**Question**  
1. In a tabular form only, compare and contrast sections of the Gastrointestinal tract

**ANSWER**

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| **GIT SECTIONS** | **STOMACH** | **MOUTH** | **SMALL INTESTINE** | **LARGE INTESTINE** |
| **MUCOSA** | * consists of simple columnar epithelium, lamina propria, and the muscularis mucosae. * contains the glands and the **gastric** pits. | * The **oral mucosa** is the **mucous** membrane lining the inside of the **mouth**. It comprises stratified squamous epithelium, termed "**oral** epithelium", and an underlying connective tissue termed lamina propria. | * consists of simple columnar epithelium, intestinal glands, microvilli | * The **mucosa** of the **large intestine** is smooth, lacking the villi found in the small **intestine**. Many **mucous** glands secrete mucus into the hollow lumen of the **large intestine** to lubricate its surface and protect it from rough food particles. * The **mucosa** of the colon is lined by a simple columnar **epithelium** with a thin brush border and numerous goblet cells |
| **SUBMUCOSA** | * The **submucosa** is made up of various connective tissues, blood vessels, and nerves. Connective tissues support the tissues of the mucosa and connect it to the muscularis layer. The blood supply of the **submucosa** provides nutrients to the wall of the **stomach** | * A **submucosa** may or may not be present deep in the dense layer of the lamina propria, depending on the region of the **oral cavity**. If present, the **submucosa** usually contains loose connective tissue and may also contain adipose tissue or salivary glands, as well as overlying bone or muscle within the **oral cavity**. | * The submucosa is the layer of dense, irregular connective tissue or loose connective tissue that supports the mucosa, as well as joins the mucosa to the bulk of underlying smooth muscle. * Connective tissue layer, which contains blood vessels, lymphatics and the submucosal plexus. | * The **submucosa** consists of a dense irregular layer of connective tissue with large blood vessels, lymphatics, and nerves that branch into the mucosa and **muscularis externa**. It contains Meissner's plexus, an enteric nervous plexus, situated on the inner surface of the **muscularis externa**. |
| **MUSCULARIS EXTERNA** | * The **muscularis externa** layer has three layers of muscle. An innner oblique layer , a middle circular and an external longitudinal layer. The contraction of these muscle layers help to break up the food mechanically. | * The **muscularis externa** is composed of somewhat irregularly arranged skeletal muscle, the longitudinal and constrictor muscles of the pharynx. | * Consists of two smooth muscle layers; the outer longitudinal layer and inner circular layer. The myenteric plexus lies between them. | * two muscle layers (inner circular [tight helix; modified in anal sphincters]; outer longitudinal [loose helix]) modified as **taniae coli:** 3thickening separate **haustra coli** (Roman device for hauling water; sacculations); (Auberbachs) myenteric plexuses; sympathetic ganglia and fibers between muscle layers; peristaltic action independent; |
| **ADVENTITA** | * irregular dense ct surrounded by mesothelium; continuous with greater and lesser mesenteries (omenta) at greater and lesser curvatures. | * irregular dense ct surrounded by mesothelium (serosa) or bound to body wall (adventitia). | * Comprised of loosely arranged fibroblasts and collagen, with the vessels and nerves passing through it. The majority of the small intestine adventitia is covered by mesothelium and is commonly called the serosa. | * Outermost connective tissue layer covering the gastrointestinal tract of the ascending colon, descending colon and the rectum. * irregular dense ct surrounded by mesothelium (serosa) or bound to body wall (adventitia); **appendices epiploicae** = small fat-filled pouches |