



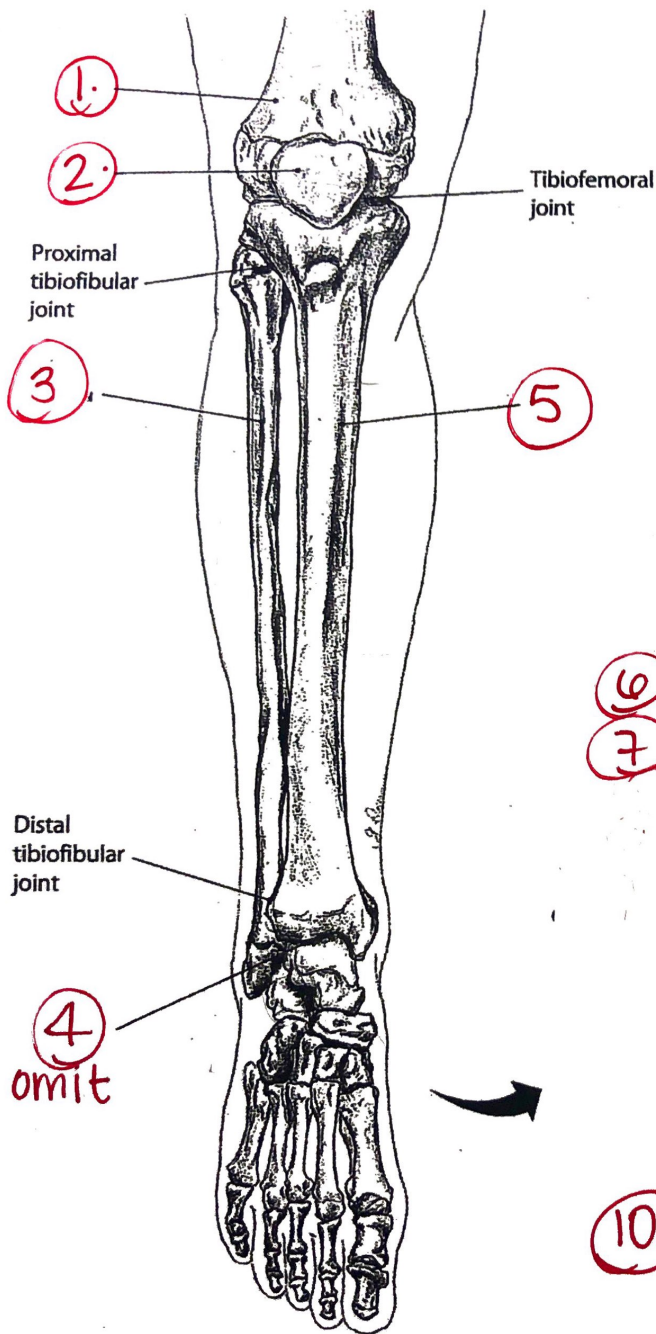
Bones of the Knee, Leg and Foot

A

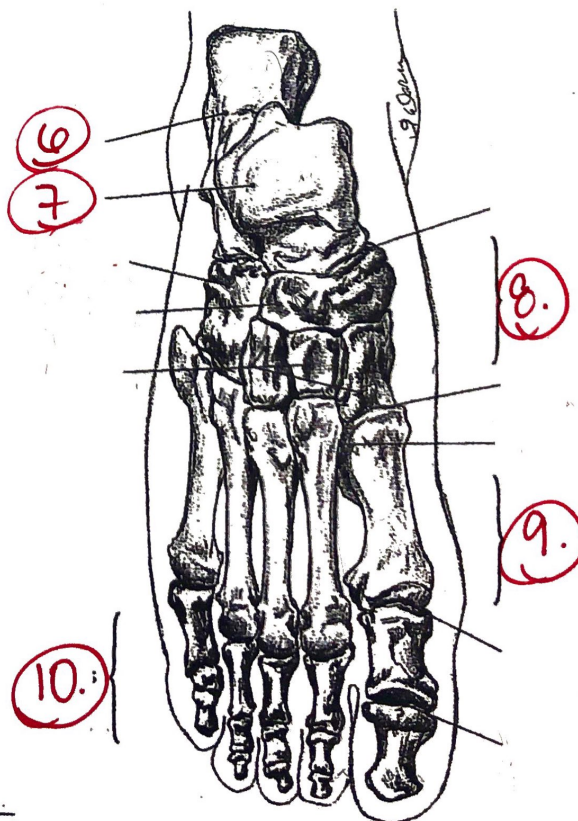
The knee is formed by the articulation of the distal femur and proximal tibia (7.8). The tibiofemoral (knee) joint, the largest synovial joint in the body, is a modified hinge joint. It is capable of flexion and extension; and when the knee is in a flexed position, it can medially and laterally rotate the knee (p. 348).

