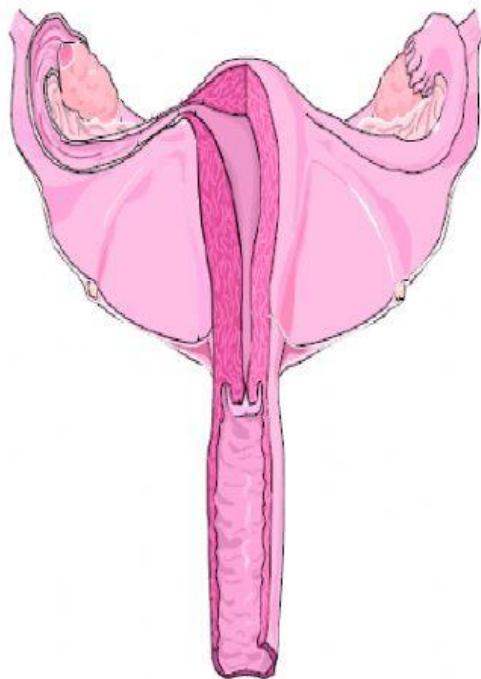


THE FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

Directions: Write the name of each part of the picture. Use the words from the box at the bottom of the page to fill in the blanks in the following paragraph. Not all the words in the box will be used in the selection. Some words will be used more than once.



An important change during adolescence for a female, is the beginning of a monthly cycle to prepare the uterus to receive and nourish a possible fertilized egg. This monthly cycle is called the menstrual cycle. Approximately every _____ days, an egg is released from one of the _____ and begins to travel down the _____. The _____ alternate the release of eggs. One month, the left _____ releases an egg, and the next month, the right _____ takes its turn. The release of an egg from an ovary is referred to as _____. During this time, the _____ has been undergoing changes. The walls of the _____ fill with _____ and become thicker. If the egg that travels through the _____ becomes fertilized by a _____, then the egg will implant itself in the lining of the _____ and begin the process of development, which can lead to new life. If the egg isn't _____, it will break down and leave the body with the used _____ and tissue that had collected in the _____ wall. The blood and tissue leave the body through the _____ over an average _____-day period of time. This is called _____.

uterus	sperm	cell	fertilization	blood	menstruation	egg	5	20
32	28	cycle	fallopian tube	ovulation	ovary	vagina	uterine	ovaries

REVIEW - THE MENSTRUAL CYCLE

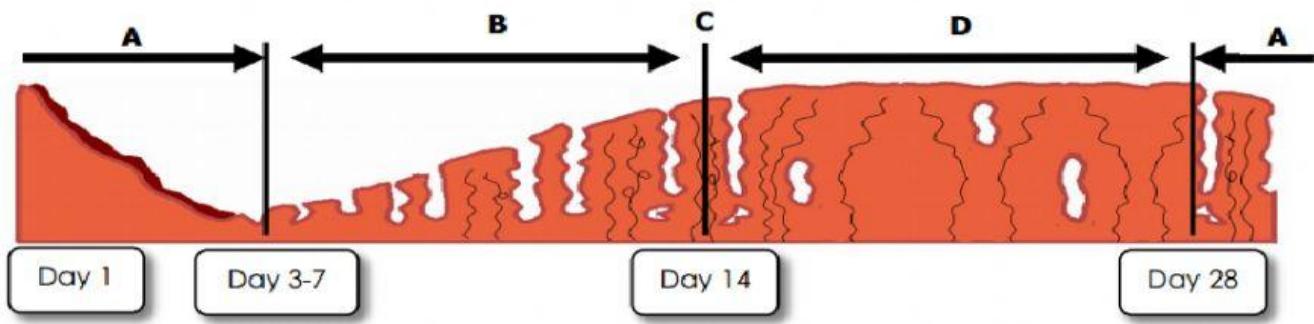
Word Bank				
menstrual cycle	uterus	fertilized	cervix	egg
_____ days	ovary	blood vessels	menstruation	period

1. Fill In The Blanks

In the menstrual cycle, the _____ releases an _____ every _____. Each time an egg is released, the _____ must prepare itself for a fertilized egg. A thick lining full of _____ slowly develops. If the egg is fertilized, it passes into the uterus and attaches itself to the uterus wall. If the ovum is not fertilized, it passes out of the uterus. The uterus lining will begin to break down and exit through the vagina. This process is called _____, otherwise known as a "_____. The menstrual cycle allows the uterus to grow a fresh lining every time a(n) _____ is released to provide fresh and healthy conditions for the growing embryo.

2. Interpreting A Diagram

Look at the diagram. For each sentence below it, write the matching letter from the diagram in the box.



Description of Events

- The uterus lining is thick and waiting for a fertilized egg.
- The uterus lining begins to gradually thicken up again.
- The egg is released by the ovary (ovulation).
- The released egg is traveling down the fallopian tube to be fertilized.
- The thick lining of the uterus breaks down and flows out slowly.
- (Challenge) A woman is fertile during this period only

Letter

3. Short Answer Questions

- What starts on Day 1 of the menstrual cycle?

- Approximately how long does it take the uterus lining to build up again after menstruation?

- Why is it necessary to build up the uterus lining every month, again and again?
