

Section 2

Oral Anatomy

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The Mouth

Primary Teeth

- 1 Primary or baby teeth
- 1 These are the teeth that are lost when adult teeth erupt
- 1 We have twenty primary teeth (See Dental Chart) page 2 - 3

Permanent Teeth

- 1 Adult or permanent teeth
- 1 Teeth meant to last for a lifetime
- 1 We have up to thirty-two adult teeth (See Dental Chart) page 2 - 3

Gingiva (Gums)

- 1 Soft tissue which covers the bone in which our teeth are anchored
- 1 If healthy, they are pink, stippled and tightly adapted to the teeth

Palate (Soft and Hard)

- 1 Roof of the mouth
- 1 Separates the oral cavity and nasal passage
- 1 Bony front is the hard palate
- 1 Fleshy back is the soft palate

Uvula

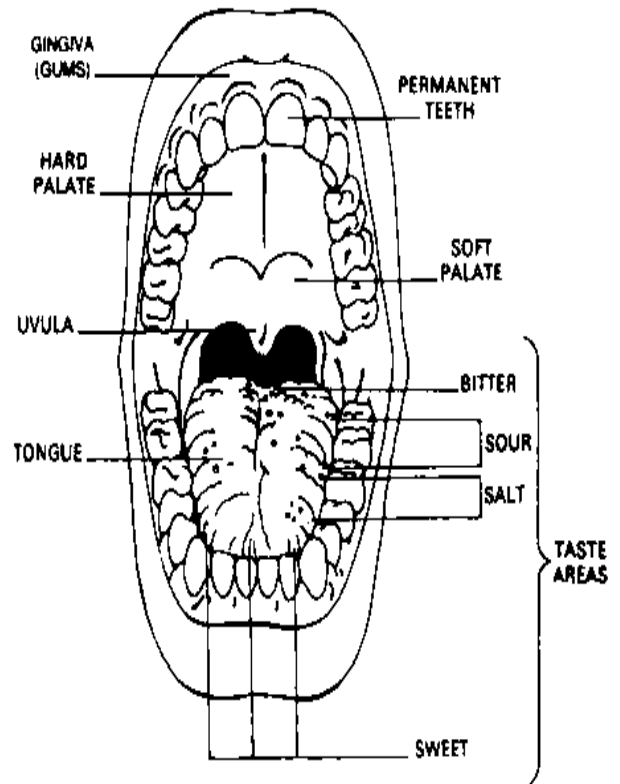
- 1 Located above the tongue and is suspended from the centre of the soft palate
- 1 It is a small fleshy mass of tissue

Tongue

- 1 Fleshy, muscular organ that is attached to the floor of the mouth
- 1 Important for speech, chewing, swallowing and sensing taste and temperature of food

Taste Buds

- 1 Tiny areas on the tongue that distinguishes flavours (i.e. sweet, salty, sour and bitter)



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Cross Section of a Molar Tooth

Enamel

- 1 Outer covering of the crown of the tooth
- 1 Hardest tissue in the body
- 1 It is smooth and glistens
- 1 It protects the tooth
- 1 It cannot be replaced

Dentin

- 1 Ivory-like substance under the enamel
- 1 Forms body of the tooth
- 1 Bone-like tissue that is less hard than enamel
- 1 Gives the tooth elasticity so the tooth will not break apart

Pulp

- 1 Centre of the tooth
- 1 Holds the nerve and blood supply
- 1 Gives the tooth nourishment and sensitivity

Cementum

- 1 Live layer of bone-like tissue that covers the root of the tooth
- 1 Forms a surface to which the periodontal ligament attaches

