Reading Ex. > The Chicken Egg

Chicken egg consists of different parts. Here, we will learn important information about them.

One of the main parts of the egg is yolk – the inner part of the egg where the embryo will form. The yolk contains the food that will nourish the embryo as it grows. Yolk is a major source of vitamins, minerals, almost half of the protein, and all the fat and cholesterol. Yolk color ranges from just a hint of yellow to a magnificent deep orange, according to the feed and breed of the hen. Yolk is anchored by chalaza – a spiral, rope-like strand that anchors the yolk in the thick egg white or albumen. There are two chalazae anchoring each yolk: one on the top and one on the bottom.

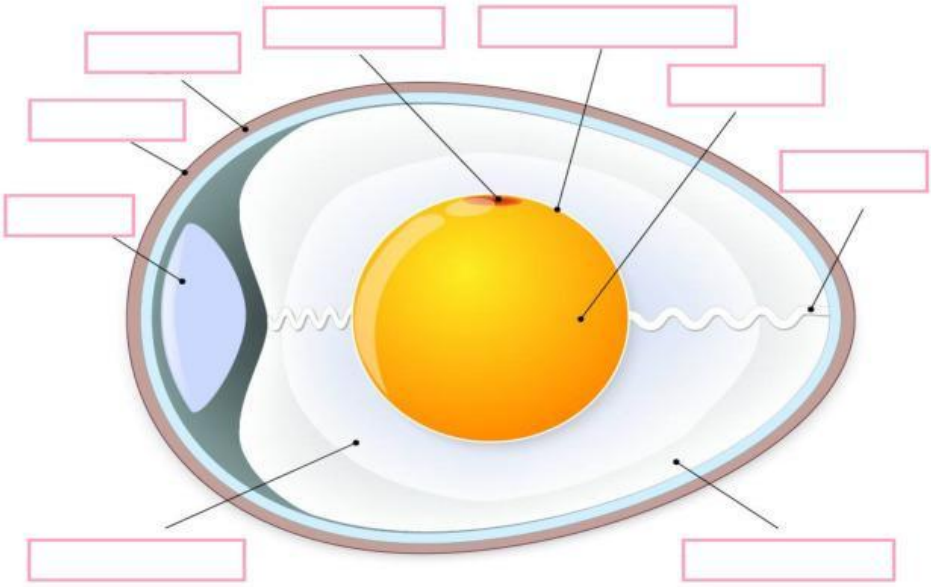
Another important part of the egg is the albumen, which is the inner thick part of the egg. This part of the egg is an excellent source of riboflavin and protein. In high-quality eggs, the inner thick albumen stands higher and spreads less than thin albumen.

Now let's talk about the outer part of the egg – the shell. It is a hard, protective coating of the egg. It is semi-permeable; it lets gas exchange occur but keeps other substances from entering the egg. The shell is made of calcium carbonate and is covered with as many as 17,000 tiny pores. Such pores contain a protective layer, the egg cuticle which essentially prevents bacteria from entering the egg and forms its first defense against infection.

Air cell is an air space that forms when the contents of the egg cool and contract after the egg is laid. The air cell usually rests between the outer and inner membranes at the eggs larger end. As the egg ages, moisture and carbon dioxide leave through the pores of the shell, air enters to replace them, and the air cell becomes larger.

And finally, let's look at the germinal disc. It's a small, circular spot (2-3 mm across) on the surface of the yolk; it is where the sperm enters the egg. The nucleus of the egg is in the blastodisc. The embryo develops from this disk, and gradually sends blood vessels into the yolk to use it for nutrition as the embryo develops. As the germinal disc as the yolk are properly surrounded by a membrane – the vitelline membrane, which protects and gives them shape and separates from the egg white. *(404 words)*

A. Complete the diagram below using information from the reading ONLY. Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS in each box.



Level B1

Text taken and adapted from https://ielts-up.com/reading/diagram-completion-1.html
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