

**LABORATORY EXERCISE 9
CONNECTIVE TISSUES****Laboratory Report Answers****PART A**

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|------|------|-------|
| 1. f | 5. b | 9. h |
| 2. a | 6. e | 10. d |
| 3. c | 7. a | 11. g |
| 4. d | 8. i | 12. j |

PART B

(sketches)

**Critical Thinking Application Answers**

The spleen is composed of reticular connective tissue. This type of tissue contains only short, thin, collagenous fibers (reticular fibers) that are widely scattered. The result is a delicate distribution of fibers among cells and a fluid ground substance. (Spleen repair is difficult due to the short reticular fibers. A ruptured spleen is often removed in surgery.)