

KEY FACTS

- Pathway: stimulus → receptor → sensory neurone → relay (spinal cord) → motor neurone → effector
- Reflex bypasses brain → faster than voluntary action
- Synapse: electrical → chemical (neurotransmitter) → electrical

KEY TERMS

Reflex arc	Rapid automatic pathway — bypasses brain
Synapse	Gap between neurones — crossed by neurotransmitters

■ EXAM TIP: Reflex arc bypasses the BRAIN. Relay neurone is in SPINAL CORD. Include it in the pathway.