The region of the knee also includes the small patella ("kneecap") and the proximal fibula. The bony surfaces of the knee are superficial and easily accessible.

The tibia and fibula are the bones of the leg. The tibia ("shinbone") runs superficially from the knee to the ankle just as the ulna runs superficially from the elbow to the wrist. The fibula's relationship to the tibia is also similar to the radius' relationship to the ulna: It is lateral to the tibia and virtually deep to the surrounding muscles. The fibula bears only ten percent of the body's weight and rightfully so: It is the thinnest bone in the body in proportion to its length.



7.8 Anterior view of right leg and foot, foot plantar flexed

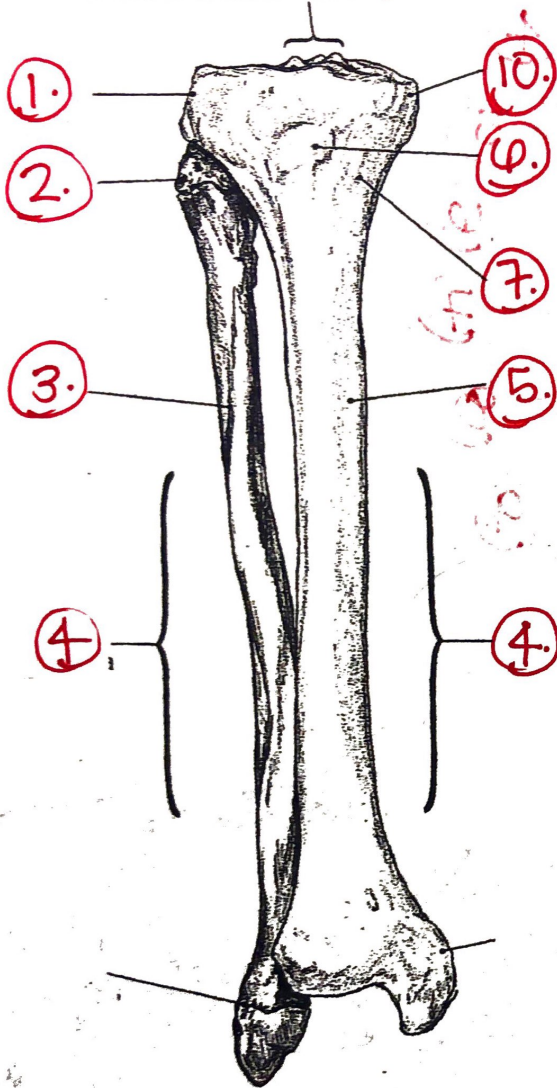


7.9 Dorsal view of right foot

B.

