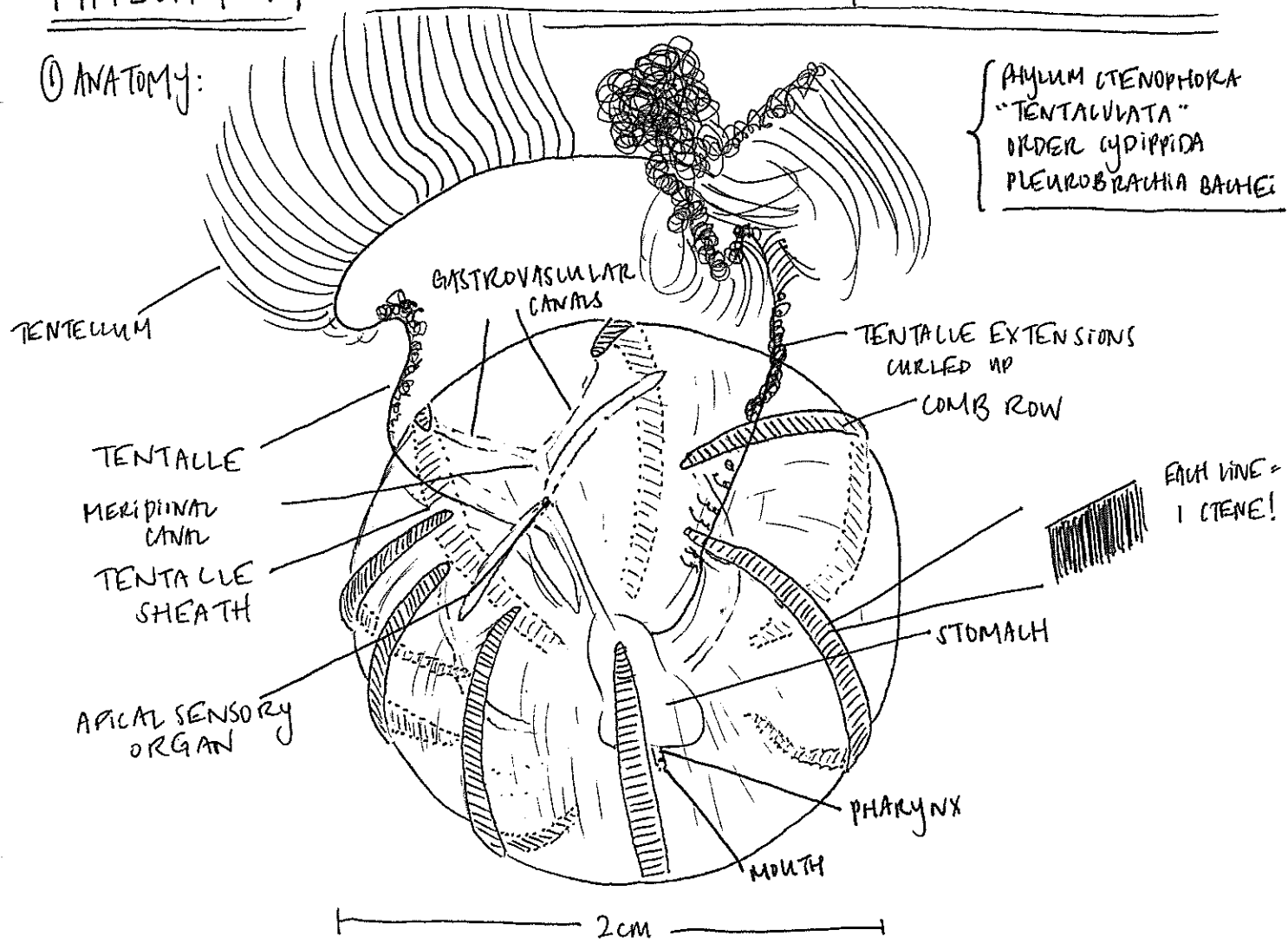


# PHYLUM Ctenophora: COMB JELLIES!

05.09.17

## I ANATOMY:



## II: FED ARTEMIA TO PLEURO.:

\* Captured the Artemia prey with its tentacles, which were extended / stuck to the bottom of the bowl, but quickly bunched up around the brine shrimp. Their tentacles are sheathed with colloblasts - cells that consist of a bulbous, sticky head connected to a long, straight filament and spiral, unipolar filament. Once it had trapped the brine shrimp in its tentacles, the Pleurobrachia retracted the tentacles toward its mouth. I tried to remove a tentacle and observe the colloblasts, but the tentacle was too bunched up to visualize properly.

## III SWIMMING:

\* Ctenophores move via a synchronized flapping of its combs (ctenes) and muscle contraction. The apical sensory organ is paramount in this movement. A statolith lies within 4 balancing organs + ciliated furrows. When the organism tilts, the statolith pushes against the balancers; the beating of the ciliated furrow triggers the first comb, and the rest of the ctenes in the comb row transmit waves mechanically.



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