

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 423 million confirmed cases have been reported worldwide, and the global death toll has topped 5.87 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 慢性病： _____

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

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

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.

■ Safety at work

In order to prevent **injuries** and fatalities at work, employers are required by law to provide a safe work environment. Government agencies set guidelines that regulate the number of fire extinguishers, fire doors, fire escapes, and emergency exits that must be available in a workplace. Workplaces should also comply with rules about the number of first aid kits, the use of hard hats, safety goggles, ear plugs, and other safety **equipment** and the quality of the ventilation system. If there are flammable or hazardous materials in the building, they should be in **suitable** containers. Management should inform their employees about the safety risks of slippery floors or dangerous gases.

8 injury (n) 傷害

Ex. The truck driver suffered injuries **to** his head and arms.

word family:

- I fell down the stairs and injured my back.
- Too much alcohol is injurious **to** the health.

word choice: **damage, hurt, wound**

- damage

Ex. Fires can damage crops and animals

The doctors were worried that he might have suffered brain damage.

- hurt / injure

Ex. My tooth still hurts me.

- wound

Ex. She suffered a knife wound to her thigh.

9 equipment (n) 設備

Ex. All of the medical equipment must be sterilized before use.

word family:

- They spent lots of money equipping the rooms **with** video cameras.
- The school must equip new teachers **to** deal with difficult children.

word choice: **apparatus, gear, kit**

- apparatus

Ex. Astronauts have special breathing apparatus.

- gear

Ex. The fishermen loaded all their gear into the boat and go fishing.

- kit

Ex. The teacher has a first aid kit in the classroom.

10 suitable (a) 合適的 **OPP:**

Ex. The exercise is very suitable **for** back pain sufferers.

word family:

- Whatever your reason for borrowing, the bank has the loan that suits your **needs**.
- Betty wore a black suit for the interview.
- With his qualifications and experience, he would seem to be ideally suited **for** the job.

■ **Prefixes (字首)**

Other prefixes

prefix	meaning	examples
ad	to, toward	advance affectation
ob	against	obstinate oppose
anti	against	anti-war antibiotic
pre/ante	before	prevent
pro	for, forward	progress
con	together	contain conservation
de	away, down, not	departure defect depict
ab / abs	away	absent abstain
ex	former	ex-wife
ex	out of	extract
ambi / amphi	around, both	ambition amphibian
mal	bad	malfunction
mis	wrong	misunderstand
micro	small	microwave
multi	many	multi-purpose
sub	under	subdivision
post	after	postwar
semi / hemi	half	semiconductor hemisphere
mono	one, single	monologue
bi	two	bicycle
tri	three	tripod
quadr / quart	four	quarter
pent	five	pentagon
under	not enough	undercooked
super	over	supervise survey