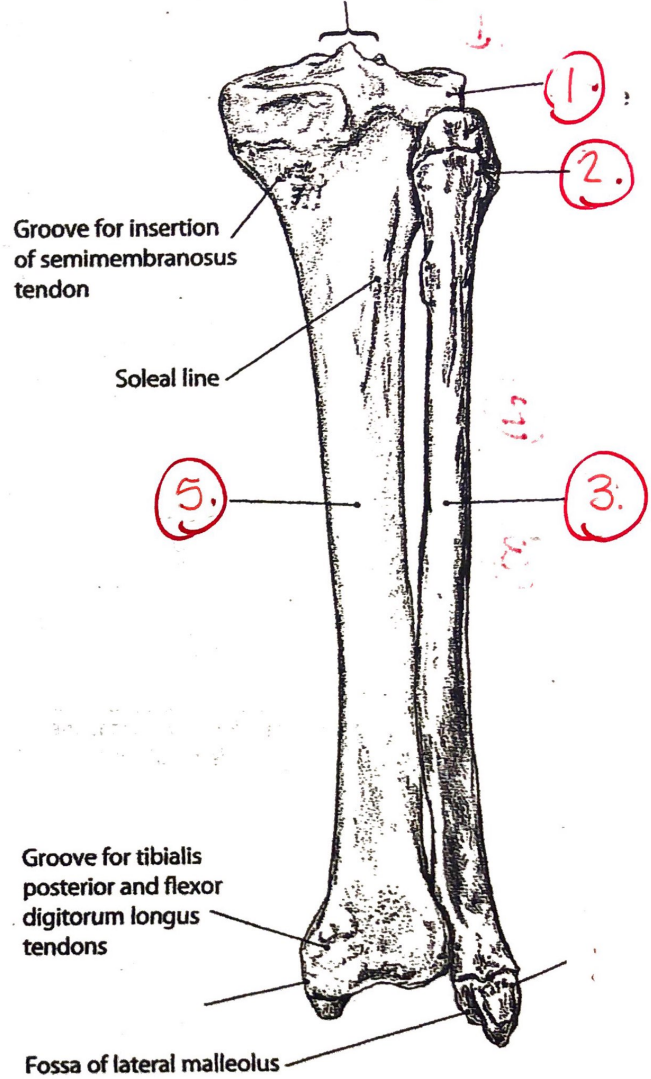
The Tibia, Fibula and Patella

Medial and lateral intercondylar tubercles

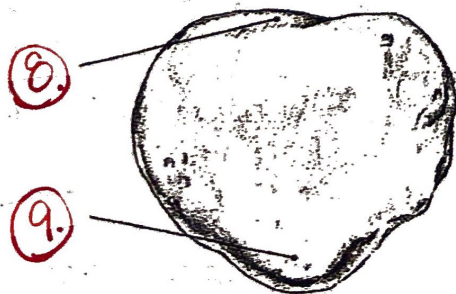


7.10 Anterior view of right tibia and fibula

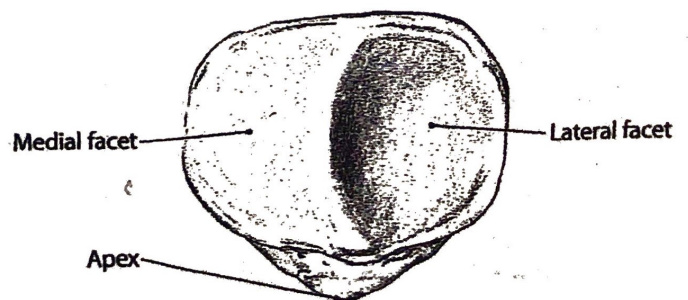
Medial and lateral intercondylar tubercles



