

03 Key: Musculoskeletal system-disorders

1. Explain these words in English:

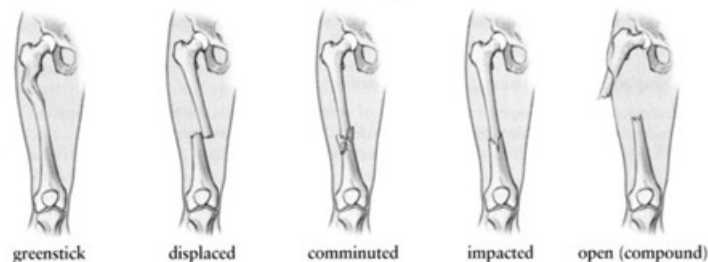
ligament
sling
to tear
to sprain
dislocation
herniated disc

impair
inflammation
crutches
curvature
joint
plaster

2. Discuss these questions with your partner:

1. What happens if skeletal system does not manage to withstand the pressures and stresses of daily activities?
2. What human activities often jeopardize the bones? And what toll do they take on the musculoskeletal system?
3. What are the negative effects of dislocation? (consider ligaments, nerves and bones)
4. What problems can people have with their vertebral column due to injury and what due to hereditary factors?
5. What disorders in musculoskeletal system are caused due to wear and tear of the body?
6. What disease/disorder which impairs the function of skeletal system do you consider the most serious and why?

1. Fractures



1. a, 2. c, 3. d, 4. b, 5. e

2. Treatment of fractures: Word Formation.

1. broken, 2. Union, 3. anatomical, 4. reduction/reducing, 5. excessive, 6. fixation, 7. malunion

Disorders of the skeletal system: Describe the diseases with the help of the verbs which follow the respective disease.

Arthritis: mean, involve, persist, be widespread, cripple

Osteoarthritis: occur, to be characterized by, to be seen in, include, wear away, rub, cause, to be affected by, use, reduce

Osteoporosis: mean, occur, dissolve, maintain, decrease, become, break, sneeze, cause, prevent, adhere to (keep to), avoid, smoke, drink, exercise

Scoliosis: view, appear, cause, interfere with, lead to, depend on, wear, correct, slow down, require, progress, straighten, fuse together

Spina bifida: include, cause, open, fail, wrap completely, leave unprotected, treat, close, prevent, operate, be dependent on

4. Listening: see the transcript below

D = Doctor, P = Patient

D Hi, Mr Stone, I'm Dr Tariq, one of the doctors in A&E. How are you?

P I'm OK, but I'm a bit worried about my wife.

D Your wife's OK.

P That's good.

D Amir, one of the paramedics, says you were walking along the street when your wife collapsed. Can you tell me a bit more about what you actually saw?

P Mmm. Yes, sure. We were shopping in Cambridge Street in town, when suddenly Barbara, my wife, just fainted. Mmm, we tried to get her upright and she started twitching quite violently. It was quite scary.

D Yes, it certainly can be, but it can happen when people faint like this. Did anything else happen?

P No. Nothing at all. She came round very rapidly. But we dialled 999 and a

paramedic appeared almost instantly and then the ambulance almost immediately afterwards. Do you think she had a seizure or something like epilepsy?

D We don't think so. But can I ask you a few more questions? Did she complain of anything before that?

P Mmm. She had been complaining of feeling a bit unwell, and had almost fainted and she felt a bit woozy? She ... yes, er... she was a bit dizzy and she was yawning repeatedly and then all of a sudden, there she was, lying on the ground.

D Anything else? Was she ill or anything before she fell?

P No. Just tired.

D What about her eyesight?

P Nothing, but she said her hearing was a bit funny – she wasn't hearing clearly.

D Any vomiting?

P No.

D When she fell, how did she fall?

P She just crumpled to the ground slowly. In fact, it all happened so abruptly and silently I didn't realize it had happened.

D So she didn't cry out or anything?

P No, there was no warning sign at all.

D Just a few more questions.

P OK.

D Has she ever had anything like this before?

P When I come to think of it, she passed out once before about a month ago. She hasn't been feeling well off and on over the summer. We thought it was the heat.

D At the moment it looks like ...

Make sure you know what these words mean:

A&E, Faint = pass out x pass away = die; to twitch; came around/round; seizure = fit; complain, yawn, dizzy, woozy, vomit, abruptly

2) 1. were walking, passed out; 2. has never had, experienced, 3. had been admitted/was admitted, became; 4. has never suffered, has been feeling; 5. was yawning, has not done, fainted; 6. had fallen/fell, started, tried; 7. was lying, was not shaking; 8. happened, fell; 9. bit, messed, has been feeling

3) 1. We were eating in a restaurant, when I suddenly felt woozy and I fainted. This has never happened before.

2. Ahmed had never been ill before but he felt unwell yesterday. He abruptly cried and passed out.

3. We were travelling by train to the city. He had not eaten since the morning. He vomited and we came straight here.

4. Mary has been having fainting fits for the past few days. She was doing a lot of running around when it happened the second time. She has never have them before. An none of us has have them either.

5. She was getting out of bed when she came over all giddy, but she had had it before, so we thought nothing of it.

5. Injuries

Key: bleed, scar, bruise, in pain, scratched, scab, injuries, grazed, wound, swollen, blister, sprained/twisted, scalded, sting

7. Talk to your partner and use as many types of past tense as possible.

Have you ever had any injury (a broken bone, twisted joint or torn muscle, etc.)?

How did it happen?

How was that injury treated?

8. Picture description

Look at these two pictures - what do they have in common and what differences can you see? Describe what is happening in each of them.



Rapid tense change

When describing a series of actions, it is very important to convey accurately the sequence of events. It is helpful to remember that the Past Continuous and Past Perfect Continuous provide a background to other actions.

Past Continuous: *I was lifting a box ...*
= Subject + Past Simple of *be* + *-ing* form

Past Perfect Continuous: *My mother had been feeling dizzy for a few days.*
= Subject + Past Simple of *have* + *been* + *-ing* form

We often use the Past Simple for events that interrupt other actions or which are connected to a context that has been provided.

Past Simple: *I was lifting a box when I fell over.*
My mother fainted this morning. She had been feeling dizzy for a few days.

It is common to use the Past Simple to describe a series of consecutive events. We often use words such as *suddenly* and *then* to provide continuity.

I got on the bus and then I sat down. Suddenly, I felt sick.

We use the Past Perfect to refer back to an earlier action that is finished.

Past Perfect: *My father had fallen earlier that day.*
= Subject + Past Simple of *have* + past participle

We use the Present Perfect to talk about something that happened at any time in the past up to the present moment.

Present Perfect: *She hasn't eaten anything today.*
= Subject + Present Simple of *have* + past participle

We use the Present Perfect Continuous to talk about something that has happened continuously or repetitively from a point in the past right up to the present. Sometimes, we can use either a Present Perfect or a Present Perfect Continuous form. The important thing to remember is that the latter emphasizes the continuous aspect of the action.

Present Perfect Continuous: *She's been having dizzy spells for some time now.*
= Subject + Present Simple of *have* + *been* + *-ing* form

We can use time markers such as *when* or *after* to link actions. Be very careful about the tense you use.

I was cleaning the windows when I slipped and broke my leg. or *When I was cleaning the windows, I slipped and broke my leg.*

NOT ~~*I cleaned the windows when I slipped and broke my leg.*~~

After I had rested, I felt better.

He doesn't remember anything after the ambulance arrived.

Note the use of the comma when *after* or *when* come at the beginning of the sentence.

See further grammar explanation and exercises in Basic and Advanced past tenses