

Anterior features of peripatus

For Bsc part-I, Zoology (H)

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Introduction :-

Body wall consists of thin, highly permeable and flexible cuticle: a single layer of epidermis based on a thin connective tissues dermis and 3 layers of muscles namely circular, oblique and longitudinal. Body cavity is haemocoel. True coelom is reduced to the gonadal cavities and sacs associated to nephridia.

Haemocoel is further divided into a dorsal pericardial, a middle perivisceral, a ventral perineural and ventrolateral sinuses.

Digestive System :- it consists of the alimentary canal and the digestive gland. The former is straight tube extending from the mouth to anus with jaws, tongue, and teeth bearing buccal cavity, muscular pharynx, short oesophagus.

Circulatory System :- it consists of an elongated middorsal tube

Extending entire length of the body called heart. It lies in the pericardial sinus communicating to the latter through pairwise segmentally arranged lateral ostia lying opposite each pair of leg.

Respiratory System :-

Numerous tubular in growth of the body wall called tracheae serve the purpose of respiration. Groups of tracheae open to exterior through irregularly distributed spiracles or stigmata without valves.

Excretory System :-

It consists of segmentally arranged pairs of Nephridia. These open to the exterior through nephridiopore located at the bases of legs on their inner bases. Each so called nephridium or excretory tubules.

Reproductive System :- It is dioecious in both sexes. Gonads are paired reproductive organs are ciliated and open to the exterior through a single median ventral pore lying immediately in front of anus.