

The digestive system (also known as the gut or gastrointestinal system) includes the gullet (oesophagus), stomach, small and large intestines, the rectum and anus. Chewed food passes from the mouth into the oesophagus, down into the stomach where digestive juices (including hydrochloric acid and the enzyme pepsin) break down the food into smaller particles; these pass into the small intestine, where more enzymes break them down (digest them) into molecules small enough to be absorbed through the intestinal wall into the bloodstream. These molecules go to the liver, which sorts them and breaks them down further (metabolises them) into nutrients for the body to use. The remnants of digestion pass to the large intestine (colon) where water is absorbed into the bloodstream leaving stools (faeces), which are passed out of the body through the anus.

Column A

1. gastrointestinal
2. colon
3. hydrochloric acid
4. pepsin
5. faeces
6. metabolise
7. digest
8. anus
9. oesophagus
10. nutrient

Column B

- a. break down into nutrients
- b. stools
- c. final portion of digestive system
- d. gut
- e. gullet
- f. HCl
- g. break down
- h. large intestine
- i. ingredient in food
- j. enzyme

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