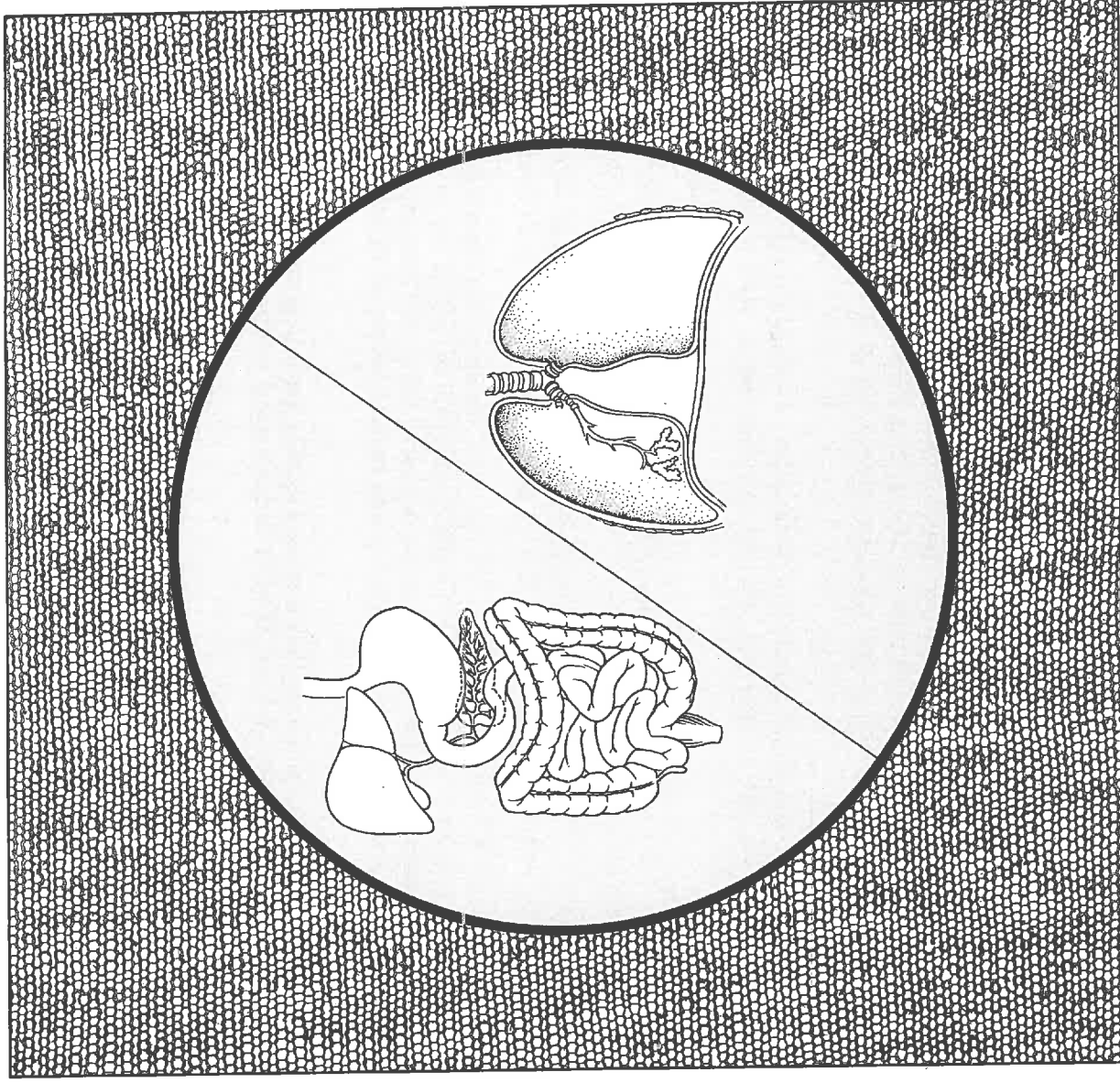


SUPPORT AND MOVEMENT

What is an organ system?

