

DIGESTIVE TRACT

Mouth

Oesophagus

Stomach

Small intestine

Colon

Lips and cheeks

Prevent food from falling out of the mouth.

Jaws and teeth

- Bite
- Chew
- Grind food to a bolus.

Tongue

- Grinds food against the teeth and palate.
- Mixes food with saliva.
- Roll food into a bolus.
- Pushes food to back of mouth to swallow more easily.
- Organ with which we taste.

Soft palate

Closes the opening to the nasal cavity when swallowing.

Salivary glands

Produce saliva that helps to mix food.
In certain cases it dissolves food.
Simplifies the swallowing process.

Functions

1. Mechanical digestion:
Muscle walls grind food and mix it with gastric juices.
2. Chemical digestion:
Gastric juices (enzymes) break down proteins and carbohydrates.

Main part where enzymes are added to food.

Part where most digestion takes place.

Contains villi to maximise absorption.

Functions

- Absorbs water, bile salts, mineral salts and vitamins.
- Temporary storage of waste products before excretion
- Waste products are excreted through the anus