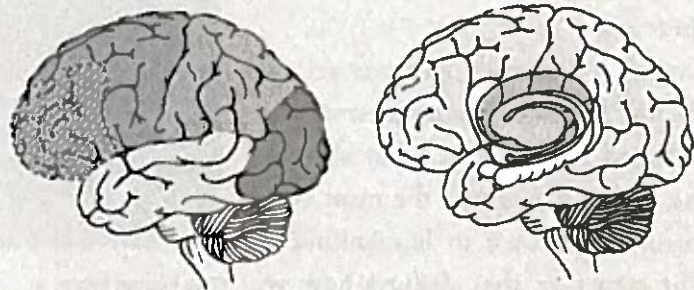


It had an oblong shape that was slightly wider on one end than the other. When she turned the brain to the side, I could see more of the complexity of the structure, with the front side of the brain shorter than the back end. The divided and paired structure of the brain was obvious at first glance—the right and left sides of the brain were each separated into different parts, or lobes.

### THE BRAIN AND ALL ITS PARTS

Neuroscientists used to think of the different parts of the brain as housing certain functions. We know now that that's only partially true. While specific areas of the brain do have specific functions (see the following list), it's important to keep in mind that all parts of the brain are connected, like a vast and intricate network.



- **Frontal lobe:** This front section of the brain houses the all-important prefrontal cortex (making up the front part of the frontal lobe), understood to be the so-called seat of personality and integral to planning and attention, working memory, decision making, and managing social behavior. The primary motor cortex, the area responsible for allowing us to move our bodies, forms the most posterior (toward the back) boundary of the frontal lobe.
- **Parietal lobe:** This lobe is important for visual-spatial functions and works with the frontal lobe to help make decisions. The part of the cortex responsible for allowing us to feel sensations from

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