

Year 5 Science Assessment: The Human Digestive System

Learning objective: To identify, name, and describe the functions of the organs in the human digestive system and understand the process of nutrient absorption.

Read each question carefully. Use the word bank provided to help you with terminology. Ensure your answers are clear and written in full sentences where required.

Nova the owl has been observing how humans process their food. She notes that digestion is a complex journey that begins the moment we take a bite and ends when our bodies have extracted the energy needed to grow, play, and learn. Understanding this internal journey is key to understanding how our bodies stay healthy.

Word bank: Oesophagus · Stomach · Small intestine · Large intestine · Mouth · Nutrients · Saliva · Absorption · Digestion

1. Name the first part of the digestive system where food is broken down by teeth and mixed with saliva. (1 mark) (1 mark)

2. Describe the function of the oesophagus. Why is it important for it to be a muscular tube? (2 marks) (2 marks)

3. Explain what happens to food once it enters the stomach. Use the term 'acid' in your explanation. (3 marks) (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the roles of the small intestine and the large intestine. (4 marks) (4 marks)

5. Max the monkey is eating a banana for energy. Justify why the process of 'absorption' is essential for Max to be able to climb trees after he finishes his snack. (4 marks) (4 marks)

6. What might happen to the digestive process if the small intestine were significantly shorter than it currently is? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks) (3 marks)

7. Extended Response: Describe the journey of an apple from the moment it is bitten until the waste is removed from the body. You must include the names of at least five organs and describe the specific change that happens to the food at each stage. (8 marks) (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a scientific diagram of the human digestive system. Clearly label the mouth, oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, and large intestine.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: Write a short creative diary entry from the perspective of a piece of bread travelling through the digestive system. Use precise scientific vocabulary to describe the physical and chemical changes you experience along the way.