▪ **Location:**	✓ Located at the base of the throat (**just inferior to the Adam's apple**) ✓ Easily palpated during a physical examination
▪ **Lobes:**	✓ Fairly gland consisting of two lobes joined by a central mass (**Isthmus**)
▪ **Composition:**	✓ Composed of **hollow structures** called **follicles** ✓ Store a **sticky colloidal** material
▪ **Types of thyroid hormones:**	✓ Often referred to as the **body's major metabolic hormone** ✓ Actually has 2 active iodine-containing hormones: • **Thyroxine** (**T4**) • **Triidothyronine** (**T3**)
▪ **Thyroxine:**	✓ Major hormone secreted by the **thyroid follicles**
▪ **Triidothyronine:**	✓ Mostly formed at the target tissue by conversion of the **thyroxine** to **triidothyronine**
▪ **Function:**	✓ Controls the rate at which glucose is "**burned**" ✓ Oxidized and converted to body heat and chemical energy ✓ Important for normal tissue growth and development
▪ **Calcitonon:**	✓ ↓ blood calcium levels by causing calcium to be deposited in the bones ✓ **Calcitonin** is made by the so-called "**Parafollicular cells**" found in the connective tissues between the follicles

➢ **Parathyroid Glands**
- Mostly **tiny masses** of glandular tissue

▪ **Location:**	✓ Located on the **posterior** surface of the thyroid gland
▪ **Parathormone:**	✓ Secrete **parathyroid hormone** (**PTH**) which is the most important **regulator** of calcium ion homeostasis of the blood ✓ **PTH** is a hypercalcemic hormone • Acts to ↑ blood levels of calcium ✓ **Calcitonin** is a hypocalcemic hormone ✓ PTH stimulates the kidneys and intestines to absorb more **calcium**

➢ **Adrenal Glands**
- May looks like a **single organ** but it is structurally and functionally **two endocrine organs in one**