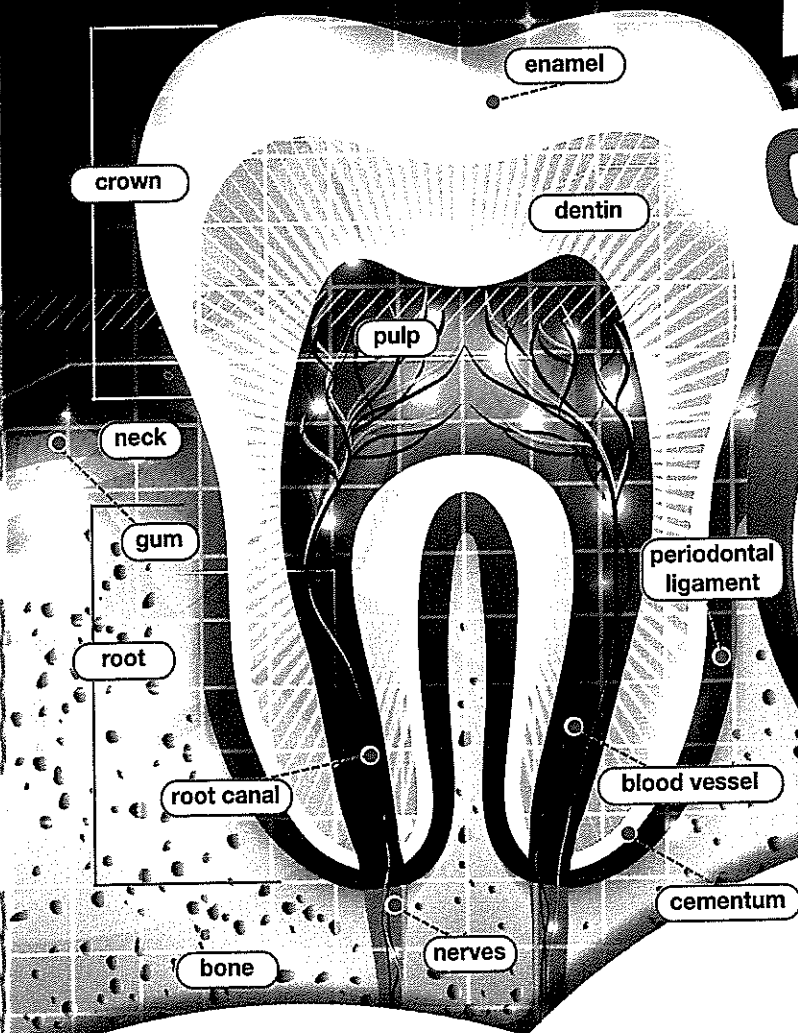


Anatomy of a Tooth



A tooth is made up of many parts. Some parts are easy to see. The **crown** is visible. It sits above the gumline. It is protected by white **enamel**.

Then there are the parts you cannot see. **Dentin** lies underneath the enamel. Inside that is the **root canal**. It is a space filled with **pulp**. **Nerves** and **blood vessels** run through the pulp. Below the gumline is the tooth's **root**. The crown and root meet at the **neck**.

The root connects to the **bone**. The roots are covered in a hard substance called **cementum**. The **periodontal ligament** keeps the tooth in place by securing it to the bone.

Vocabulary

③ Match the words (1-8) with the definitions (A-H).

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 __ blood vessel | 5 __ dentin |
| 2 __ bone | 6 __ nerve |
| 3 __ cementum | 7 __ root canal |
| 4 __ crown | 8 __ periodontal ligament |

- A a set of narrow spaces inside the root of the tooth
- B the layer of living cells under the enamel
- C a tube that moves blood around the body
- D one of the hard parts that form a frame inside the body
- E the visible section of the tooth above the gumline
- F a layer of hard substance that covers the root
- G a body part that looks like a thread and carries messages between the brain and the body
- H connective tissue that anchors the tooth to the jawbone

Get ready!

① Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What parts of a tooth can you easily see?
- 2 What parts of a tooth are not visible?

