

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 155 million confirmed cases have been reported worldwide, and the global death toll has topped 3.24 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 grin.
- Poor hygiene can increase the danger of infection.

word roots: 表「行為動作」fect, fact, fic =
manufacture (hand+make+n)
artificial (skill+make+adj)

word roots: 表「感官動作」tact, tach, tag, tang, tig =
attach (to+touch)
contagious (together+touch+adj)
intangible (not+touch+adj)
contiguous (together+touch+adj)

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
a _____	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. (journalism)
- The judge asked the victim if she could give any evidence to support her claim.

word roots: 表「感官動作」 claim =

disclaim (not+shout)

reclaim (again+shout)

■ 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:

- Several passengers were seriously injured in a car crash.
- Too much alcohol is injurious **to** the health.

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.

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	
ab / abs	away	absent	abstain
ad	toward	advance	affectation
amphi	both	amphibian	
anti	against	anti-war	antibiotic
auto	by oneself	autograph	autobiography
bi	two	bicycle	bilingual
con	together	contain	conservation
de	away, down, not	departure	depict defect
ex	former	ex-wife	
ex	out of	extract	evacuate
mal	bad	malfunction	
mis	wrong	misunderstand	
micro	small	microwave	
mono	one, single	monologue	
multi	many	multi-purpose	
pre	before	prevent	
pro	for, forward	progress	
post	after	postwar	postgraduate
quadr / quart	four	quarter	
semi / hemi	half	semiconductor	hemisphere
sub	under	subdivision	subway
super	over	supervise	survey
tri	three	tripod	triangle
under	not enough	undercooked	understand