Nutrition

Nutrition helps us obtain energy and useful materials for our body. Nutrition involves four systems: digestive, respiratory, circulatory and excretory. All these systems must work together an in a coordinate way.

Nutrition step by step

The function of nutrition involves some systems from our body. Look at the following pictures to help understand the whole process.



Digestive process

Sara eats an apple and the digestive system starts the digestive process. From the apple Sara obtains some nutrients and those nutrients go to the blood

Respiration

Sara continuously breathes. Oxygen (O_2) from air goes into the respiratory system and then into blood. The respiratory system also expels Carbon díoxíde (CO_2) from cells.







Circulation

Circulatory system transports nutrients and oxygen (O_2) to all the body parts. Cellular respiration takes place within the cell. It produces waste products such as carbon díoxíde (CO_2)

Excretion

when blood goes through the excretory system, waste products are filtered and will be eliminated through the urine



Dígestíve System

To work correctly, our body needs:

- Energy: we use it to do our daily activities such as eating, studying, doing sport...
- Materials: they are useful to make us grow and replace those parts of our body that are not necessary any more, such us our skin.

Nutrítíon consísts of those processes through which we obtain energy and useful materials to wok correctly.



We obtain energy and **nutrients** from food. Food contains a lot of nutrients. **Cellular respiration** is the responsible to obtain energy from nutrients. Cells make chemical reactions to obtain nutrients from food. After chemical reactions, cells produce some waste products, such as Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) that have to be excreted.

Nutrients

We classify nutrients into:

- Carbohydrates: We need carbohydrates to get energy quickly. We obtain carbohydrates from bread, pasta, cereals, legumes, potatoes...
- Fats: We need fats to get energy but slower than carbohydrates. We obtain fats from butter, oil, cakes...
- **Proteíns**: We need proteíns to grow and repaír the body. We obtaín proteíns from legumes, meat, físh, eggs, mílk...
- Vítamíns: We need vítamíns to work correctly. We obtaín vítamíns from fruít and vegetables.



- Water and minerals: We get water by drinking it and from food. We obtain some minerals such as salt or calcium from water, fruit, vegetables...

The process of digestion and organs

- Process

Digestion is a process through which we obtain nutrients from food. Many organs work together to make digestion possible. Digestion starts in the **mouth** where **teeth** cut, tear and grind food. **Salivary glands** expel saliva and our **tongue** mixes them. This

mixture is called <u>bolus</u>. We swallow the bolus into the **pharynx**, goes down through the **oesophagus** and finally to the **stomach**.

The stomach expels gastric acids to decompose the bolus. After that, all the bolus is a liquid called <u>chyme</u>. Chyme goes into the **small intestine** and the **liver** expels bile from the gallbladder and the **pancreas** expels pancreatic juices to help us obtain nutrients.

Now, chyme becomes <u>chyle</u>. Nutrients are absorbed in the **small intestine** and goes to the blood. The rest goes into the **large intestine** where we absorb water. All the body does not need is expelled through the **anus**.



FOOD > BOLUS > CHYME > CHYLE > SOLID WASTE PRODUCTS

Organs	Functions
1 Teeth	cut, tear and grind food
2 Tongue	mixes the food with saliva
3 Salívary glands	produce salíva to lubricate food
4Pharynx	swallows the bolus
5 Oesophagus	swallows the bolus
6 Stomach	decomposed the bolus and produces gastric juices
7 Liver	produces bíle
8 Pancreas	produces pancreatic juices
9 Small íntestíne	absorb nutrients
10 Large intestine	absorb nutrients and water
11 Anus	expels solid waste product

- Organs and functions

Respíratory System

Without energy we cannot live and our cells need oxygen (O_2) to obtain it. Oxygen comes from the air we breathe.

Respiration is the process to obtain oxygen from the air

Respiration takes place in the respiratory system, which consists of the respiratory airways and the lungs.

1.- <u>Respíratory airways</u> consist of **mouth**, **nostrils**, **pharynx**, **larynx**, **trachea**, **bronchi**, and **bronchioles**.

Air enters into the body through the **mouth** or **nostrils** and then goes into the **pharynx**, **larynx** and **trachea**. The trachea is divided into two **bronchi** and each one enters in the **lungs**. Within the lungs, bronchi are also divided into **bronchioles**, which are even smaller and thinner.

- Foreígn plural	
trachea $ ightarrow$ tracheae	
bronchus 🗲 bronchí	
alveolus 🗲 alveolí	

2.- <u>Lungs</u> are two organs located in the **thorax**. The left lung is smaller because we need enough space for the heart. Each lung is divided into **lobes**. The inner part of lungs is composed by lots of bronchioles and there is an **alveolus** in the end of each bronchiole. **Alveoli** are tiny bags covered by blood capillaries. The <u>exchange of gases</u> is produced in the alveoli.



