

CAREER  
PATHS

# Dental Hygienist

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PATHS**

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Book  
**3**



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## Scope and Sequence

Unit	Topic	Reading context	Vocabulary	Function
1	Medication	Article	acetaminophen, antifungal, antiseptic, chlorhexidine, corticosteroid, ibuprofen, muscle relaxant, over-the-counter, penicillin, pilocarpine, prescription, side effect, tetracycline	Asking about symptoms
2	Anesthesia	Textbook excerpt	anesthesia, benzocaine, block injection, epinephrine, general anesthetic, infiltration injection, injectable anesthetic, lidocaine, local anesthetic, nitrous oxide, syringe, topical anesthetic, vasoconstrictor	Expressing pleasure
3	Pediatric Dentistry	Client testimonials	adolescence, birth, childhood, confidence, environment, habit, kid-friendly, pediatric, pedodontic, preventative care, special needs, stage, trust	Asking for clarification
4	Geriatric Dentistry	Journal article	accessible, age, diabetes mellitus, edentulous, elderly, geriatric, geriodontics, mobile unit, nursing home, retain, senior citizen, systemic disease, wheelchair, xerostomia	Offering help
5	Special Needs Patients	Employee manual excerpt	caregiver, compassion, developmental disability, disability, factor, mentally ill, mild, mobility, moderate, modify, physical limitation, severe, stereotype, understanding	Apologizing
6	Chronic Illness	Article	associate, chronic illness, correlation, diabetes, heart disease, holistic, inflammation, kidney disease, link, osteoporosis, prone, stroke	Giving a warning
7	Patient Anxiety	Blog excerpt	anxiety, cycle of avoidance, direct experience, helplessness, indirect experience, invasive, mass media, phobia, reinforce, stimulus generalization, stressful, tell-show-do technique, traumatic, vicarious learning	Expressing sympathy
8	Hypersensitivity	Textbook excerpt	behavior, chemical, desensitizing, evaporative, hypersensitivity, identify, mechanical, non-invasive, osmotic, stimulus, tactile, thermal, whitening	Stating a preference
9	Communicating with Patients	Advice column	accusation, acknowledge, communication, eye contact, facial expression, feelings, greet, linger, listen, non-verbal, rephrase, smile, supportive, tone	Asking for advice
10	Vital Signs	Guidelines	baseline, blood pressure, measure, monitor, prior, pulse, range, record, respiratory rate, sphygmomanometer, stethoscope, temperature, thermometer, vital signs, watch	Showing understanding
11	Case Presentation	Article	benefit, case presentation, delay, enthusiasm, focus, need, non-clinical setting, objection, post-consultation, quote, sequence, technical, value, visual aid	Discussing costs
12	Process of Care	Journal article	assessment, conclusion, condition, cycle, documentation, evaluation, implementation, individualized, integrate, interpret, planning, prevention, process of care, recognition	Talking about importance
13	Nutritional Counseling	Textbook excerpt	baby bottle syndrome, brochure, cultural, diet, dietician, financial, food diary, junk food, nutrient deficiency disease, nutrition, recall, restriction, soft drink, viable	Making a request
14	Obtaining Licensure	Manual excerpt	agency, authority, basic, board, candidate, certification, clinical exam, CPR, education, issue, letter of recommendation, licensure, requirement, transcript, vary, written exam	Talking about requirements
15	Ethics	Ethical guidelines	abuse, autonomy, beneficence, confidentiality, ethics, harm, honest, integrity, justice, neglect, nonmaleficence, report, veracity, welfare	Giving news

