

**Topic: Morphology and Life history of Obelia**

**Class: B.Sc Part –I (Hons.)**

**Paper- I**

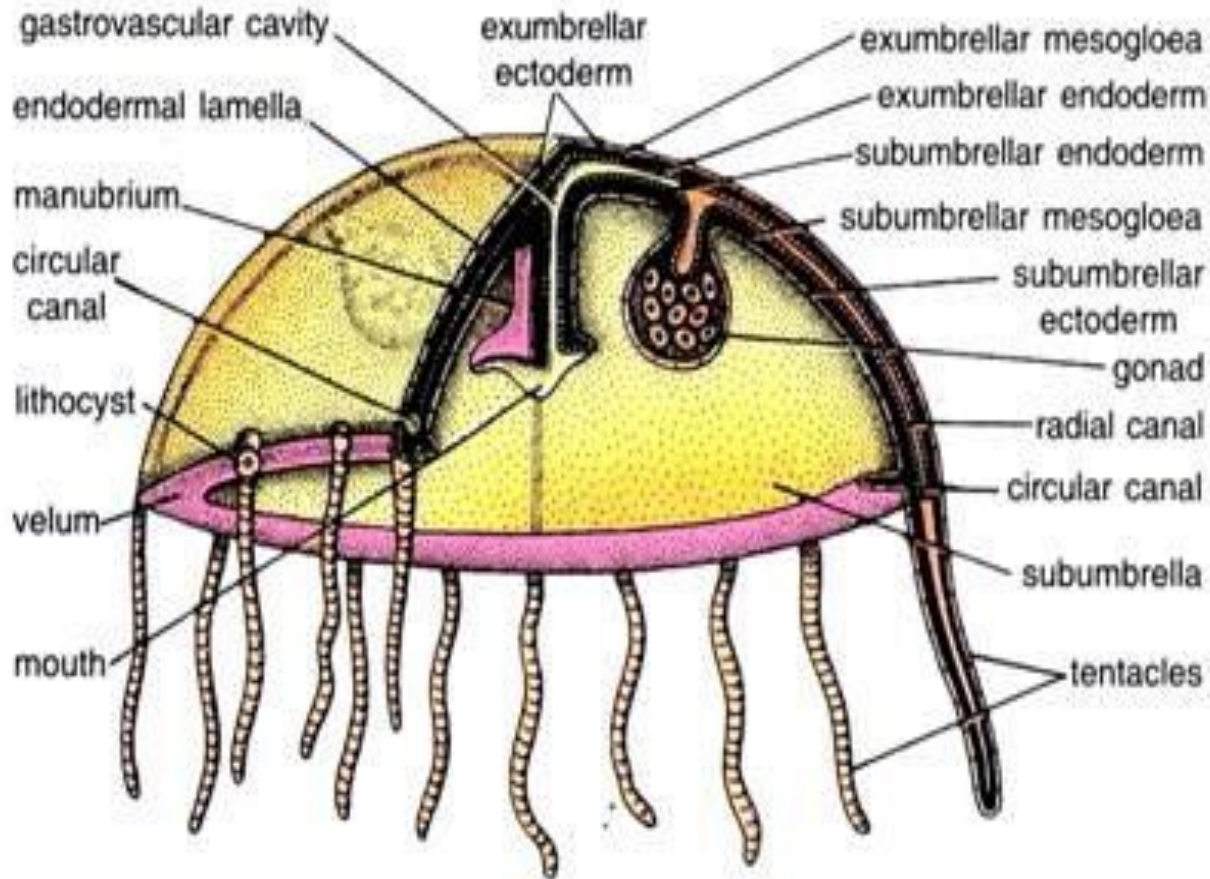
**Group – A**

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Obelia: Diagrammatic structure of medusa with more than one-quarter of the umbrella and manubrium cut away.



# Histology of Medusa:

- The ectoderm covers the bell on all sides,
- Its epitheliomuscular cells are produced into muscle processes which run longitudinally in the manubrium and tentacles.
- In the sub-umbrella, the muscle processes of the ectoderm are so large in proportion to the epithelial part that they almost form muscles only.

- The muscle processes form a striated circular muscle and some radial muscles in the sub-umbrella,
- They bring about locomotory movements.
- The ectoderm of the ex-umbrella is devoid of musculature.
- The endoderm lines the enteric cavity and the radial and circular canals.
- The endoderm cells have no muscle processes, they are ciliated epithelial cells, they are digestive.
- Between the two ectoderm layers of the bell is a thin sheet of endoderm lamella except where the enteron lies.

- The endoderm lamella is formed by the fusion of upper and lower layers of endoderm,
- the fusion having occurred at all places except in the region of the enteron.
- Between the ectoderm and endoderm is thick mesogloea forming the bulk of the bell of the medusa, manubrium and tentacles.
- The velum has a double layer of ectoderm and the thick mesogloea in the middle, it has no endoderm.