**Figure 7-1** The outer ear, the middle ear, and the inner ear. The outer and middle ears are air filled; the inner ear is filled with various fluids. The loops at the upper left of the inner ear are the semicircular canals, which have to do with balance, not hearing. The cochlea is the snail-like organ at the right of the inner ear.

**Figure 7-2** The three tiny bones of the middle ear convey vibrations from the eardrum to a membrane covering the oval window of the inner ear.

**Figure 7-6** The basilar membrane and the structures surrounding it. As the basilar membrane moves, the hair cells send electric impulses along nerve fibers to the brain.