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1



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## Scope and Sequence

Unit	Topic	Reading context	Vocabulary	Function
1	Dental Hygienists	Occupational manual	advice, dental hygienist, dentistry, diagnosis, health, instruction, license, oral health, patient, professional, service	Talking about experience
2	Work Settings	Article	clinic, dental practice, hospital, nursing home, prison, private, public, school, setting, variety	Expressing possibility
3	Dental Personnel	Advertisement	back office, dental assistant, dental therapist, dentist, financial coordinator, front office, lab technician, office manager, receptionist, staff	Introducing yourself
4	In the Practice	Email	lab, office, radiology room, reception desk, restroom, staff area, sterilization room, storage room, treatment room, waiting room	Expressing enthusiasm
5	Dental Specialties	Blog post	dental public health, endodontics, general practice, geriatric dentistry, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, prosthodontics, specialty, training	Talking about options
6	Dental Hygienist Instruments	Textbook	bur, curette, drill, explorer, hand tool, mirror, polisher, probe, saliva ejector, scaler, ultrasonic	Talking about cost
7	The Mouth	Textbook excerpt	gums, hard palate, lower lip, mouth, oral cavity, palatoglossal arch, soft palate, teeth, tongue, tonsil, upper lip, uvula	Empathizing
8	Tooth Anatomy	Textbook excerpt	blood vessel, cementum, crown, dentin, enamel, gum, jawbone, neck, nerve, periodontal ligament, pulp, root, root canal	Talking about impressions
9	Types of Teeth	Brochure	canine, chew, chop, crushing, cut, grinding, incisor, molar, premolar, tear, wisdom teeth	Asking for clarification
10	Oral Health	Pamphlet	accumulate, acid, bacteria, daily, floss, fluoride, hygiene, mouthwash, sugar, toothbrush, toothpaste	Talking about frequency
11	Personal Protective Equipment	Guidelines	blood, face shield, goggles, gown, infectious, lab coat, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), safety glasses, saliva, splash, splatter, spray, surgical gloves, surgical mask	Expressing likes/dislikes
12	Infection Control	Employee manual excerpt	change, contaminate, control, disinfect, disposable, infection, prevent, sterilize, vaccine, wash	Expressing relief
13	Dental Records	Employee guidelines	appointment, chart, dental history, dental record, diagnosis, electronic dental record, identification data, informed consent, medical history, note, treatment plan	Verifying information
14	Patient Health History	Health history questionnaire	alcohol, allergic reaction, hospitalized, illness, latex, mental health, operation, personal information, physician, pregnant, reason, tobacco	Confirming information
15	Oral Care	Leaflet	brush, clean, curve, floss, hold, reach, remove, sweep, tilt, wind	Thanking

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## Scope and Sequence

Unit	Topic	Reading context	Vocabulary	Function
1	Dental Prosthetics	Textbook excerpt	appliance, artificial, bridge, crown, dentures, fixed, implant, partial dentures, plastic, porcelain, prosthetic, removable, replacement, veneer	Making a suggestion
2	Orthodontic Appliances	Pamphlet	alignment, braces, bumper, crossbite, deformity, headgear, malocclusion, open bite, orthodontist, overbite, palatal expander, retainer, space maintainer, underbite	Stressing a point
3	Dental Exams	Webpage	cancer, checkup, comprehensive, decay, diagnose, evaluate, examine, gum disease, inspect, occlusion, restoration, screen	Explaining a process
4	Dental Cleanings	Brochure	apply, build up, clean, deposit, plaque, polish, prophylaxis, prophylaxis paste, remove, scrape, spit, tartar	Describing steps
5	Debridement	Article	debridement, dense, dislodge, follow up, periodontal probing, pocket space, pocket wall, root-planing, scaling, sensitive, underlying, vibration	Expressing a lack of knowledge
6	Fluoride Treatments	Pamphlet	demineralization, fluoride, fluorosis, foam, gel, mouth guard, paint, remineralization, resistant, reverse, topical, varnish	Describing benefits
7	Sealants	Article	attach, baby teeth, coating, fissure, harden, occlusal, plastic, primary teeth, protection, roughen, sealant, solution	Clarifying information
8	Impressions	Textbook excerpt	alginate, bubble, dental stone, fabricate, gag, impression, imprint, model, paste, powder, set, solid, tray	Asking for/ Offering advice
9	Radiography	Pamphlet	bitewing X-ray, cephalometric projection, computed tomography, exposure, extraoral, intraoral, lead apron, lead collar, occlusal X-ray, panoramic X-ray, periapical X-ray, radiation, radiograph, tomogram	Expressing concerns
10	Dental Caries	Poster	advanced, caries, cavity, discoloration, erosion, formation, fracture, pit, sensitivity, spread, symptom, weaken	Agreeing with an opinion
11	Periodontal Disease	Pamphlet	bleeding, bone graft, flap surgery, gingivitis, halitosis, loose, medication, periodontal disease, periodontitis, permanent, pocket, recede, reverse, swelling, tissue graft	Talking about symptoms
12	Oral Infections	Textbook excerpt	bacterial infection, blister, bulla, canker sore, chicken pox, chronic, cold sore, contagious, fungal infection, herpes simplex, measles, scarlet fever, thrush, ulcer, vesicle, viral infection	Asking for a recommendation
13	TMJ Problems	Article	bruxism, cartilage, clench, click, disc, dizzy, lock, mandible, mastication, nauseated, osteoarthritis, pain, pop, rheumatoid arthritis, temporal bone, temporomandibular joint	Making an assumption
14	Oral Cancer	Pamphlet	abnormal, brush biopsy, cancerous, chemotherapy, crust, difficulty, growth, patch, radiation therapy, sample, scalpel biopsy, sore, sore throat, tissue, tumor	Discussing risk factors
15	Dental Emergencies	Webpage	accident, cold compress, detail, emergency, floss pick, lose, milk, moist, preserve, reserve, rinse, save, stuck	Giving advice

