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### **Definitions: The Adult Skull**

Vomer- the small, thin bone separating the left and right nasal cavities in humans and most vertebrates

Sphenoid- A compound bone that forms the base of the cranium, behind the eye and below the front part of the brain. It has two pairs of broad lateral "wings" and a number of other projections and contains two air-filled sinuses.

Styloid Process- A slender projection of bone, such as that from the lower surface of the temporal bone of the skull, or those at the lower ends of the ulna and radius

Mandibular Fossa- Is the smooth concave articular surface formed by both the squamous and petrous parts of the temporal bone. It forms the superior articular part of the temporomandibular joint and lodges the condyle of mandible.

Condylloid Fossa- Two pits on the lateral portion of the occipital bone

Lambdoid Suture- Lambda-shaped suture that connects the occipital and parietal bones.

Palatine Bone- Each of two bones within the skull forming parts of the eye socket, the nasal cavity, and the hard palate.

Stylomastoid Foramen- Is rounded opening at the inferior end of the facial canal. It is located on the inferior surface of the petrous temporal bone, between the base of the styloid process and the mastoid process of the temporal bone.

Occipital Condyle- Are two large protuberances on the undersurface of the occipital bone, located beside the front half of the foramen magnum. It forms the connection between the skull and the vertebral column

Foramen Magnum- The hole in the base of the skull through which the spinal cord passes.