

Cell to system staircase

Each level contributes to the next; one is not the whole.

1 CELL

Chain A: Intestinal epithelial cell

Chain B: Cardiac muscle cell

↓ contributes to ↓

2 TISSUE

Chain A: Epithelial tissue

Chain B: Cardiac muscle tissue

↓ contributes to ↓

3 ORGAN

Chain A: Small intestine

Chain B: Heart

↓ contributes to ↓

4 SYSTEM

Chain A: Digestive system

Chain B: Circulatory system

Organs contain several tissues; arrows do not mean “only”.