

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Marvelous Lymphatic Vessels: Your Body's Transportation Network

### Short Answer Key

1. One-way valves in lymphatic vessels ensure that lymph flows in one direction—toward the heart. This prevents any backward flow, ensuring the continuous movement of lymph and the efficient transport of waste materials.
2. Lymphatic capillaries are tiny lymph vessels with thin walls that are often found near blood capillaries. They serve as the starting point for the collection of lymph, including waste materials and harmful substances, from the body's tissues.
3. Lymph nodes play a crucial role in inspecting and defending against invaders in lymph. Lymphatic vessels contribute to their function by transporting lymph to the lymph nodes for inspection and filtering.
4. Lymphatic vessels support the filtration and removal of waste materials by transporting lymph to lymph nodes, where white blood cells scan and neutralize threats. This process prevents the accumulation of cellular debris, damaged cells, and harmful substances in the body, promoting overall health.
5. Lymphatic vessels transport essential nutrients, especially fats and fat-soluble vitamins, absorbed from the digestive system to the bloodstream. This ensures that these nutrients reach the cells that need them for various cellular functions.

