

## Unit 6 Health Issues

### ■ The outbreak of COVID-19

The 2019 novel coronavirus was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019. The novel coronavirus outbreak has drawn increased international attention as the virus quickly spreads across the world. As of today, over 675 million confirmed cases have been reported worldwide, and the global death toll has topped 6.87 million. This brand-new virus can be transmitted between humans through droplets and contact. People **infected** with COVID-19 may have the symptoms of fever, cough, and shortness of **breath**. It's said that the virus is infectious during its incubation period. If you want to reduce your risk of being infected with this **disease**, wear a surgical mask when you go to crowded public spaces. Governments are implementing measures such as isolation and quarantine to contain the coronavirus. We could take precautions to **prevent** infection, such as washing hands regularly and avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth.

#### 1 infect (v) 傳染

Ex. All the computers in the office were infected by the same virus.

*word family:*

- She has an infectious smile.
- Poor hygiene can increase the danger of infection.

**word roots:** 表「行為動作」fect, fact =

**infect** (in+make)

ex. People with the virus may feel well, but they can still infect others.

**manufacture** (hand+make+n)

ex. He works for a company that manufactures electronic goods.

**word roots:** 表「感官動作」tag, tact, tach, tang =

**attach** (to+touch)

ex. Remember to attach a label to the present.

**detach** (away+touch)

ex. You can detach the hood if you prefer the coat without it.

**intact** (not+touch)

ex. The package arrived intact.

**tangled** (touch+adj)

ex. Her hair is like tangled string when she gets up every morning.

2 breath (n) 呼吸

Ex. The beauty of the Blue Mosque took my breath away.

*word family:*

- The nurse told me to **breathe in** deeply and then **breathe out** slowly.
- After skiing for a few hours, we took the skis off and had a **breather**.
- The disease in her lungs made **breathing** very painful. [U]
- The old man was **breathless** after climbing the stairs.

3 disease (n) 疾病

Ex. They might **pass on** the disease **to** their children.

*word family:*

- Workers are dealing with tons of **diseased** carcasses on the farm.

*synonyms:*

- People often go to their doctor about relatively **minor ailments**.
- The family have a history of **blood disorder**.

**collocations:**

_____ a disease
_____ a disease
_____ disease
a _____ disease
an _____ disease
a(n) _____ disease
a _____ disease

4 prevent (v) 避免

Ex. A block in the pipe was preventing the water **from** coming through.

*word family:*

- **Prevention** is better than cure.
- If drivers could be more careful, this type of accident is **preventable**.
- While traveling abroad, take **preventive measures** to avoid illness.

## ■ Insurance

People and companies buy insurance policies in case there is an accident or damage to their property. If something happens, they will receive **compensation** from the insurance company. This means that they are protected against risks to their health, home car, or even financial loss. With most kinds of insurance, the insured party pays the insurance company annual or monthly premiums to pay for the coverage. When loss or damage occurs, the policy holder files a **claim** to the insurance company. The insurance company will assess the amount of loss or damage to the policy holder and then will either **approve** or deny compensation. If they approve the claim, they pay out to the claimant, although there is often a deductible that the policy holder must pay. These days, many property owners and businesses carry liability insurance that covers them against/for claims that they were negligent.

### 5 compensation (n) 補償、賠償金

Ex. She offered to pay for lunch as compensation for keeping me waiting.

*word family:*

- Victims of the crash will be compensated **for** their injuries.
- His enthusiasm compensates **for** his lack of skill.

### 6 approve (v) 批准、贊成 **OPP:**

Ex. The conference approved a proposal for a referendum.

*word family:*

- I don't approve of cosmetic surgery. **OPP:**
- The bill will be submitted for approval by Congress. [U]
- His ideas have won widespread public approval. [U]
- Her joke was greeted with approving laughter. **OPP:**
- The plane was flying below the approved minimum altitude of 500 feet.

### 7 **claim** (n) 索款、索賠

Ex. Please submit your claim for travelling expenses to the accounts department.

*word family:*

- Some people still claim that there's no firm evidence linking smoking with lung cancer.
- The earthquake so far has now claimed 1500 lives.
- The judge asked the victim if she could give any evidence to support her claim.

**word roots:** 表「感官動作」 claim =

dis**claim** (not+shout)

ex. The company disclaimed all responsibility for the disaster.

pro**claim** (forward+shout)

ex. Brazil proclaimed itself independent from Portugal in 1882.

ac**claim** (to+shout)

ex. She's being acclaimed as the greatest novelist.

re**claim** (again+shout)

ex. The land will be reclaimed for a new airport.

■ What does the doctor **prescribe**?

- a) Take one tablet three times a day after meals.
- b) Take a teaspoonful of medicine last thing at night.
- c) Rub this ointment on you and don't spend too long in the sun without sun block.
- d) We'll get the nurse to put a bandage on your wrist.
- e) You'll need to have some injections before you go to the Amazon.
- f) I'll ask the **surgeon** when he can fit you in for an **operation**.
- g) You'll have to have your leg put in plaster until the break mends.
- h) I think you should have total bed rest for a week.

8 **prescribe** (v) 開處方

Ex. The doctor may be able to prescribe you something for the stomachache.

*word family:*

- The doctor should give you a **repeat prescription**.  
**cf.**

**word roots:** 表「行為動作」 scribe, script =

sub**scribe** (under+write)

trans**scribe** (across+write)

manus**cript** (hand+write)

post**script** (after+write)

9 surgeon (n) 外科醫生

Ex. A surgeon is a doctor who's specially trained to perform medical operations.

*word family:*

- The patient underwent surgery on his heart.

*word focus:* **hospital**

- 醫學中心：
- 精神病院：
- 診所：
- 安寧病房：
- 安養院：
- 病房：
- 藥局：
- 急診室：

10 operation (n) 手術

Ex. A very experienced heart surgeon will perform the operation.

*word family:*

- The family runs a small farming operation.
- The new production plant went into operation last month.
- The new airport should be fully operational by next year.
- The machine can operate at high speeds.
- Call the operator for the phone number.

■ **Prefixes (字首)**

**Verb prefixes: un- and dis- with the meaning 'not'**

<b>un</b> happy	<b>dis</b> appear
<b>in</b> correct	<b>dis</b> agree
<b>im</b> possible/balance/mortal	<b>dis</b> believe
<b>il</b> legal	<b>un</b> dress
<b>ir</b> regular	<b>un</b> wrap