

Anatomical Directions

Terms to describe the relative positioning of structures

Anterior/Ventral In front of	Posterior/Dorsal Behind
Superior/Cranial Above	Inferior/Caudal Below
Lateral Away from the midline	Medial Towards the midline
Proximal Nearer to the trunk	Distal Further from the trunk
Deep Away from the body surface	Superficial Towards the body surface

Using this information & the image of the skeleton can you answer the following questions?

1. The sternum is anterior to the vertebral column. True / False
2. The sacrum is superior to the sternum. True / False
3. The sacrum is superior to the coccyx. True / False
4. The iliac crest is inferior to the ischial tuberosities. True / False
5. The clavicle is medial to the humerus. True / False
6. The humerus is superior to the radius. True / False
7. The radius is lateral to the ulna. True / False
8. The phalanges are distal to the carpals. True / False
9. The femur is superior to the tibia. True / False
10. The tibia is lateral to the fibula. True / False
11. The fibula is inferior to the femur. True / False
12. The patella is superior to the calcaneus. True / False
13. The calcaneus is proximal to the phalanges. True / False
14. The metatarsals are distal to the tarsals. True / False
15. The lungs are deep to the ribs. True / False

The Anatomical Position

Here palms face forwards, thumbs pointing out to sides. Feet are positioned hip width apart.