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## Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What are dental prosthetics?
- 2 Why do people get dental prosthetics?



crown



dentures



bridge



implants

## Prosthetic Dentistry



veneer

Prosthetics is a dental specialty. It involves the repair or replacement of teeth. Prosthetics come in several different forms.

**Bridges** – These are a way of replacing missing teeth. A short row of prosthetics fills the gap. Bridges may be **fixed** or **removable**.

**Crowns** – These replace or cover a missing or injured tooth. Some crowns are secured with an **implant**. Others cap the damaged tooth.

**Dentures** – There are two types of dentures. **Partial dentures** replace the upper or lower set of teeth. Full dentures replace all patient's teeth. These are used in more severe cases. Dentures may be fixed or removable. They are usually made from **plastic resins** or **porcelain**.

**Implants** – These are titanium screws. They are attached to a patient's jawbone. They act like the root of a tooth. They form a base for various prosthetic **appliances**.

**Veneers** – These address a number of cosmetic issues. Veneers provide an **artificial** front to an existing tooth.

## Reading

2 Read the textbook excerpt. Then, mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 \_\_\_ Bridges are attached to the front of teeth to solve cosmetic problems.
- 2 \_\_\_ Dentures can either be fixed in place or removable.
- 3 \_\_\_ There are two different methods of attaching a crown.

## Vocabulary

3 Read the sentence pairs. Choose which word best fits each blank.

1 **artificial / fixed**

- A The patient worried that her \_\_\_\_\_ teeth would feel unnatural.
- B The patient chose \_\_\_\_\_ dentures rather than removable ones.

2 **prosthetics / veneers**

- A The hygienist reassured the patient that, nowadays, \_\_\_\_\_ are all of a high quality.
- B The patient wanted \_\_\_\_\_ because his front teeth were discolored.

3 **replacement / implant**

- A The \_\_\_\_\_ provided a base for the crown.
- B The bridge acted as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for the patient's missing teeth.

4 **crowns / appliances**

- A The hygienist did some research on the latest prosthetic \_\_\_\_\_.
- B Two of the patient's teeth needed to be capped with \_\_\_\_\_.

4 Place the words or phrases under the correct headings: *bridge, porcelain, partial dentures, plastic resin, dentures, removable*.

Prosthetics that replace teeth	Prosthetic materials	Permanency

- 5  Listen and read the textbook excerpt again. What is the purpose of implants?

## Listening

- 6  Listen to a conversation between a dental hygienist and a patient. Choose the correct answers.

- What is the purpose of the conversation?
  - to list different prosthetic materials
  - to suggest ways to reduce discomfort
  - to compare crowns to bridges
  - to discuss a damaged appliance
- What will the man most likely do next?
  - make an appointment to patch the broken porcelain
  - have the crown replaced as soon as possible
  - wait until the appliance causes discomfort
  - ask for information about oral bacteria

- 7  Listen again and complete the conversation.

**Hygienist:** Now, I'm just going to 1 \_\_\_\_\_ inside your mouth.

**Patient:** Okay. 2 \_\_\_\_\_.

**Hygienist:** I see that you have a crown. Some of the porcelain has broken off 3 \_\_\_\_\_.

**Patient:** That doesn't sound good.

**Hygienist:** Well, have you experienced 4 \_\_\_\_\_? Does the crown bother you?

**Patient:** No. 5 \_\_\_\_\_, I haven't noticed any changes.

**Hygienist:** The crown also appears to be slightly loose. I'd suggest 6 \_\_\_\_\_.

**Patient:** Why do you recommend that? I want to avoid additional dental work if possible.

## Speaking

- 8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

### USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

*Have you experienced ...?*  
*I'd suggest ...*  
*I want to avoid ...*

**Student A:** You are a hygienist. Talk to Student B about:

- the state of the prosthetic
- the recommended course of action
- the reason for your suggestion

**Student B:** You are a patient. Talk to Student A about your dental prosthetic.

## Writing

- 9 Use the conversation from Task 8 to write the hygienist's notes for a patient.



