

3.1

Division of the nervous system and neural pathways

CNS (central nervous system)

- Brain
- Spinal cord

PNS (peripheral nervous system)

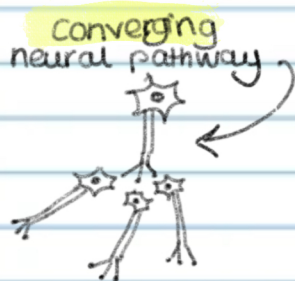
- somatic nervous system
- autonomic nervous system

The somatic nervous system has two parts.

- Sympathetic systems
- Parasympathetic systems

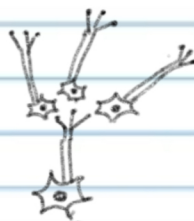
These two systems are agonist to each other, which means they do the opposite of each other.

The sympathetic system speeds up heart rate and decreases peristalsis, intestinal secretions and breathing rate.



Impulses from one neuron travel to several neurons so affecting more than one destination at the same time.

diverging neural pathway



Impulses from several neurons to one neuron, this decreases sensitivity to excitatory and inhibitory signals.

reverberating neural pathway



Neurons later in the pathway link with earlier neurons.

Allows repeated stimulation of the pathway.