
Opposites 2

Exercise 1.

Match the words in italics with their opposites in the box on the right. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. The opposite of *back* is **front**
2. The opposite of *acute* is
3. The opposite of *dead* is
4. The opposite of *improve* is
5. The opposite of *healthy* is
6. The opposite of *open* is
7. The opposite of *major* is
8. The opposite of *reduce* is
9. The opposite of *smooth* is
10. The opposite of *benign* is

alive
chronic
closed
deteriorate
front
ill
increase
malignant
minor
rough

Exercise 2.

Complete these sentences using the words from Exercise 1. Use one word from each pair of opposites.

1. She had an _____ attack of shingles.
2. He became excited, causing his pulse rate to _____.
3. He was very ill, but now his condition has begun to _____.
4. The calf muscles are at the _____ of the lower leg.
5. She put cream on her hands, which were _____ from heavy work.
6. The tumour is _____ and so may reappear even if removed surgically.
7. The hospital is _____ to visitors from noon to five o'clock.
8. The doctor arrived too late: the patient was already _____.
9. There's nothing wrong with you: you're completely _____.
10. He had to undergo _____ surgery on his heart.

Extension. Work with a partner and test each other. One partner closes the book, while the other asks questions such as "*What's the opposite of back?*".

Symptoms & common illnesses 1

These words are all used to talk about illnesses: their symptoms and effects. Tick the ones you understand. Check the others in the dictionary.

1. allergic reaction

2. blister

3. cough

4. fever

5. infectious

6. inflammation

7. itchy

8. malformation

9. malaise

10. rash

11. resistance

12. runny nose

13. sneeze

14. spot

15. swelling

Read the descriptions below and match them to the names of the illnesses in the box on the right.

1. An infectious disease of the upper respiratory tract with fever and muscular aches, which is transmitted by a virus and can occur in epidemics.
.....

2. A common infectious viral disease of children, with mild fever, swollen lymph nodes and a rash. It can cause stillbirth or malformation of an unborn baby if the mother catches the disease while pregnant.
.....

3. An illness, with inflammation of the nasal passages, in which someone sneezes and coughs and has a blocked and running nose.
.....

4. An infectious disease of children, caused by a herpes virus, and characterised by fever and red spots which turn to itchy blisters.
.....

5. An infectious disease of children where the body is covered with a red rash. It can weaken the body's resistance to other disease, especially bronchitis and ear infections. If caught by an adult it can be very serious.
.....

6. An infectious disease of children, with fever and swellings in the salivary glands, caused by a paramyxovirus.
.....

7. An infectious disease affecting the bronchial tubes, common in children and sometimes very serious. The patient coughs very badly and makes a characteristic 'whoop' when inhaling after a coughing fit.
.....

8. Inflammation in the nose and eyes caused by an allergic reaction to plant pollen, mould spores, dust mites or animal hair.
.....

allergic rhinitis
coryza
infectious parotitis
influenza
pertussis
rubella
rubeola
varicella

Symptoms & common illnesses 2

Exercise 1.

Many illnesses also have informal names. Match the informal and formal names listed below. The first one has been done for you as an example.

INFORMAL

1. Chickenpox is the same as
2. A cold is the same as
3. The flu is the same as
4. German measles is the same as
5. Hay fever is the same as
6. Measles is the same as
7. Mumps is the same as
8. Whooping cough is the same as

FORMAL

- allergic rhinitis
- infectious parotitis
- coryza
- influenza
- rubella
- rubeola
- pertussis
- varicella

Exercise 2.

Complete these six conversations between doctors and patients by writing in the name of the illness. Use the informal terms from the table above.

1. What seems to be the trouble?
My eyes and my nose are running all the time.
I feel terrible.
When did this begin?
At the beginning of July.
It's probably just
2. What's the problem?
It's my son. He's got a rash and swelling in his armpits.
Does he have a fever?
Yes.
Hmm. He may have.....
3. How are you feeling?
I've got this terrible cough.
Mm-hmm.
And after I cough I make a noise when I try to breathe.
Sounds like
4. How are you today?
Oh, not very well. I've got a cough and a terrible cold.
Do you have a fever?
Umm, yes I do.
It's probably a touch of
5. What's the problem?
It's my daughter. She's got a fever and this swelling.
Where's the swelling?
In her throat.
It could be.....
6. So, what can I do for you?
It's the twins. They're covered in these dreadful red spots.
Are they experiencing any itching?
Yes, they are.
It may be.....

Extension. Practise the conversations with a partner.