7.11 Posterior view of right tibia and fibula



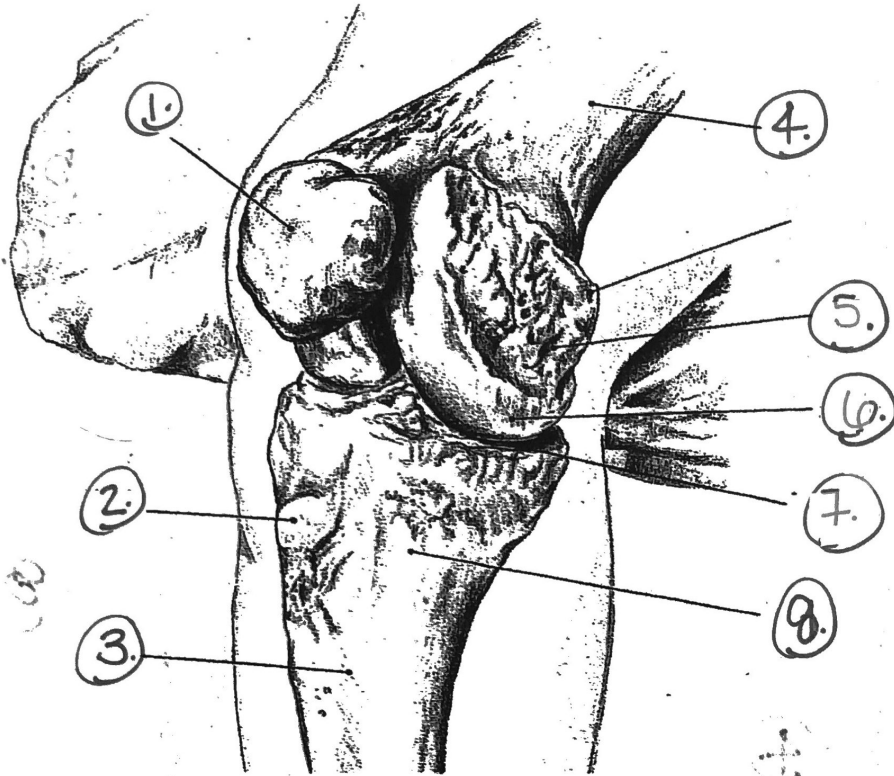
7.12 Anterior view of right patella



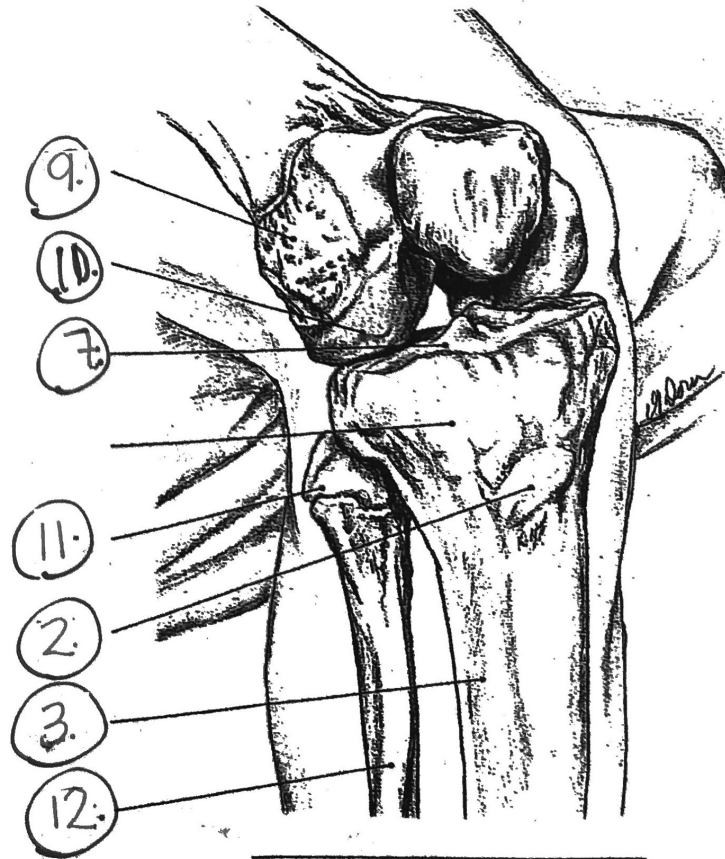
7.13 Posterior view of right patella

Bony Landmarks of the Knee and Leg

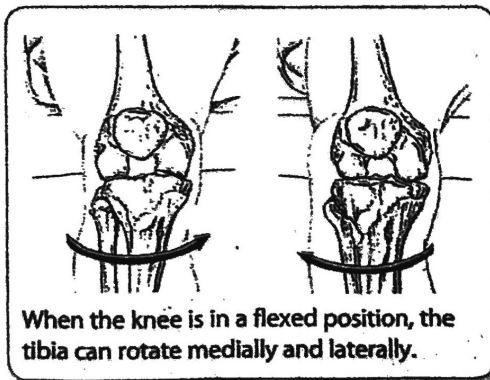
C.1



7.14 Anterior/medial view of right knee showing tibiofemoral joint



7.15 Anterior/lateral view of right knee showing tibiofemoral joint



When the knee is in a flexed position, the tibia can rotate medially and laterally.

Leg & Foot