

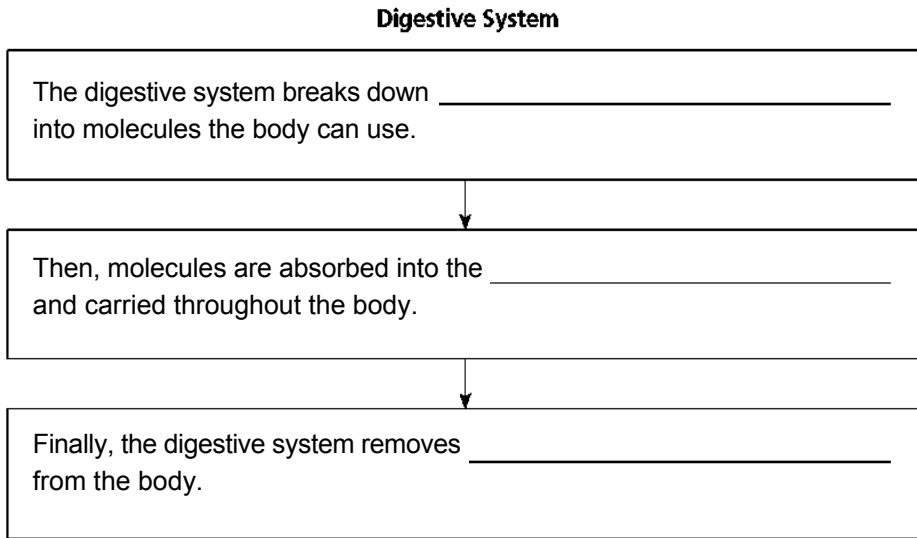
Food and Digestion ■ Guided Reading and Study

The Digestive Process Begins

This section explains what the digestive system does and describes the functions of the mouth, the esophagus, and the stomach.

Functions of the Digestive System

1. Complete the flowchart to show the role of the digestive system.



2. What is digestion?

3. Is the following sentence true or false? In chemical digestion, foods are physically broken down into smaller pieces by chewing. _____
4. The process by which nutrient molecules pass through the wall of the digestive system and into the blood is called _____.

5. What happens to materials that are not absorbed?

The Mouth

6. The fluid released when your mouth waters is called _____.
7. Circle the letter of the object that begins the process of mechanical digestion in the mouth.
 a. saliva
 b. teeth
 c. enzymes
 d. mucus
8. What occurs during chemical digestion in the mouth?

The Esophagus

Match each term with its definition.

Terms	Definitions
_____ 9. epiglottis	a. A thick, slippery substance that makes food easier to swallow
_____ 10. esophagus	b. A flap of tissue that seals off the wind pipe, preventing food from entering it
_____ 11. mucus	c. A muscular tube that connects the mouth to the stomach
_____ 12. peristalsis	d. Involuntary waves of muscle contraction that push food through the digestive system

The Stomach

13. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about the stomach.

- a. The stomach is a J-shaped muscular pouch in the abdomen.
- b. Mechanical digestion does not occur in the stomach.
- c. Digestive juice in the stomach contains an enzyme that breaks down proteins.
- d. Hydrochloric acid in the stomach kills many bacteria that are swallowed with food.

14. Give two reasons why the hydrochloric acid in the digestive juice does not damage the stomach.

a. _____

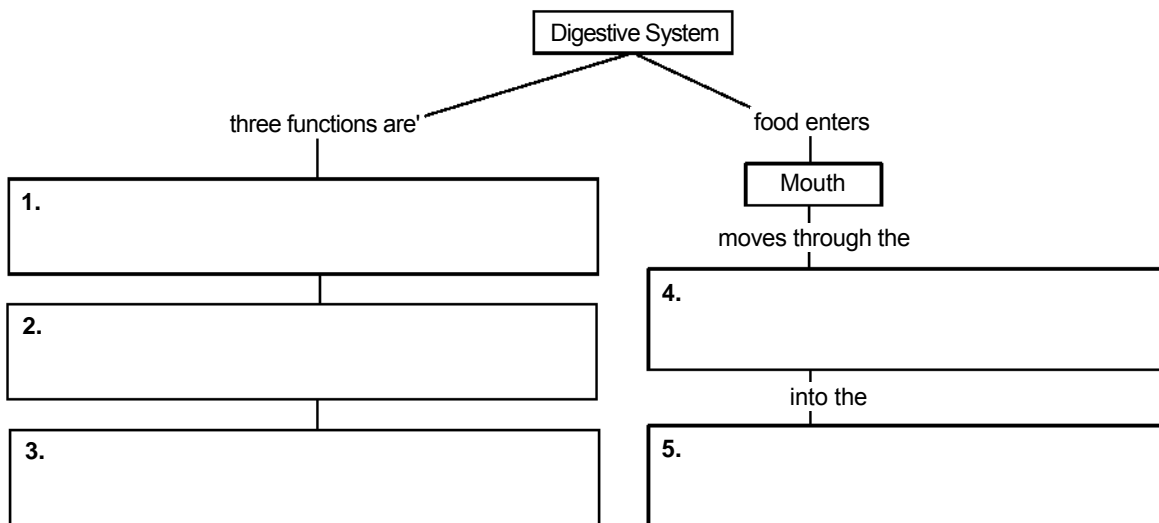
b. _____

Food and Digestion ■ *Review and Reinforce*

The Digestive Process Begins

Understanding Main Ideas

Fill in the blank rectangles to complete this concept map.



Answer the following in the space provided.

6. Explain the difference between mechanical digestion and chemical digestion.

Building Vocabulary

Fill in the space to complete each sentence.

7. When you swallow food, a flap of tissue called the _____ seals off your windpipe.
8. _____ is a thick, slippery substance that lines the esophagus.
9. The process of _____ involves the movement of nutrients through the wall of your digestive system into your blood.
10. Involuntary waves of muscle contractions that keep food moving in one direction through the digestive system are called _____.
11. Most mechanical digestion occurs in the _____.
12. The _____ connects the mouth and the stomach.
13. In your mouth, _____ mixes with food to moisten it.
14. The process of breaking down food into small nutrient molecules is called _____.
15. A protein that speeds up chemical reactions in the body is a(n) _____ . Chemical digestion is accomplished by these proteins.