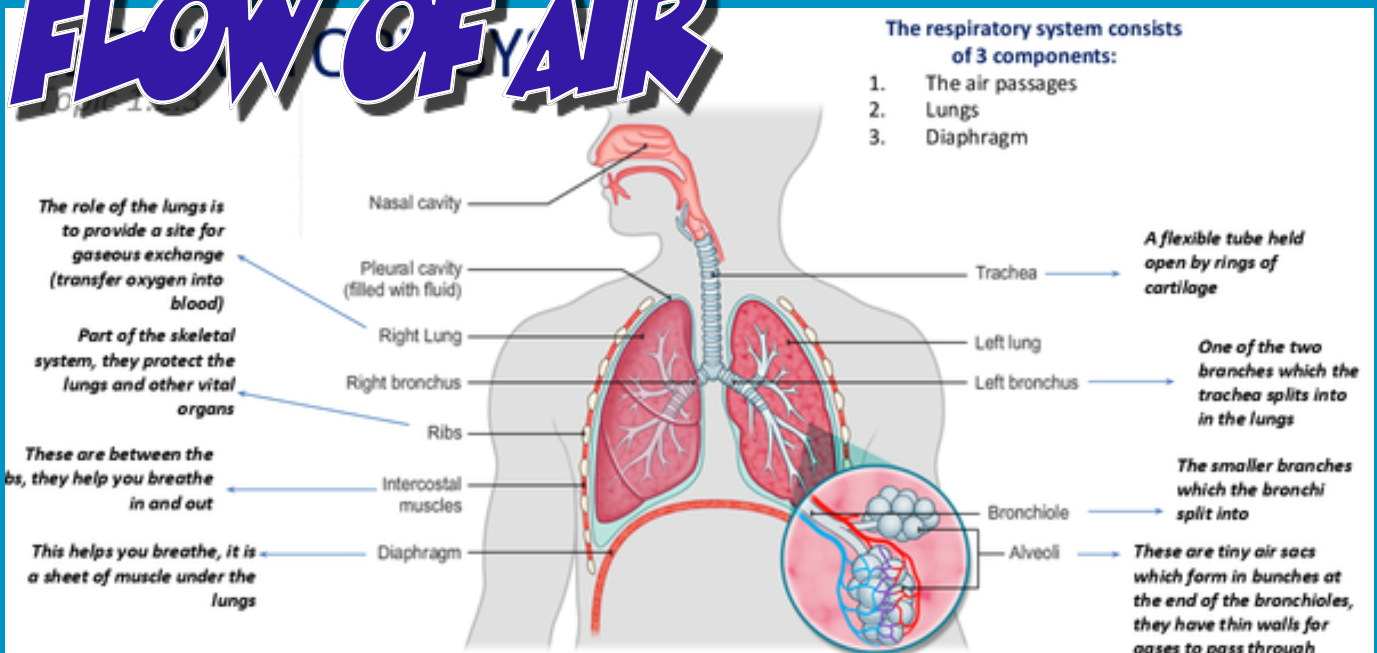
Residual volume - the lungs are never empty, air that is left is the residual volume

Total lung capacity = vital capacity + residual volume

DIFFUSION

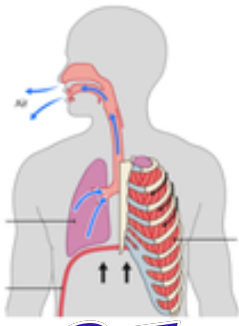


FLOW OF AIR



Inspiration:

- the intercostal muscles contract, this lifts the ribs upwards and outwards. This causes the chest to expand
- the diaphragm contracts, this pulls it down and flattens the floor of the ribcage
- The lungs can increase in size as the chest expands
- The pressure inside our lungs falls as they expand. The higher pressure of air outside means air is now sucked into the lungs through the nose and mouth



EXPIRATION:

- the intercostal muscles relax, the ribs go downwards and inwards, the chest decreases in size
- the diaphragm relaxes. It once again is pushed into a dome shape, by the organs below
- the chest gets smaller, the lungs decrease in size, being squeezed by ribs and diaphragm
- the pressure inside the lungs decreases, air is forced out of the lungs through the nose and mouth, and the pressure outside is now lower than inside the lungs

MECHANICS OF BREATHING