

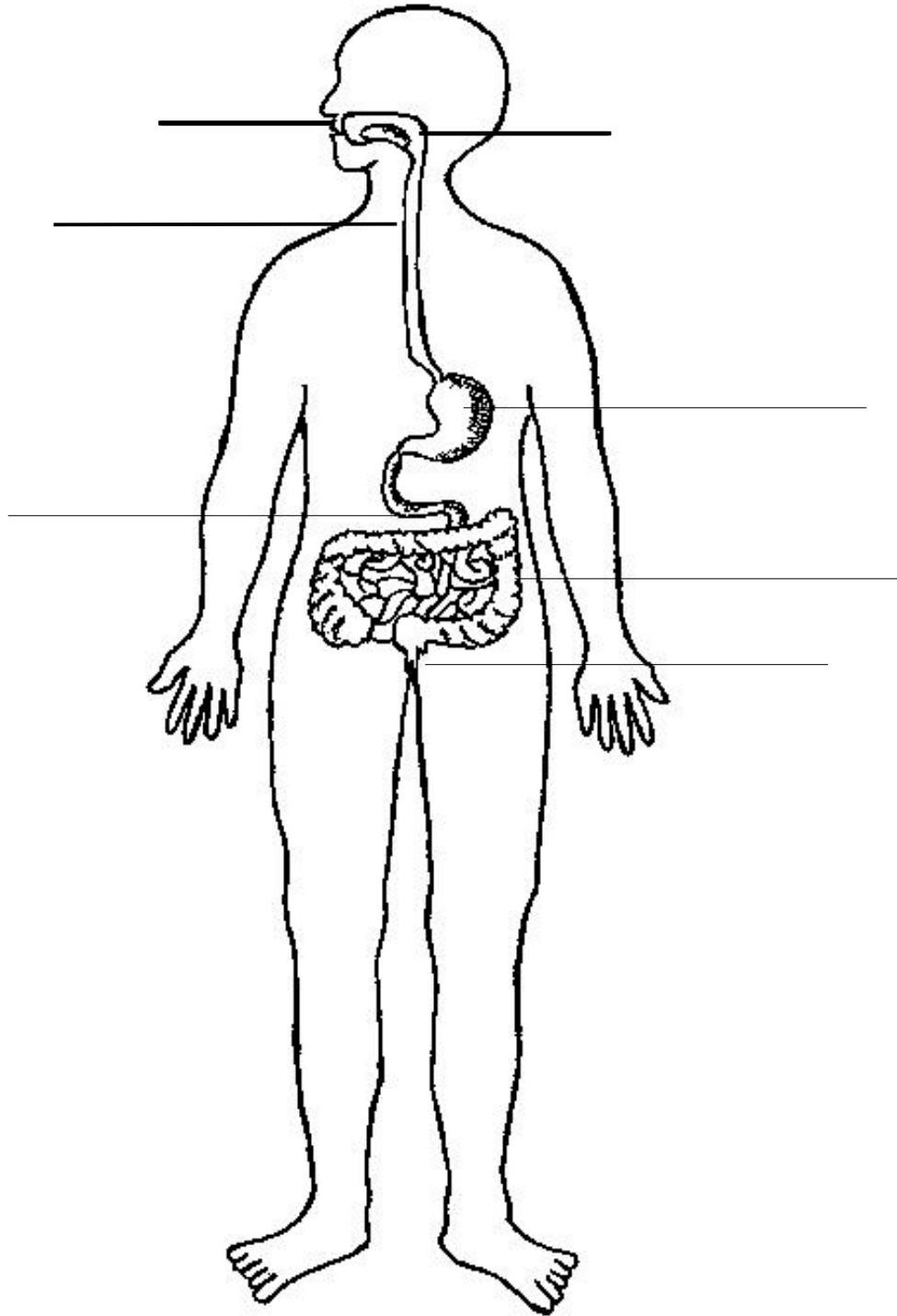
The Digestive System

Food is the fuel that helps keep our bodies moving. Food has to be brought into the body and broken down into small pieces before it can be used. This process is carried out by the **digestive system**.

Food enters the digestive system through the **mouth**, where your teeth and tongue help to break down the food. **Saliva** also helps to moisten the chewed food before it travels down to the **stomach**. To get to the stomach, food passes through the **esophagus**, which pushes the food using wave-like contractions.

In the stomach, fluids such as **acid** and **mucus** are added which further break down the food into tiny particles and help it to move along. Next, the particles enter the **small intestine** where more fluids are added to help make the food useful for the body. By the time the food reaches the end of the small intestine, the necessary nutrients have been absorbed by the body. The **large intestine** stores the waste products before they are expelled from the body through the **anus**.

A Diagram of the Digestive System



A Labelled Diagram of the Digestive System

