

# THE BRAIN is the single topic of the September issue of SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

Is the brain a computer? What is the role of chemistry in brain function? Is the capacity of speech "hard-wired" into the brain? Where in the brain is the mind?

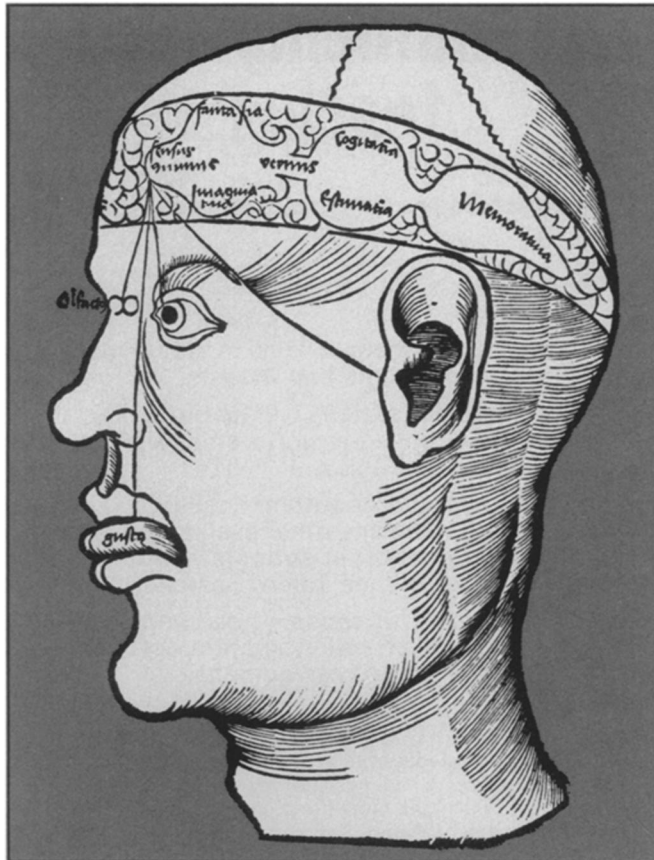
These are questions that will engage your interest in the September issue of SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.

This issue does not, by any means, tell you "how the brain works." That remains one of the most alluring and baffling questions on the frontier of understanding. The convergence of work in many disciplines—from neurosurgery to linguistics—has begun to put that question, however, in ways that can yield answers.

The deep new knowledge about the brain, gathered at an accelerating rate in recent years, shows this organ to be marvelously designed and capacitated beyond the wonders with which it was invested by ignorant imagination.

Here are the articles:

- The Brain (Introduction)
- The Neuron
- Small Systems of Neurons
- The Organization of the Brain
- The Development of the Brain
- The Chemistry of the Brain
- Brain Mechanisms of Vision
- Brain Mechanisms of Movement
- Specializations of the Human Brain
- Disorders of the Human Brain
- Thinking about the Brain



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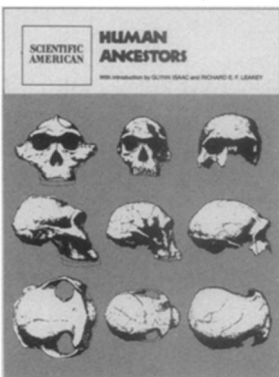
Illustration from Gregor Reisch's *Margarita Philosophica*, 1504.

Each of the authors of this issue has made significant contribution to the growing body of knowledge about the brain. Together they offer a comprehensive exposition of present understanding and chart the way for continuing study.

With this issue the editors of SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN continue a 30-year tradition of devoting each September issue to a single topic of current scientific and public interest. In the other monthly issues our readers enjoy a diversity of articles covering the full range of disciplines.

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### ABOUT THE SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH

More than 11,800 students have been members of the Winners and Honors Groups in the past 38 years. Because of their standing in this oldest and most prestigious competition of its kind, they have been offered scholarships from institutions seeking quality students with proven ability in science and engineering. Many winners in the Science Talent Search are offered summer employment in scientific laboratories and other tokens of early acceptance into the world of science and engineering. Such benefits also come frequently to members of the Honors Group and to those who place in State Science Talent Searches.

### ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS

**Who May Compete?** Any boy or girl who is in the last year of secondary school (public, private, parochial) in the United States and Puerto Rico, who is expected by the certifying school official to complete college entrance qualifications before October 1, 1980 and who has not competed in any previous Science Talent Search is eligible to enter this competition.

**How Can Students Compete?** Teachers or other school officials must request entry materials for the outstanding science and mathematics students of the school.

**What Is A Completed Entry?** A project report of about 1,000 words which presents evidence of research ability in science or engineering; a Personal Data Blank filled in by student, teachers and principal; national test scores and high school transcript.

**How Are Entries Judged?** Judging is based primarily on the student's report on an independent research project in the physical sciences, engineering, mathematics, biological sciences (excluding live vertebrate experimentation), or behavioral sciences.

**What Is The Deadline?** Entries must reach Science Service by **Midnight, December 15, 1979**

**Get your students to start working on projects NOW**

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