

Unit 6 Postural Assessment

Task 1 Speaking

A) Discuss in pairs:

- Why is good posture important?
- What is frequently wrong with people's posture these days?

B) Are the following causes of effects of poor posture?

- headaches
- stress
- sedentary lifestyle
- back pain
- misalignment in the body
- strain on the body
- hunching to get closer to a screen
- vertebrae deteriorate
- earlier exhaustion
- being overweight

Task 2 Listening - The benefits of good posture

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyK0oE5rwFY>)

Watch the video and answer the questions below:

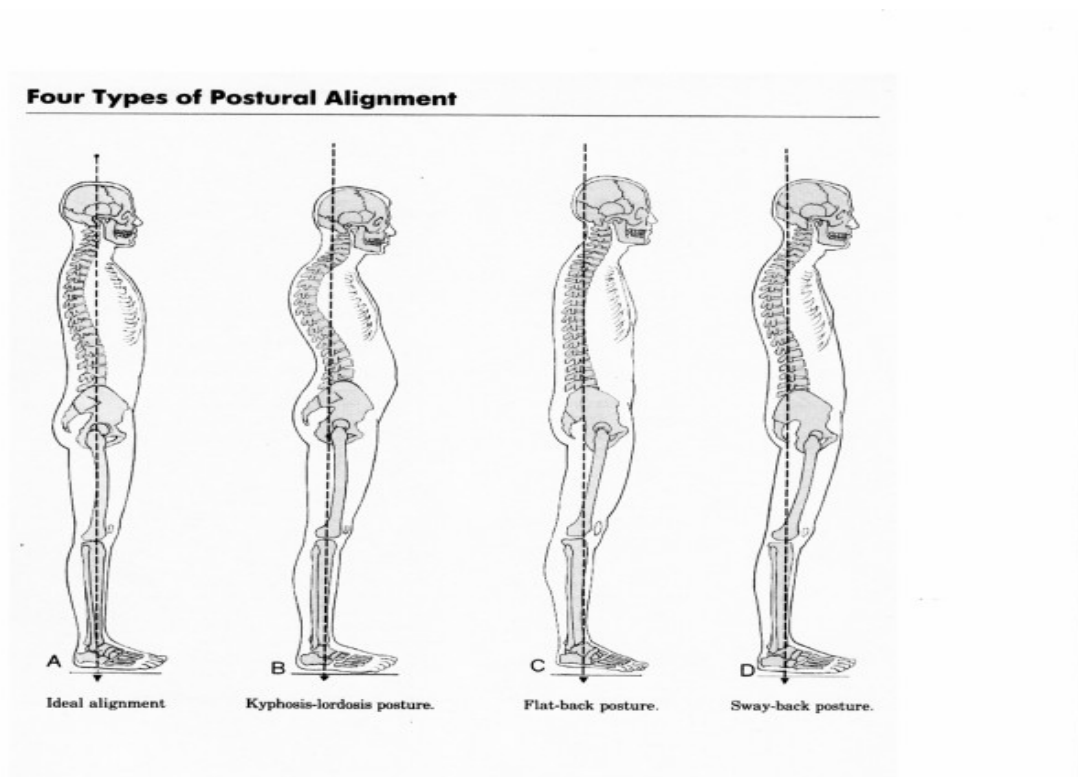
- Why is good posture important?
- What does bad posture cause?
- What does good posture look like?
- What can we do to improve our posture?

Now explain the meaning of the following expressions:

slouch – awkward position – wear and tear on ligaments – likelihood – exclusive cause - efficient - fatigue

Task 3 Describe the types of posture in the picture using the following phrases:

tilted (forward) round excessively (lordotic) (mis)aligned pelvis shifted forward
retracted shoulders curved lower lumbar flattened



<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/posture-matters-dr-caroline-keddie>

Task 4 Close test

Fill in the missing word.

The postures we assume provide clues to not only the condition of our bodies – traumas and (1) old and new, and mild or more (2) pathologies – but (3)..... how we feel about ourselves, our confidence (or lack of it), how much energy we (4) (or are lacking), how enthusiastic (or unenthusiastic) we feel, or whether we feel certain and relaxed (or anxious and (5)). Intriguingly, we all almost always adopt the same postures in response to the same (6)

Observe 10 people feeling confident, motivated, and optimistic, and you will notice that most are standing (7), with their chests out and heads (8), and that most have adopted a wide stance, giving themselves a wide (9) of support. By contrast, observe 10 people feeling anxious, demotivated or pessimistic, and you may notice that they have shifted their (11) to one leg, and that they stoop or flex at the waist, looking at the (12)..... rather than up and ahead. They may also cross one or both (13) against the chest in a protective manner.

Task 5 Speaking: Factors affecting posture

Study the list of factors below and give specific examples of their impact on posture.

FACTOR	EXAMPLES
Structural or anatomical	scoliosis, discrepancy in the length of the long bones in the upper or lower limbs, extra ribs, extra vertebrae
Age	changes in posture due to ageing
Physiological	effects of discomfort, tiredness, pregnancy, etc.
Pathological	Illness, stroke, pain, mal-alignment in the healing of fractures, osteoporotic changes
Occupational	sedentary jobs, manual jobs
Recreational	playing tennis, being a committed cyclist
Environmental	responding to temperature
Social and cultural	sitting cross-legged, squatting or on chairs
Emotional	grieving, being angry or fearing pain

Task 6 Why should I do a postural assessment?

Consider the following examples:

- A) You are treating clients who regularly engage in sport or physical activity. A 30-year-old man comes to you complaining of recurring knee pain. He is a keen runner. Could this pain be aggravated by the posture of his lower limbs?
- B) Your client is a woman with pain in her left ankle. Observing her posture from the posterior and anterior views, you get the impression that she does not bear weight equally through her lower limbs but seems to favour her left leg despite this being the problem ankle. There is slightly more bulk in the left calf muscle, too. Upon questioning, the client recalls fracturing her right ankle as a child and admits to feeling fearful about bearing weight through this ankle. Even though the client knows the fracture is fully healed, she reports always having relied more on her left leg for support. Could this information explain the pain in the client's left ankle?

Highlight useful vocabulary in the texts above.

Task 7 Conditionals

Define the rules of the first and second conditional:

Conditional 1: If she has another injury, she'll retire from professional sport. / If the weather is bad, they may cancel the tournament.

.....

Conditional 2: If she had another injury, she'd retire from professional sport. / If the weather was bad, they could cancel the tournament.

.....

Complete the sentences:

- a) He'll live to be 90 if he ...
- b) You'll get a bad back if ...
- c) She'll lose weight if ...
- d) The patients would comply to the treatment plan if ...
- e) If everyone exercised regularly, ...
- f) You'd feel less tired if ...