Spelling list: GCSE Biology: Circulatory System

Key words for GCSE Biology.

artery An **artery** is a vessel that carries blood away from the heart.

vein An **vein** is a vessel that carries blood to the heart.

capillary A **capillary** is a small blood vessel with thin walls for diffusion.

valve The **valve** stops the blood from flowing backwards.

Pulmonary means to do with the lungs. The pulmonary artery pumps blood

pulmonary from the heart to the lungs and the **pulmonary** vein carries blood from the

lungs to the heart.

coronary The **coronary** artery supplies blood to the heart muscle.

aorta The **aorta** carries blood from the heart to the body.

vena The **vena** cava carries blood from the body to the heart.

cava The vena **cava** carries blood from the body to the heart.

atrium The upper chamber in the heart is called the **atrium**.

ventricle The lower chamber in the heart is called the **ventricle**.

chamber means space or room.

Plasma is the part of the blood that carries substances like nutrients and

hormones around the body.

red **Red** blood cells carry oxygen around the body.

white White blood cells fight pathogens.

pathogen A **pathogen** is something that causes a disease, like a virus.

platelets Platelets form blood clots to stop bleeding.

plasma

haemoglobin Haemoglobin transports oxygen around the body.

oxyhaemoglobin Oxyhaemoglobin is oxygen mixed with haemoglobin.