1 Read the text and label the diagram using the words in bold.

The Stomach

Your **stomach** has the shape of the letter J. It is mostly an empty bag. Everyone's stomach is about the same size: 30 cm long and 15 cm wide.

What does the stomach do?

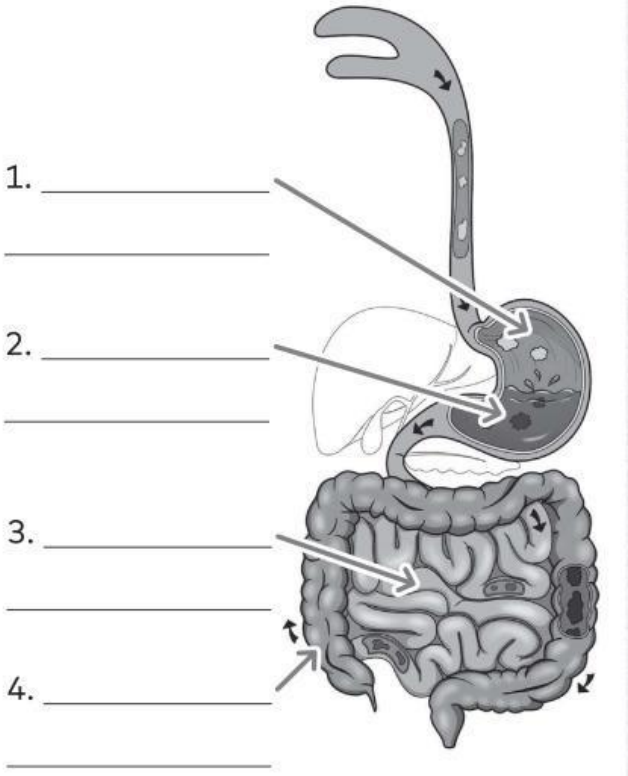
The main jobs of the stomach are to store and break down the food that you eat.

The stomach contains **gastric acid**, which prepares the food for digestion. The stomach turns and mixes the food with the acid. This mixture of food and acid is called *chyme*. The chyme then passes through to the **small intestine**, where the body absorbs most of the nutrients it needs.

The small intestine then sends the rest of the food to the **large intestine**, so that it can be excreted.

Fun Facts

- The stomach produces 1.5 liters of gastric acid a day.
- It takes 6 to 8 hours for food to be completely digested.
- We should eat between 3 and 6 meals a day.



- **Which organ performs each function? Write *S* for *stomach*, *SI* for *small intestine* and *LI* for *large intestine*.**

1. stores food ☐
2. produces gastric acid ☐
3. mixes food with gastric acid ☐
4. absorbs nutrients ☐
5. sends food to the large intestine ☐
6. excretes the rest of the food not used by the body ☐

- **Match the numbers with what they represent.**

1.5	meals we should eat a day
3 to 6	hours food takes to be completely digested
6 to 8	liters of gastric acid the stomach produces a day

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