

## CHAPTER

29

## ACTIVE READING

## Simple Invertebrates

## ► Section 29-2: Cnidarians

Read the passage below, which is reproduced from page 640 of your textbook. Answer the questions that follow.

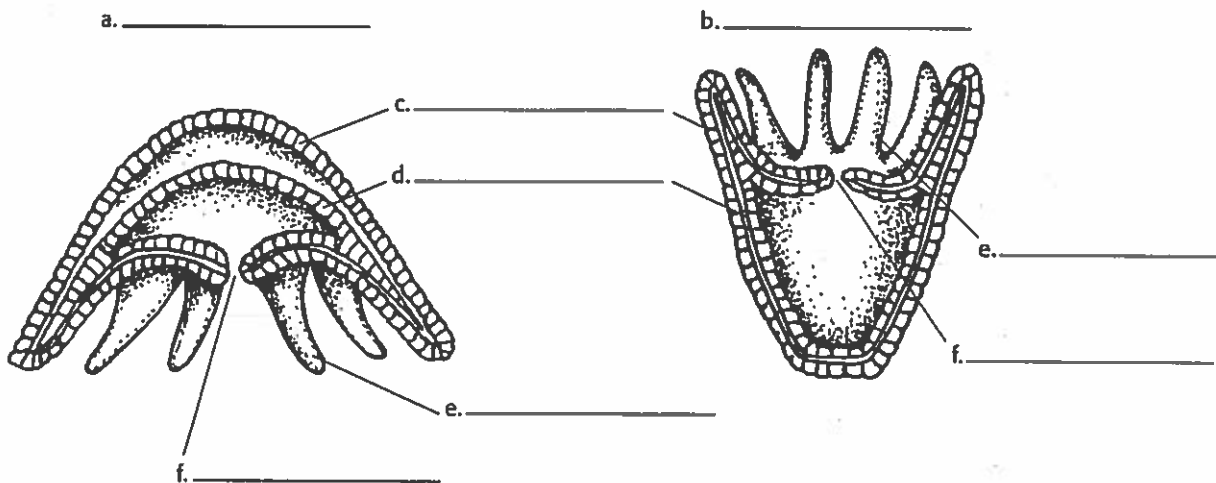
Cnidarians have two basic body forms, both of which show radial symmetry. Medusa forms are free-floating, jellylike, and often umbrella-shaped. Polyp forms are tubelike and are usually attached to a rock or some other object. A fringe of tentacles surround the mouth, located at the free end of the body. Many cnidarians exist only as medusas, while others exist only as polyps. Still others alternate between these two phases during the course of their life cycle.

The cnidarian body has two layers of cells, the outer is ectoderm and the inner layer is endoderm.

Read each question and write your answer in the space provided.

**SKILL:** Interpreting Graphics

1. The figures below show the two body forms of cnidarians. Using the information contained in the passage, classify each form as either medusa or polyp. Then, in the spaces provided, label the following parts of each form: mouth, tentacle, ectoderm, and endoderm.



Circle the letter of the word or phrase that best completes the statement.

2. All cnidarians have a body form that
- a. resembles an umbrella.
  - b. has three layers of cells.
  - c. shows radial symmetry.
  - d. changes during the life of the organism.