2



organ system: group of organs that work together

LESSON | What is an organ system?

2

As you know, cells do not work alone. Similar cells join together to form tissues. Tissues, in turn, form organs. Organs do important jobs. But even organs do not work alone.

Usually, several organs work together to carry out a specific life function. A group of organs that work together to do a specific job is called an **organ system**.

Each organ in an organ system has a specific job to do. For example, the mouth, the food pipe (esophagus), the stomach, and the small intestine are organs of the digestive [di-JES-tiv] system. The digestive system changes food to a form the body can use.

The human body has several other organ systems. Each organ system works to carry out one of the life functions.

Look at the chart on the next page. As you look at this chart, you will notice that some organs are part of more than one organ system.

For example:

- The liver is part of the digestive system. The liver is also part of the excretory [EKS-kruh-towr-ee] system. The excretory system gets rid of cell wastes.
- The mouth is part of the respiratory [RES-pur-uh-towr-ee] system. The respiratory (breathing) system brings oxygen into the body. It also gets rid of carbon dioxide. As you already know, the mouth is part of the digestive system, too.

Your body has several organ systems. These systems all work together. And, together, they form a living organism—YOU!

ORGAN SYSTEMS AND THEIR ORGANS

ORGAN SYSTEM	MAJOR ORGANS
Digestive system	mouth food pipe stomach small intestine large intestine liver pancreas
Respiratory system	nose and mouth windpipe lungs (2)
Circulatory system	heart blood vessels
Nervous system	brain spinal cord
Excretory system	kidneys (2) skin lungs liver large intestine bladder
Reproductive system	ovaries (2) (female) testes (2) (male)
Endocrine system	thyroid gland pituitary gland thymus
Muscular system	muscles
Skeletal system	bone

LABEL THE PICTURE

The pictures below show what you have just read about: organs, organisms, and organ systems. Which is which? Write the correct label on the line under each picture.