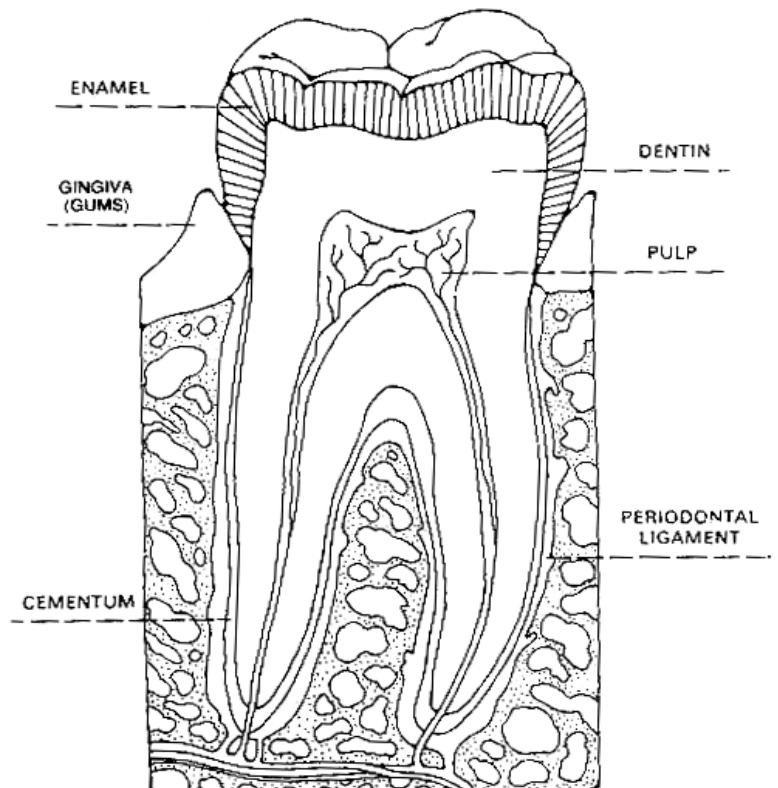
Periodontal Ligament

- 1 Fibrous tissue which anchors the root to the bone
- 1 Helps support the tooth in its socket

