

CHECK YOUR LEARNING

Suggested Answers

1. Food must be broken down by digestion so that the chemical building blocks of the food can be transferred to the blood and delivered to the body's cells.
2. Food gets exposed to amylase from saliva while being chewed by the teeth. In the stomach, it is churned and broken down further by acid and pepsin. In the small intestine, it is broken down further by several enzymes from the pancreas and from other glands. The liver secretes bile, which emulsifies fats so that they can be absorbed into the circulation. Throughout the digestive tract, water is absorbed, and waste product is excreted.
3. Food passes from the mouth to the esophagus, stomach, small intestine, and large intestine.
4. Nutrients from food move into the blood, which carries them to other body tissues.
5. Movement of substances through the digestive tract is powered by peristalsis, which keeps everything moving from the esophagus to the anus.
6. Sample answer: Food additives can increase shelf life of packaged foods and improve taste. Disadvantages of food additives include allergies to the additives and the potential for the additives to cause health problems.