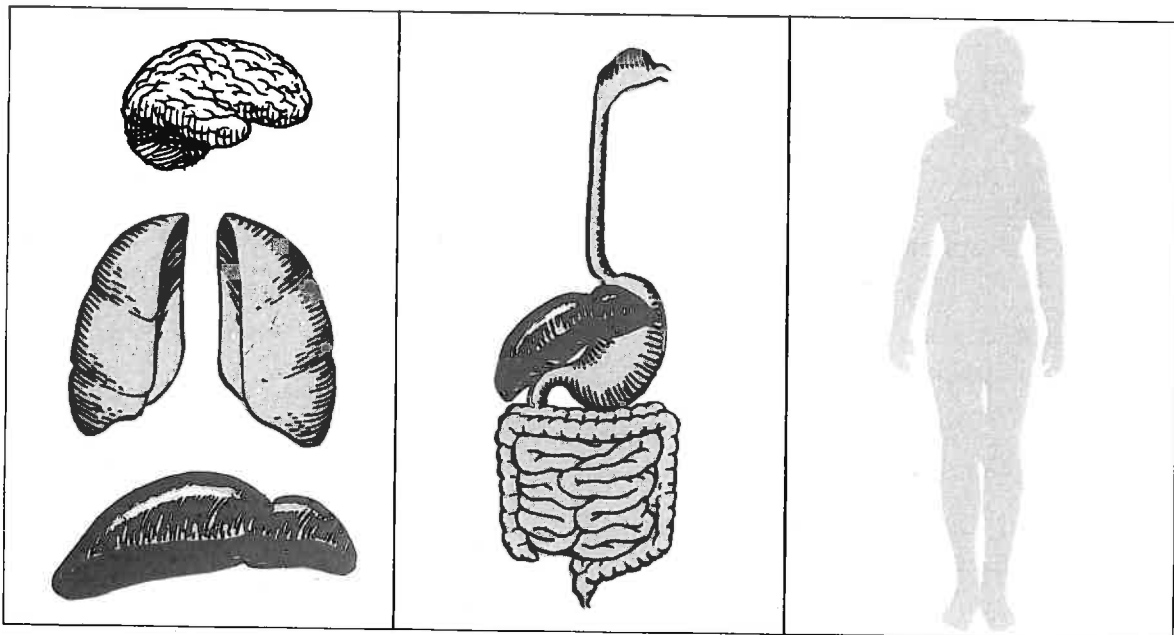


Figure A

Figure B

Figure C

GLANDS

The organs shown in Figure D are **glands**. Glands make up the endocrine system. Glands make chemicals the body needs to carry out the life functions.

1. What organ system do the organs in Figure D belong to?

2. What organs of this organ system does a female have that a male does not have? _____
3. What organs of this system does a male have that a female does not have? _____

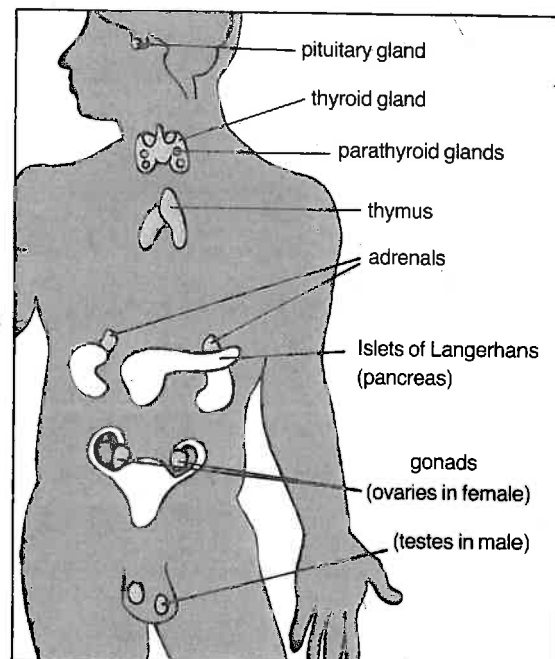


Figure D

COMPLETE THE CHART

The organs of some of the organ systems are listed in the first column of the chart. Make a check (✓) in any of the other columns if the organ belongs to any of the systems. Remember: An organ may belong to more than one system.

	ORGANS	ORGAN SYSTEMS							
		digestive	respiratory	excretory	reproductive	circulatory	nervous	endocrine	skeletal
1.	large intestine								
2.	bladder								
3.	brain								
4.	ovaries								
5.	nose								
6.	liver								
7.	blood vessels								
8.	kidneys								
9.	spinal cord								
10.	lungs								
11.	heart								
12.	small intestine								
13.	mouth								
14.	bone								
15.	windpipe								
16.	food pipe								
17.	skin								
18.	testes								
19.	stomach								
20.	thyroid								

FILL IN THE BLANK

Complete each statement using a term or terms from the list below. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Some words may be used more than once.

respiratory
organ system
organ

tissues
circulatory
more than one

excretory
digestive
organism

1. Cells group together to form _____.
2. Tissues working together make up an _____.
3. Two or more organs working together make up an _____.
4. Organ systems make up an _____.
5. Sometimes, one organ may work in _____ system.
6. The liver is part of the _____ system. It is also part of the _____ system.
7. The large intestine is part of the _____ system. It is also part of the _____ system.
8. The heart is part of the _____ system.
9. The lungs are part of the _____ system. The lungs are also part of the _____ system.

MATCHING

Match each term in Column A with its description in Column B. Write the correct letter in the space provided.

Column A

- _____ 1. kidney
- _____ 2. ovaries
- _____ 3. spinal cord
- _____ 4. organ system
- _____ 5. mouth

Column B

- a) organ of the nervous system
- b) organ of the excretory system
- c) group of organs working together
- d) part of digestive and respiratory systems
- e) organs of the reproductive system