

Figure 12.4. Coronal section of heart.

| | 1. | The sinoatrial node is called the pacemaker because it is normally the first part of the heart to |
|---|----|---|
| | | a. Since some of its cells have unstable membrane potentials, the S-A node does not need outside stimulation to |
| | | b. The depolarization of the S-A node causes the contraction of the |
| | 2. | As the atria depolarize, the next part of the cardiac conduction system that is stimulated is the |
| ¥ | | a. The A-V node is connected to the |
| | | b. The A-V bundle leads the depolarization into the of the heart along the |
| | 3. | The first part of the ventricles to depolarize is the, then the |
| | | a. Then the depolarization continues back toward the |
| | | b. This means that the ventricles contract from the (apex up, valves down). |
| | 4. | Stimulation from the vagus nerve (parasympathetic) decreases the activity of the and This causes the heart rate to (increase, decrease). |
| | 5. | Stimulation from the sympathetic nerves increases both the force and rate of myocardial contraction. Therefore, this stimulation causes the heart to beat |

(faster, slower) and____ (more, less) vigorously.