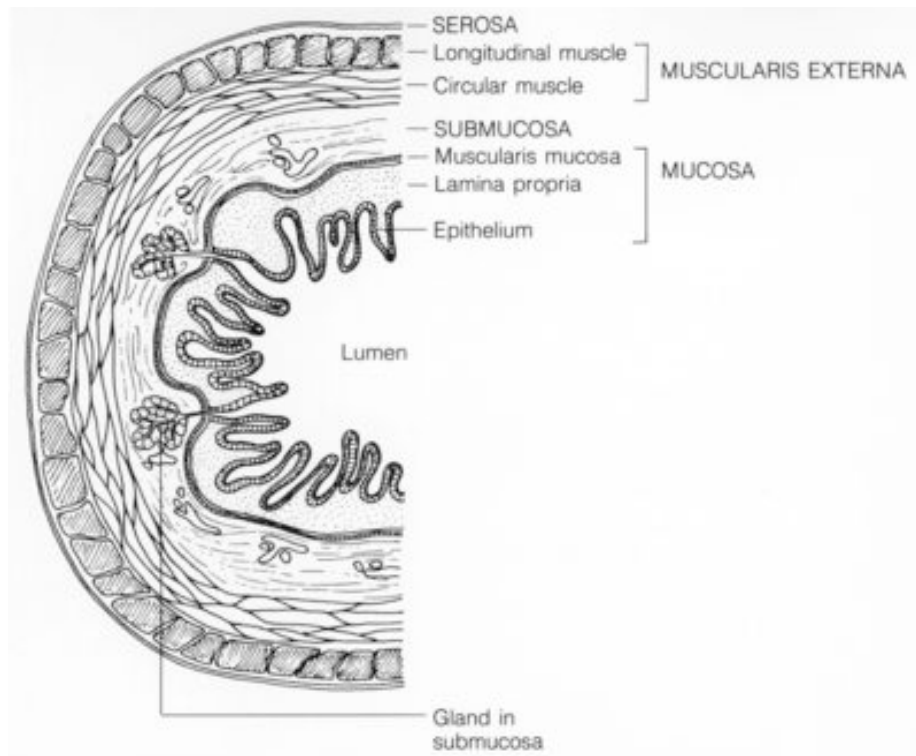
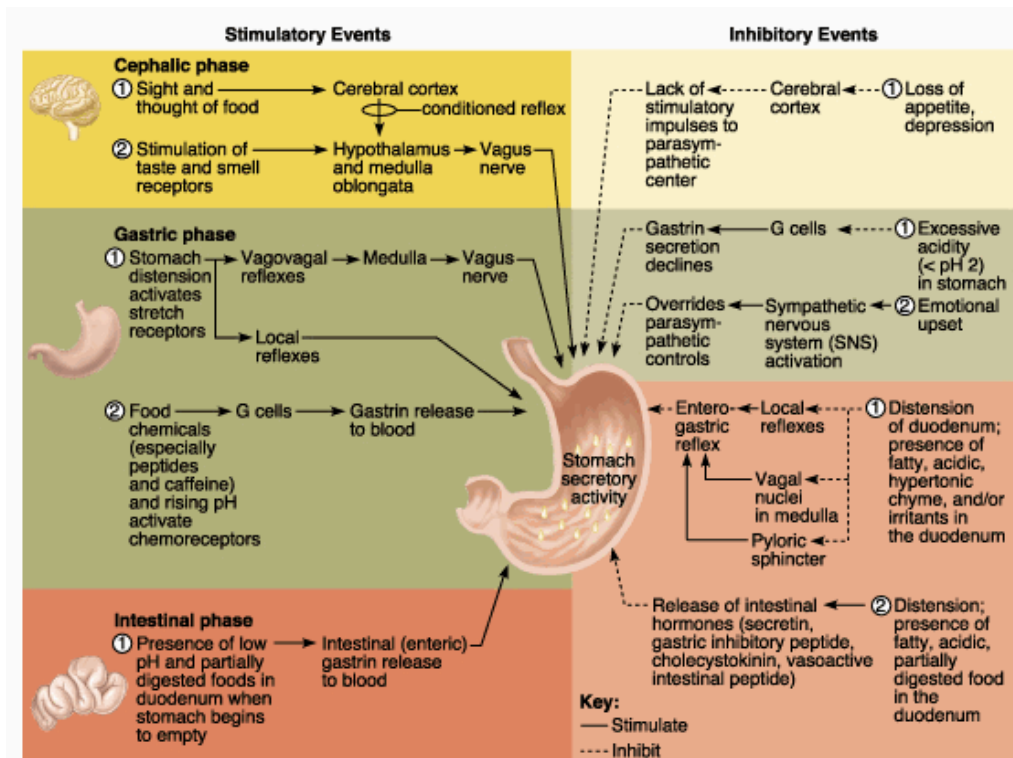




