

Name:

Date:

Class:

## What is a Neuron? Pre-Assessment **Answer Key**

### Directions

Answer the following questions. This assignment will not be graded.

1. What part of our brain is responsible for emotional memory?

**Amygdala**

2. What is the size of our amygdala, and what is its shape?

**It is the size and shape of an almond.**

3. Which of these is an instinctual fear rather than a learned one?

- a. clowns
- b. **fire**
- c. snakes
- d. dolls

4. Briefly describe why the rat during the experiment we analyzed froze when hearing an auditory response after conditioning.

**The rat froze because it was "frozen in fear" due to the fact that it was prepared to get shocked because it had learned to fear what it was hearing.**

5. How does the amygdala respond to a normal tone versus a scary one?

**The baseline firing of the amygdala is very low because it is heavily inhibited, perhaps about 0.2 Hz or once in 5 seconds. In scary situations, it may fire more than 5 Hz or 5 times per second, to signal fear.**

6. Where is the amygdala located in our brain?

**Medial temporal lobe.**