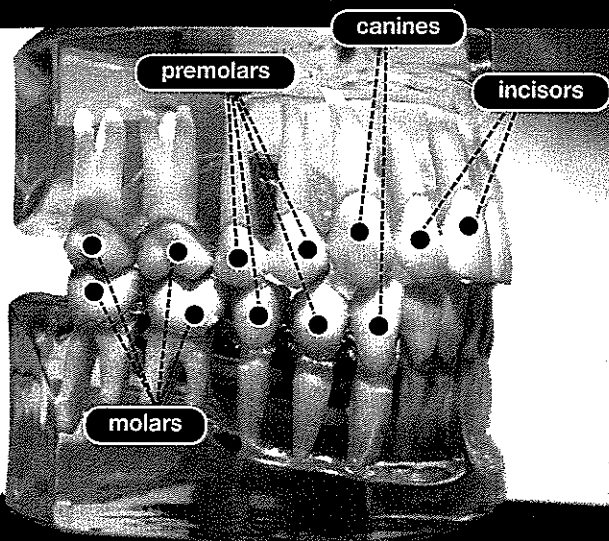
Reading

② Read the poster. Then, mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 __ Dentin is located in the gums.
- 2 __ Nerves go through the jaw bone.
- 3 __ A tooth's root is under the gums.

8

Types of Teeth



Types of Teeth

Incisors

There are eight incisors. They are at the front of the mouth. They are flat but sharp. Their job is to **cut** and **chop** food.

Canines

Next are the four canine teeth. They are pointed. Their job is to **tear** food.

Premolars

Next are the eight premolars. They are larger and have ridges. Their job is to **crush** and **grind** food.

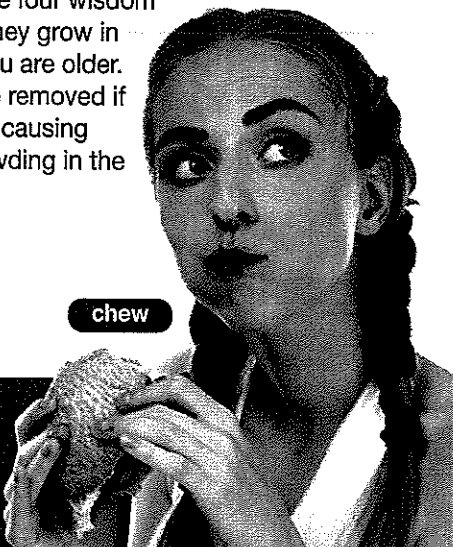
Molars

Then come the eight molars. The tongue moves food you **chew** backward. The molars then grind the food. After that, you can swallow.

Wisdom Teeth

There are four wisdom teeth. They grow in when you are older. They are removed if they are causing overcrowding in the mouth.

chew



Get ready!

① Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What types of teeth do you have in your mouth?
- 2 Why is it important to have different types of teeth?

Reading

② Read the pamphlet. Then, choose the correct answers.

- 1 What is the purpose of the pamphlet?
 - A to describe teeth of animals
 - B to describe human teeth
 - C to describe types of teeth
 - D to describe parts of the mouth
- 2 Which of the following can be taken out without being replaced?
 - A molars
 - B canines
 - C premolars
 - D wisdom teeth
- 3 According to the text, what can be said about the function of teeth?
 - A They are only used for specific purposes.
 - B They make food smaller so it can be swallowed.
 - C They are used to tear up food quickly.
 - D They crush up food to make it small.

Vocabulary

③ Read the sentence pairs. Choose which word best fits each blank.

1 crush / cut

- A We need premolars in order to _____ our food.
- B The human incisors _____ food into several pieces.

2 chop / grind

- A The molars _____ the food so that you can swallow it.
- B The teeth are used to _____ food into lots of smaller pieces.

3 tear / chew

- A You should thoroughly _____ your food before swallowing.
- B Humans use their canines to _____ apart food.



8. Tooth morphology CD 9.2

Fill in the missing words. Then listen and check.

There are four categories or types of teeth that exist in humans. These include:

1. _____ are a narrow teeth in the front of the jaw which evolved to improve cutting abilities for chewing. There are four incisors on both the top and bottom jaw.
2. _____ bordering the incisors. _____ teeth have a longer, more pointed shape and are adapted for tearing food while biting and chewing. Humans have four _____ teeth, two on each jaw.
3. _____ are just behind the canines. _____, or “bicuspid,” so named because of their two “cusps” on the crown. Cusps are small peaks on the chewing surface of teeth.
4. _____ are flattened teeth located in the rear of the mouth. They withstand the most pressure while chewing and eating. Wisdom teeth, or third molars, are often extracted today. As the human jaw shrinks slightly over generations of evolution, less space in the jaw is available to accommodate the late-coming molars. Some humans do not develop third molars at all.