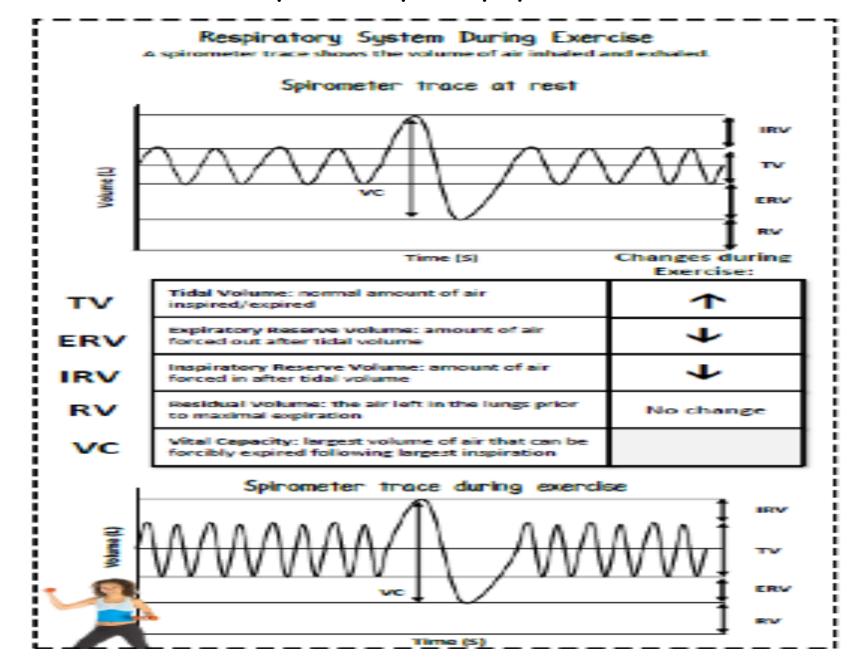
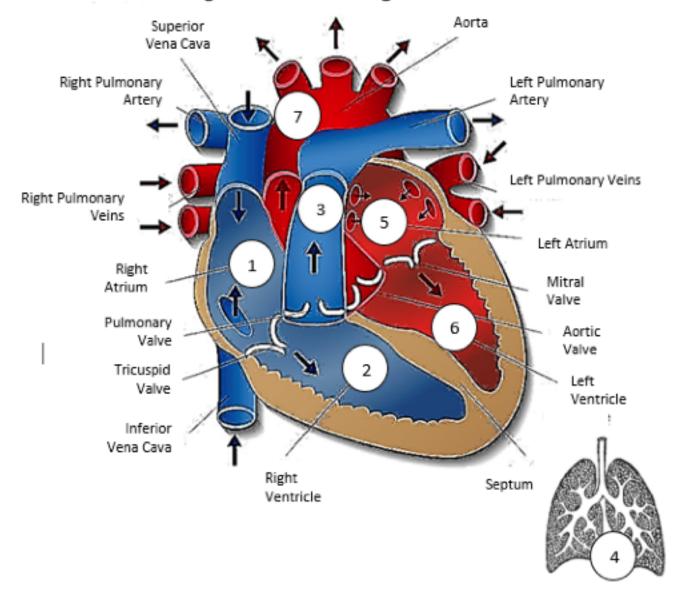
Paper 1: Respiratory system



Paper 1: Cardiac system

The Cardiac Cycle and Pathway of the Blood



The blood fills the heart during **diastole** and is pumped out of the heart during **systole**. The flow of blood between different structures is controlled by valves which allow blood under high pressure to flow through them, but prevent it from flowing in the opposite direction.

Blood is pumped around the heart and to the lungs in the order outlined below and on the diagram:

- Deoxygenated blood flows into the right atrium.
- The blood passes into the **right ventricle** (as atrioventricular valves are open).
- The right ventricle contracts to force blood out of the heart to the lungs via the left pulmonary artery.
- At the lungs, gaseous exchange occurs and oxygen is taken up by the blood. The blood becomes oxygenated.
- The oxygenated blood is transported back to the left atrium via the pulmonary vein.
- The blood then flows into the left ventricle (as atrioventricular valves are open).
- The blood is pumped out of the heart and transported to the body via the aorta.

The valves of the heart open due to the pressure of the blood filling the atria. They close to prevent backflow of blood.