

Name _____

The Marvelous Lymphatic Vessels: Your Body's Transportation Network

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary, but potential health issues could include the accumulation of waste materials and harmful substances in the body, leading to infections and inflammation. Overall well-being may be affected due to a compromised lymphatic system.
2. In a scenario with damaged lymphatic capillaries, the person may experience difficulties in removing waste materials from their tissues. This can lead to swelling, an increased risk of infections, and the buildup of harmful substances. Their health may be negatively impacted due to these complications.
3. The lymphatic system responds to an infection by increasing the production of white blood cells, especially lymphocytes, and transporting lymph to lymph nodes for inspection. Lymphatic vessels play a role by ensuring the transport of lymph and invaders to the lymph nodes, where the immune response is initiated.
4. An interesting fact is that the lymphatic system was first described by a Roman physician named Galen in the 2nd century AD. However, our understanding of its crucial role in maintaining health and its complex structure has continued to evolve, leading to numerous medical advancements and discoveries.