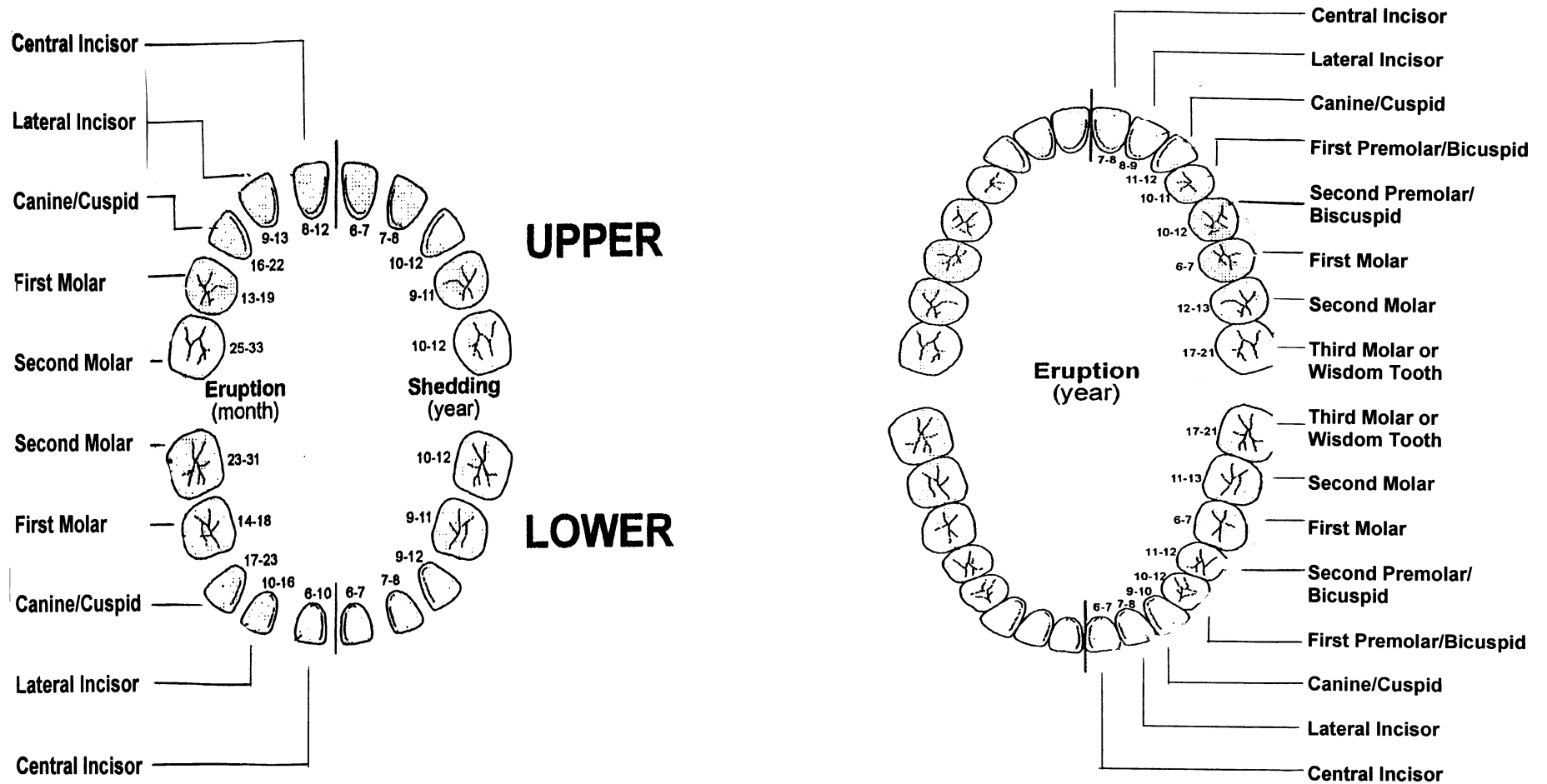
Tooth Structure

Tooth consists of two parts:

1. **Crown** appears above the gums and is visible in the mouth.
2. **Root** anchors the tooth in the bony socket of the jawbone.



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Types of Teeth B Four Types

Incisors

- 1 Four front teeth in each jaw (two central and two lateral)
- 1 Used for biting and cutting

Cuspids (or Canines)

- 1 Two in each jaw
- 1 Used for tearing

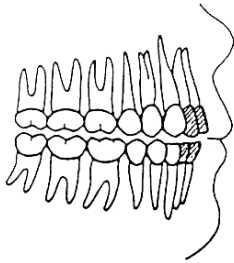
Bicuspid (or premolars)

- 1 Permanent teeth only
- 1 Four in each jaw
- 1 Used for tearing and crushing

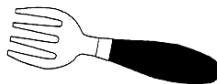
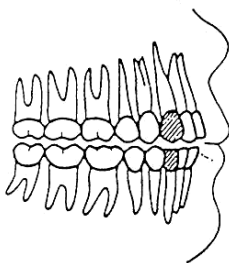
Molars

- 1 Four in primary jaw
- 1 Six in permanent jaw
- 1 Deep grooves on top of these teeth making them susceptible to pit and fissure decay
- 1 Used for grinding food

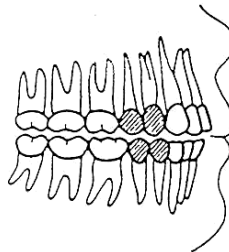
Functions of Teeth



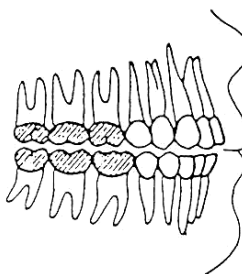
Incisors are cutting teeth that work like scissors to bite off pieces of food.



Cuspids (canines) are pointed teeth that work like a fork to tear food into small pieces.



Bicuspids (premolars) have pointed chewing surfaces and work like a nutcracker to crush food.



Molars have strong, broad surfaces and work like a mortar and pestle to grind food.