
Word formation: nouns

A fast way to expand your vocabulary is to make sure you know the different forms of the words you learn.

Exercise 1. The words in this list are all verbs. What are the noun forms? Write them in the second column. The first one has been done for you as an example.

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------|------------------|-----|------------|-------|
| 1. | diagnose | <u>diagnosis</u> | 9. | infect | _____ |
| 2. | examine | _____ | 10. | carry | _____ |
| 3. | prescribe | _____ | 11. | replace | _____ |
| 4. | suffer | _____ | 12. | degenerate | _____ |
| 5. | operate | _____ | 13. | refer | _____ |
| 6. | cure | _____ | 14. | paralyse | _____ |
| 7. | recover | _____ | 15. | obstruct | _____ |
| 8. | analyse | _____ | | | |

Exercise 2. First, check your answers to Exercise 1 in the key. Then rewrite the sentences below, changing the verbs (which are in **bold**) to nouns. Do not change the meaning of the sentences, but be prepared to make grammatical changes if necessary. The first one has been done for you as an example.

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|---|---|
| 1. I diagnosed that the patient had a heart condition.
<i>My diagnosis was that the patient had a heart condition.</i> | 9. We found that the tissue was infected .
<i>We found an _____</i> |
| 2. I examined the patient fully.
<i>I made a full _____</i> | 10. Ten per cent of the population are thought to carry the bacteria.
<i>Ten per cent of the population are thought to be _____</i> |
| 3. I prescribed a course of antibiotics.
<i>I wrote a _____</i> | 11. We replaced the patient's hip.
<i>The patient was given a hip _____</i> |
| 4. He suffered very little.
<i>He experienced very little _____</i> | 12. His condition has degenerated .
<i>There has been a _____</i> |
| 5. We operated immediately.
<i>The _____</i> | 13. The patient was referred to a specialist.
<i>The patient was given a _____</i> |
| 6. This disease cannot be cured .
<i>There is no _____</i> | 14. His arm was paralysed after the stroke.
<i>He suffered _____</i> |
| 7. He has recovered fully.
<i>He has made a full _____</i> | 15. The artery was obstructed by a blood clot.
<i>The blood clot was forming an _____</i> |
| 8. The lab analysed the blood sample.
<i>The lab made an _____</i> | |

Two-word expressions

Make 15 two-word expressions connected with medicine by combining words from the two lists: A and B. Match each expression with the appropriate phrase. Use each word once. The first one has been done for you as an example.

A

allergic
balanced
bedside
biological
bone
brain
clinical
digestive
general
general
heart
malignant
plastic
primary
surgical

B

anaesthetic
attack
clock
death
diet
intervention
manner
marrow
practitioner
reaction
surgery
system
tooth
trial
tumour

1. A condition in which the heart has a reduced blood supply because one of the arteries becomes blocked by a blood clot, causing myocardial ischaemia and myocardial infarction
heart attack
2. A substance given to make someone lose consciousness so that a major surgical operation can be carried out
3. Soft tissue in cancellous bone.
4. The treatment of disease or other condition by surgery.
5. Any one of the first twenty teeth which develop in children between about six months and two-and-a-half years of age, and are replaced by the permanent teeth at around the age of six.
6. Surgery to repair damaged or malformed parts of the body.
7. A condition in which the nerves in the brain stem have died, and the person can be certified as dead, although the heart may not have stopped beating.
8. The way in which a doctor behaves towards a patient, especially a patient who is in bed.
9. An effect produced by a substance to which a person has an allergy, such as sneezing or a skin rash.
10. A trial carried out in a medical laboratory on a person or on tissue from a person.
11. A tumour which is cancerous and can grow again or spread into other parts of the body, even if removed surgically.
12. A doctor who provides first-line medical care for all types of illness to people who live locally, refers them to hospital if necessary and encourages health promotion.
13. The rhythm of daily activities and bodily processes such as eating, defecating or sleeping, frequently controlled by hormones, which repeats every twenty-four hours.
14. The set of organs such as the stomach, liver and pancreas which are associated with the digestion of food.
15. A diet that provides all the nutrients needed in the correct proportions.

Word formation: adjectives

The italicised words in the sentences in Column A are all nouns. What are the adjective forms? Complete the sentences in Column B using the correct adjective forms.

	Column A	Column B
1.	The surgeons operated to repair the <i>defect</i> on the patient's heart valve.	The surgeons operated to repair the patient's ...
2.	His diet has a calcium <i>deficiency</i> .	His diet is calcium-...
3.	She has a physical <i>dependence</i> on amphetamines.	She is physically ...
4.	The doctor noted an <i>excess</i> of bile in the patient's blood.	The doctor noted an ...
5.	An attack of <i>hypoglycaemia</i> can be prevented by eating glucose or a lump of sugar when feeling faint.	A ...
6.	The vaccine should give <i>immunity</i> to tuberculosis.	The vaccine should make you ...
7.	They have periods of complete <i>inactivity</i> .	They have periods when they are completely ...
8.	The <i>pain</i> in his foot is so great that he can hardly walk.	His foot is so ...
9.	I injured my <i>spine</i> in the crash.	I suffered ...
10.	She complained of <i>stiffness</i> in the joints.	She complained of ...