CHAPTERS 5 & 6
DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

Chapter 5
It is always a good idea to review the Anatomy of each system. We will be focusing on terms and the more common pathologies of each system. For example in the digestive system, cholelithiasis or gallstones is a common occurrence. Viral hepatitis, especially B and C, occur frequently; hepatitis A is more common in Third World countries. By the way, we are up to Hepatitis G!!

This chapter begins the pathologies associated with each system (see p. 160-169)  
**Chapter 5 - Exercises C, E, F, J and K**

Chapter 6
This chapter focuses on the procedures and tests for the digestive system. Abbreviations are on p. 196. Please add IBS (Irritable Bowel Syndrome) to the list. We will discuss the difference between Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) and Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS).

The Colonoscopy Report on p. 197 is a good review of medical terms in context. Also the Review Sheets on p. 209-211.

**Chapter 6 – Exercises A, B, C, I and J**
Laparoscopic surgery (laparoscopy means the process of looking into the abdomen)

Laparoscopic surgery involves the use of flexible endoscopes equipped with tiny video cameras and related surgical instruments which are inserted into a patient through long, thin tubes.

About 95% of all gallbladder operations are now performed through laparoscopy. About the largest incision requires for laparoscopic surgery is approximately 3/8", and a laparoscopic operation will typically require four incisions to accommodate the endoscope, surgical instruments, and the suction and irrigation devices. An injected gas swells the patient's abdomen, giving the surgeon a clear field of vision. The tubes used to insert the surgical equipment have an internal diaphragm which prevents the escape of the inert gas.

Where recovery was once measured in weeks, laparoscopic surgery now allows a patient to have the procedure in the morning and leave in the afternoon.

Typical laparoscopic procedures:
- cholecystectomy/gallbladder removal
- endometriosis removal
- hysterectomy
- myomectomy/fibroid removal
- percutaneous laser disc decompression/herniated disk repair
- laparoscopic chronic heartburn repair

Note: with the exception of the gallbladder removal, the other procedures are considered experimental.