

9. How are polysaccharides and disaccharides digested? Solution: Digestion of polysaccharides (starch and glycogen) starts from buccal cavity. In buccal cavity, polysaccharides are acted upon by salivary amylase or ptyalin which splits starch and glycogen into disaccharides and small dextrins called 'a' dextrin.

Starch and Glycogen 
$$\xrightarrow{\text{Salivary amylase}}$$
  $pH - 6.8$  Maltose + Isomaltose + ' $\alpha$ ' dextrins.

The digestion of carbohydrates does not occur in stomach because gastric juice itself has no carbohydrase.

In small intestine, the food mixes with two juices, pancreatic juice and intestinal juice. Pancreatic juice contains a carbohydrase named pancreatic amylase. This enzyme hydrolyses more starch and glycogen.

Starch and Glycogen 
$$\xrightarrow{\text{Pancreatic}}$$
  $\xrightarrow{\text{amylase}}$  Maltose + Isomaltose +  $\alpha$  dextrins.

Intestinal juice contains carbohydrases; maltase, isomaltase, adextrinase, sucrase and lactase which act on disaccharides as follows:

Maltose 
$$\xrightarrow{\text{maltase}}$$
 Glucose + Glucose

Isomaltose  $\xrightarrow{\text{isomaltase}}$  Glucose + Glucose

' $\alpha$ ' dextrins  $\xrightarrow{\alpha\text{-dextrinase}}$  Glucose + Glucose

Sucrose  $\xrightarrow{\text{sucrase}}$  Glucose + Fructose

Lactose  $\xrightarrow{\text{lactase}}$  Glucose + Galactose

fructose and galactose are monomers of carbohydrates. These are absorbed by intestinal mucosa.

10. What would happen if HCl were not secreted in the stomach? Solution: HCl is secreted by parietal or oxyntic cells of gastric glands. It serves the following functions:

- 1. It activates the pepsinogen and prorennin into their active form pepsin and rennin.
- 2. It provides the acidic pH (pH 1.8) optimal for pepsin.
- 3. It kills the harmful bacteria present in the food.
- 4. It stops the action of saliva on food. Pepsin and rennin are the principle proteolytic enzymes of stomach. If these enzymes are not activated by HCl then digestion of protein will not take place in stomach, and also the harmful bacteria can cause various diseases.

11. How does butter in your food get digested and absorbed in the body ?

Solution:

Butter is a saturated fat. Fats and oils of the ingested food are

triglycerides. They are digested by lipases. Small intestine is the principal organ for fat digestion. In the small intestine food meets three secretions, bile, pancreatic juice and intestinal juice, all alkaline in nature. Bile contains no enzyme but it contains bile salts which reduces the surface tension of large fat droplets and breaks them into smaller ones (emulsification).

## Triglycerides — Bile salts →

Emulsified triglycerides Pancreatic juice contains pancreatic lipase, which is the principal fat digesting enzyme. It is activated by bile.

Emulsified triglyceride Lipase

Fatty acid + Diglyceride

Diglyceride Lipase

Fatty acid + Monoglyceride

Monoglyceride Lipase

Fatty acid + Glycerol Intestinal lipase found in intestinal juice hydrolyses some triglycerides, diglycerides and monoglycerides to fatty acids and glycerol like pancreatic lipase.

Fatty acids, glycerol and monoglycerides are the end products of fat digestion and being insoluble in water cannot be directly absorbed from the intestinal contents. So they combine with the bile salts and phospholipids to form micelles (water soluble). From the micelles fatty acids, glycerides, sterols and fat soluble vitamins are absorbed into the intestinal cells by diffusion where they are resynthesised in the ER and are converted into very small protein coated fat molecules (droplets) called chylomicrons. The latter are released from the intestinal cells into the lymph present in the lymphatic capillaries, the lacteals. These lacteals ultimately release the absorbed substances into the blood stream.

12. Discuss the main steps in the digestion of proteins as the food passes through different parts of the alimentary canal. Solution: Proteins of ingested food are broken down into amino acids by proteases (peptidases). Proteases are secreted in inactive forms called proenzymes which are converted into active forms at site of their action. Protein digestion starts in the stomach and is completed in the small intestine. Saliva contains no protease. Digestion of proteins in stomach: Chief cells of gastric gland secrete pepsinogen and prorennin, which act as follows:

Pepsinogen — HCl → Pepsin

Proteins — Pepsin

Prorennin — HCl → Rennin

Casein (Milk protein) — Rennin

Paracasein + Whey proteins

Paracasein + Calcium → Calcium paracaseinate

Calcium paracaseinate — Pepsin → Peptones

Digestion of proteins in small intestine: In small intestine, peptones and proteoses are acted upon by enzymes of pancreatic juice and intestinal juice.

Pancreatic juice contains 3 inactive proteases; trypsinogen, chymotrypsinogen and pro-carboxypeptidase. Their action is as follows:

Trypsinogen

Enterokinase of intestinal juice

Trypsin

Peptones + proteoses

Large peptides

Chymotrypsin

Chymotrypsin

Chymotrypsin

Large peptides

Proteoses + Peptones

Chymotrypsin

Large peptides

Carboxypeptidase

Carboxypeptidase

Large peptides

Carboxypeptidase

Carboxypeptidase

Dipeptides + Amino acids Intestinal juice contains two digestive proteases; aminopeptidases and dipeptidases and a nondigestive enterokinase (enteropep- tidase).

Large peptides

Aminopeptidases

Dipeptides + Amino acids

Dipeptides Amino acids

Amino acids are the end products of protein digestion which are absorbed by intestinal cells.

13. Explain the term thecodont and diphyodont.
Solution: Thecodont: In human, each tooth is embedded in a socket of jaw bone. Such teeth are described as thecodont.
Diphyodont: Majority of mammals including human beings form two sets of teeth during their life, a set of temporary milk or deciduous teeth replaced by a set of permanent or adult teeth. This type of dentition is called diphyodont.

14. Name different types of teeth and their number in an adult

Solution: Adult human has 32 teeth with the

## dental formula $\frac{2123}{2123}$ .

Human has heterodont dentition i.e., having four different types of teeth. The number of different types of teeth in human are as follows:incisors = 8, canines = 4, premolars = 8, molars = 12

15. What are the functions of liver?

Solution: Liver is the largest gland of the body and consists of hepatic cells. Besides being a digestive gland, the liver performs a number of functions for the welfare of body. Its varied functions are as follows

- 1. Secretion of bile.
- 2. Glycogenesis, gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis.
- 3. Storage of fat, glycogen, vitamins like A, D, E, K and  $B_{12}$ , blood, water, etc.
- 4. Deamination of amino acids.
- 5. Synthesis of urea.
- 6. Elimination of excretory substances.
- 7. Detoxification of harmful substances.
- 8. Formation and breakdown of blood corpuscles, i.e., in embryos, liver is haemopoietic (produces red blood corpuscles) and in adults its Kupffer cells phagocytise and destroy worn out and dead RBCs.
- 9. Secretion of blood proteins, i.e., pro-thrombin and fibrinogen.
- 10. Secretion of anticoagulant heparin.
- 11. Production of heat.
- 12. Secretion of enzymes.

