Heart Functioning Pre-Test

1. Sketch the aorta leading away from the left ventricle of the heart. Label the direction of blood flow through the aorta.

2. Add the location of the aortic valve to your sketch. Label it “aortic valve.”

3. What is the job of the aortic valve in the aorta?

4. Do you think that the blood flowing through the aorta (and the aortic valve) exerts any force on the aorta or aortic valve? If yes, try to describe the forces that might be exerted on the valve and walls of the aorta.