## **Circulatory Pathways - Systemic Circulation**

- <u>Function</u>: Brings oxygenated blood supply to all the body's tissues, delivers nutrients from digestive tract to tissues and carried away CO2 and metabolic waste.
- **Oxygen Rich Blood Flow:** Oxygen rich blood is pumped from the heart:
- > left ventricle through the semilunar valve\* into the ascending aorta>

\*Opposite each semilunar valve cusp is an **aortic sinus** which contains **pressoreceptors** involved in

blood pressure regulation. The semilunar valve prevents the back flow of blood back into the heart.

- > ascending aorta arches up (in front of pulmonary trunk) and gives off right and left coronary arteries>
- > ascending aorta becomes the aortic arch>
- > aortic arch gives off the brachiocephalic trunk (under right clavicle)>
- > the **brachiocephalic trunk** branches into **right common carotid arter**y and **right subclavian artery**.
- > Next aortic arch gives off the left common carotid artery and the right subclavian artery>
- > aortic arch becomes the descending aorta>





