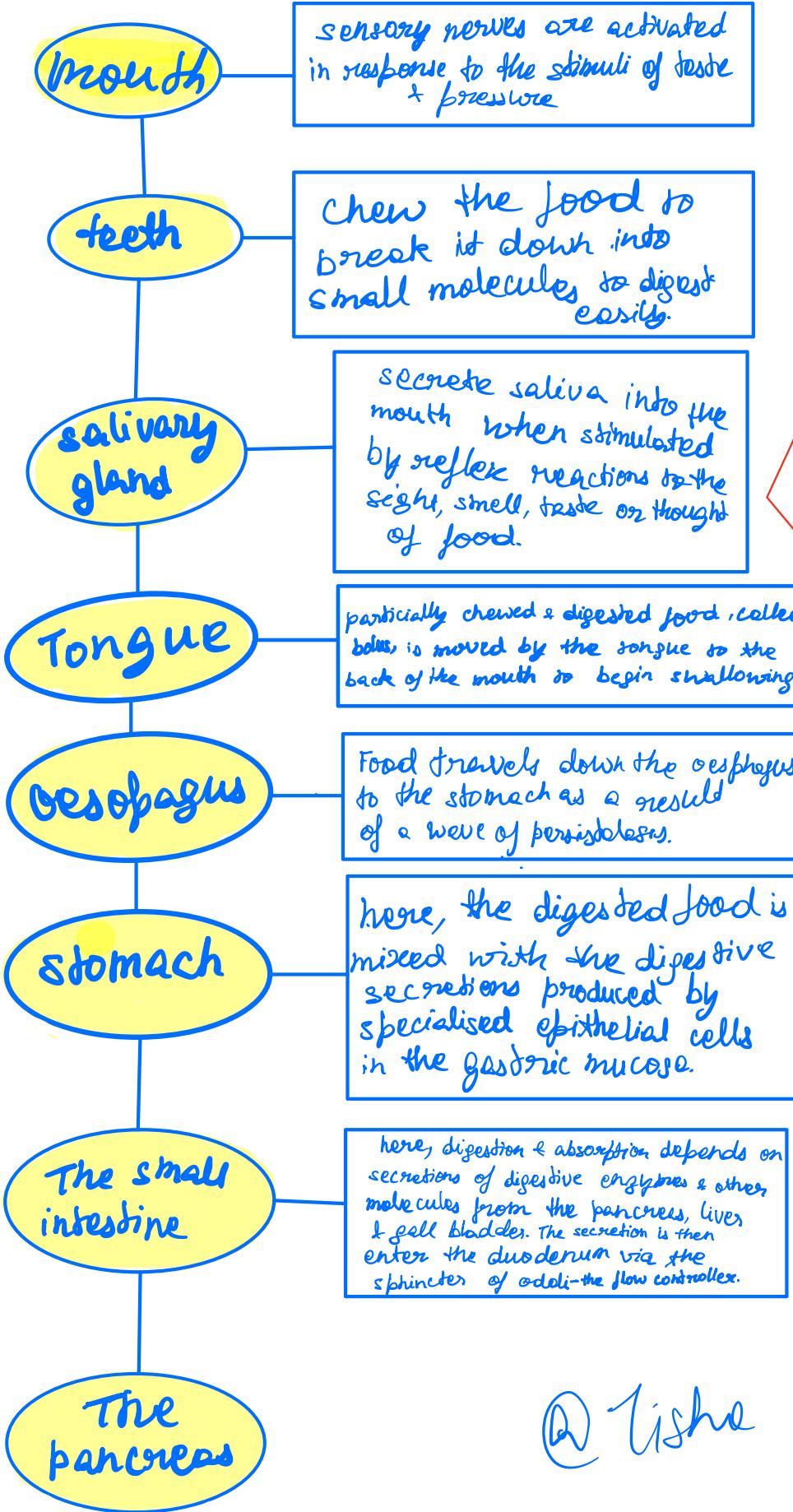


# Digestive System



The sense of taste activates the secretions of gastric juices in the stomach.

Stages of swallowing:

1. voluntary phase
2. pharyngeal phase
3. oesophageal stage

**Peristalsis**: the process of a contraction & relaxation of the outer layer of smooth muscle cells in digestive tract wall

**The Small Intestine**

- powerhouse of the GI tract
- a tube like structure
- the epithelial surface is covered in finger-like projections called villi
- the luminal surface of each villus is folded into smaller finger-like projections called microvilli. The layer has been described as a brush border.

② Tissue