The mouth and buccal cavity:

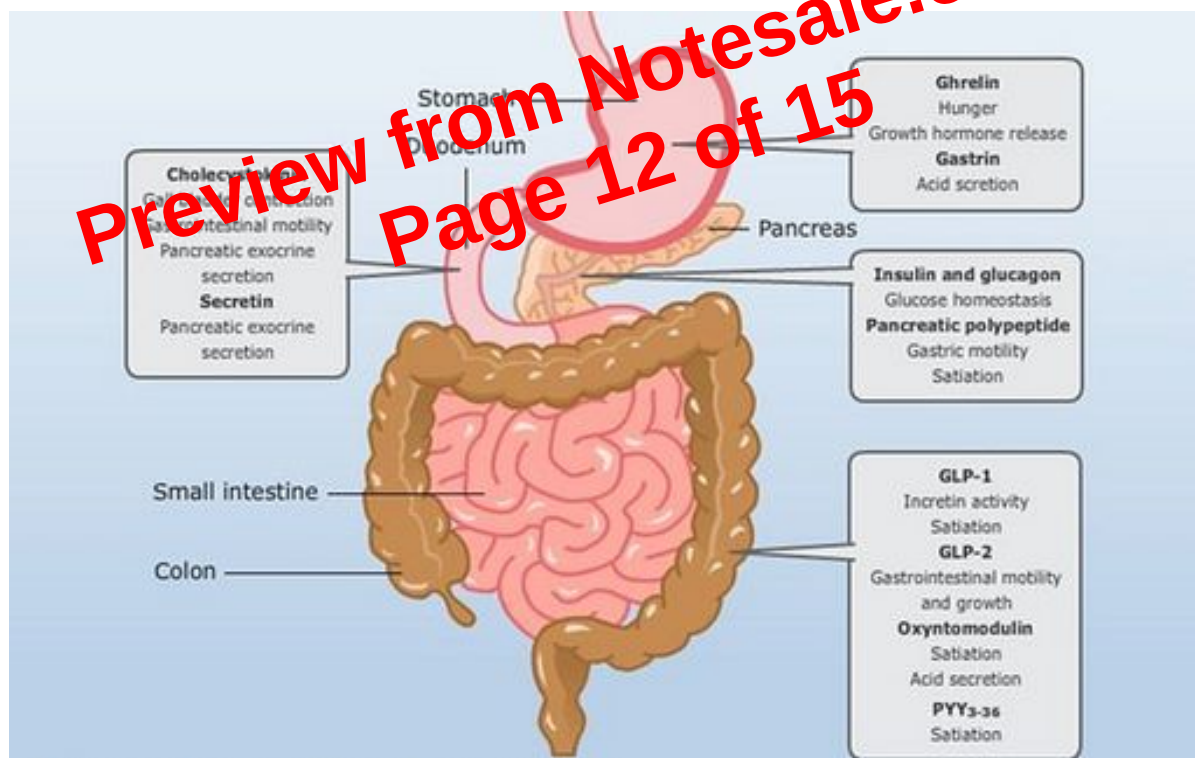
This is where the mechanical breakdown of food into smaller particles occurs. The muscular tongue mixes and moistens the food with saliva. The tongue has taste buds with receptors sensitive to sweet, salty, sour and bitter substances. The eye and the olfactory receptors stimulate salivary glands in the mouth to secrete saliva. Saliva contains salivary amylase (ptyalin) and lysozyme. It also contains mucus and various mineral salts including Cl^- which speeds up the enzyme activity. Salivary amylase begins the digestion of starch to the disaccharide maltose. Lysozyme kills bacteria by breaking down their cell walls.

The digested food is moulded into a bolus by the tongue which is pushed towards the pharynx then it is swallowed into the oesophagus. To prevent the food from entering the trachea, the larynx closes, the soft palate is pulled up and the epiglottis covers the entrance of the trachea.



(Know stimulatory events)

- Hormonal control



- Glucose
- (1) Stored in the liver/muscle as glycogen
 - (2) Converted to fats and stored in adipose tissue