

Nova's Nutritious Dental Discovery

Learning objective: To identify and describe the functions of different types of human teeth and understand the importance of dental hygiene.

Join Nova the owl for a quick check-up on your knowledge! Read each question carefully and select or write the best answer. Remember to think about what each type of tooth does when you chew your lunch.

Answer Key: 1. B (Incisors), 2. True, 3. Molars, 4. C (To tear food), 5. False (They are part of the digestive system), 6. A (Enamel), 7. 20, 8. True, 9. Incisors, 10. D (All of the above).

Word bank: Incisors · Canines · Molars · Enamel · Plaque · Calcium · Dentist · Digestion

1. 1. Which teeth are sharp and flat, located at the front of your mouth, used for biting into an apple? A) Molars B) Incisors* C) Canines D) Wisdom teeth (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Molars have a large, flat surface area designed for crushing and grinding food. (1 mark)

3. 3. Which type of tooth is pointed and specifically adapted for tearing food? (One word answer) (1 mark)

4. 4. Why do humans have different shaped teeth? A) To look different B) To grow faster C) To tear, cut, and grind different types of food* D) To help us speak (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: Teeth are not considered part of the digestive system. (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the name of the hard, protective outer layer of a tooth? A) Enamel* B) Root C) Gum D) Pulp (1 mark)

7. 7. How many primary (baby) teeth do humans usually have? (One word answer) (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Plaque is a sticky film of bacteria that can cause tooth decay if not brushed away. (1 mark)

9. 9. Which teeth would you use to bite the corner off a piece of toast? (1 mark)

10. 10. What helps keep teeth healthy? A) Brushing twice a day B) Reducing sugary snacks C) Visiting the dentist regularly D) All of the above* (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a human mouth. Label the incisors, canines, and molars, and draw a small arrow showing how the molars grind down a piece of food.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1. Explain why a carnivore (like a lion) might have different shaped teeth compared to a herbivore (like a cow). 2. Justify why eating sugary snacks frequently throughout the day is more harmful to your teeth than eating them all at once. 3. Compare and contrast the role of incisors and molars in the digestive process. 4. What might happen to our digestion if we only had molars and no incisors? 5. Design a poster for Nova the owl that explains the '2-minute brushing rule' to younger children. 6. Research and describe the role of saliva in the mouth during the initial stages of digestion.