Respiratory movements

To breathe is necessary that air goes in and out the lungs. This is thanks to the respiratory movements: **inhalation** and **exhalation**.

a. <u>Inhalation</u> is the process through which air enters into the lungs

b. <u>Exhalation</u> is process through which air goes out from the lungs.

During inhalation and exhalation some muscles work to make possible. They are the diaphragm, the intercostal and abdominal muscles.



The exchange of gases



In each <u>inhalation</u>, air goes into the respiratory airways until it reaches alveoli. Within alveoli, the exchange of gases takes place. **Oxygen** (O_2) from the air goes into the blood and **carbon dioxide** (CO_2) from the blood is expelled with the <u>exhalation</u>. After this process, blood exchanges **carbon dioxide** (CO_2) by **oxygen** (O_2) and **oxygen** (O_2) can be delivered to all the parts of the body.



Círculatory System

The **circulatory system** is responsible for the transport of <u>nutrients</u>, <u>gases</u> (oxygen and carbon dioxide) and <u>waste products</u> to all the parts of our body.

Circulatory system consists of the blood, blood vessels and the heart

Blood

An adult human body has got around 5 litres of blood circulating around our body thanks to the heart. Blood is composed of:

- **Plasma** which it is a liquid composed mainly of water. Within plasma, we can find nutrients, waste products and gases (oxygen and carbon dioxide).

- Blood cells that are classified in to:

- Red blood cells: they give a red colour to blood because of haemoglobin. They transport gases.
- White blood cells: they are cells that help our body be safe against infections.
- Platelets: they are fragments of cells that help close a wound when bleeding.



Blood Vessels

Blood vessels are those conducts through which blood circulates. They are classified into three different types:



- Arteries: they carry blood from the heart to the rest of the body
- Veins: they carry blood from the body to the heart
- **Capillaries:** they carry blood to the inner parts of organs. Arteries and veins become thinner until they form capillaries



The heart is a hollow muscled organ that pumps blood to all the parts of the body. It is located in the thorax, between the lungs. The heart is divided into four chambers. The upper part is called **atrium** and the lower part is called **ventricle**. We have two **atria** (right and left) and two **ventricles** (right and left) separated by **valves**.

> Language tip! - Foreign plural atrium→ atria

Atría receíve blood from veíns Ventrícles receíve blood from arteríes

The heart beats continuously, pumping blood. It has got <u>two movements</u>, a contraction and a relaxation movement. When the heart contracts the movement is called **systole** and when the heart relaxes the movement is called **diastole**.

Circulation can be classified into:

- a. Pulmonary circulation
- b. Systemic circulation



a. Pulmonary circulation

Pulmonary circulation is the circuit that blood follows from the heart and the lungs. During this circulation, we do the gases exchange in the lungs. Blood expels carbon dioxide and absorbs oxygen.

b. Systemic circulation

Systemic circulation is the circuit that blood follows through all the parts of the body except from the lungs. During this circulation, blood carries oxygen to all the cells and takes from them carbon dioxide and waste products.

PULMONARY CIRCULARTION



SYSTEMIC CIRCULATION



Excretory System

Our cells produce waste products and they go to blood. These substances are toxic and our body needs to eliminate them. The **excretory system** is the responsible for this task.

Excretion is produced by the **excretory system**, in the **sweat glands** and in the **lungs**.

The organs of the excretory system are:

Organs	Functions
1 Kídneys	filter blood
2 Ureters	Connect kidneys to the bladder
3 Bladder	contaíns uríne
4Urethra	allows urine to be eliminated



Excretory System

The excretory system consists of the <u>kidneys</u>, the <u>ureters</u>, <u>bladder</u> and <u>urethra</u>.

- The **kidneys** are the main organs of the excretory system. They are located in the back part of the abdomen. Their function is to <u>filter blood</u> and form **urine**, composed of the rest of water the body does not need and waste product such as salt, hormones and harmful substances.
- **Ureters** are two conducts that connect kidneys to the bladder.
- **Bladder** is the organ where urine is accumulated until it is eliminated. It is like an elastic bag.
- **Urethra** is the tube through which urine is eliminated.

Sweat Glands

Sweat glands produce sweat, a transparent líquíd composed mainly of water. However, it also contains other substances such as salt and waste products. Sweat glands are located around all the body in our <u>skin</u>. Each gland contains a long tangled tube forming a balloon. It is connected to the outer part of the body by a **pore**, through which sweat goes out.