**Patient Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prosthetics Present:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Condition of Prosthetics:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommendations:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**4 Write a word or phrase that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.**

- Some teeth have more than one part of the tooth extending below the gumline.    r \_ o \_
- The soft, living tissue inside the tooth may be diseased if a patient has a toothache.    \_ u \_ p
- The dentist replaced a chip in the tooth's hard, white, exterior part of the tooth.    \_ n \_ m \_ l
- Damage to the tissue keeping the teeth firmly attached to the bone may result in a loose tooth.  
\_ e r \_ \_ d \_ n \_ a \_    l \_ g \_ m \_ n \_

**5 Listen and read the textbook excerpt again. What makes up the tooth's pulp?**

## Listening

**6 Listen to a conversation between a dentist and a dental hygienist. Choose the correct answers.**

- What is the conversation mostly about?
  - The condition of a patient's teeth.
  - The results of patients grinding their teeth
  - The issue the man needs address with the patient.
  - The reason the patient came into the clinic.
- What will the man most likely do next?
  - examine the patient's mouth
  - ask the woman to perform a cleaning
  - fill the cracks in the patient's teeth
  - treat the patient's toothache

**7 Listen again and complete the conversation.**

**Hygienist:** Mrs. Wheatley is ready for you to examine her.  
**Dentist:** Okay. Did you **1** \_\_\_\_\_ anything during her cleaning?  
**Hygienist:** Yes. I get the impression that she **2** \_\_\_\_\_ her teeth.  
**Dentist:** Why? Is the **3** \_\_\_\_\_ on her teeth worn down?  
**Hygienist:** That's what it looks like to me. And some of the teeth have small **4** \_\_\_\_\_ .  
**Dentist:** That's not good. I'll ask her about it.  
**Hygienist:** She also has a pretty deep cavity and is complaining of **5** \_\_\_\_\_ in that tooth.  
**Dentist:** The **6** \_\_\_\_\_ may be infected, then.

## Speaking

**8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.**

**USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:**

*Did you see anything ...?  
 I get the impression that ...  
 That's what it looks like to me.*

**Student A:** You are a dental hygienist. Talk to Student B about:

- a patient ready for an exam
- what you noticed during the cleaning
- information provided by the patient

**Student B:** You are a dentist. Talk to Student A about what he or she noticed while doing a cleaning.

## Writing

**9 Use the conversation from Task 8 to fill out the notes on the patient's cleaning.**



# Hygienist's Notes

**Patient Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Problems Observed During Cleaning:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Taken:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# Glossary

- accumulate** [V-T-U10] To **accumulate** something is to gather it and cause it to get larger.
- acid** [N-COUNT-U10] An **acid** is a liquid with a low pH which causes chemical reactions.
- advice** [N-UNCOUNT-U1] **Advice** is an opinion you give someone about what they should do in a specific situation.
- alcohol** [N-UNCOUNT-U14] **Alcohol** is a drink, such as wine, whisky or beer, which contains ethanol.
- allergic reaction** [N-COUNT-U14] An **allergic reaction** is a negative physical reaction, such as a skin rash or swelling, to substances, situations, or physical states.
- appointment** [N-COUNT-U13] An **appointment** is an arrangement to be somewhere at a specific time.
- back office** [N-COUNT-U3] The **back office** is the part of a business that is not visible to patients, clients or the public.
- bacteria** [N-UNCOUNT-U10] **Bacteria** are very small organisms. Some of them cause disease.
- blood** [N-UNCOUNT-U11] **Blood** is the fluid that moves through the heart, arteries, capillaries, and veins of vertebrate creatures, carrying nutrients and oxygen and moving waste out of the body.
- blood vessel** [N-COUNT-U8] A **blood vessel** is a tube that moves blood around the body.
- brush** [V-T-U15] To **brush** something is to use a toothbrush in a gentle, back-and-forth motion.
- bur** [N-COUNT-U6] A **bur** is a cutting instrument that turns around a fixed point. It is the bit used in dental drills.
- canine** [N-COUNT-U9] A **canine** is one of the four, sharp, pointed teeth found toward the front of the mouth. They are used to tear food.
- cementum** [N-UNCOUNT-U8] **Cementum** is a layer of connective tissue that joins the roots of the teeth to the gums and jawbone.
- change** [V-T-U12] To **change** something means to adjust, modify, or replace it.
- chart** [N-COUNT-U13] A **chart**, or dental record, is an official document used in dental offices to record the treatments performed on a patient along with other important information.
- chew** [V-T-U9] To **chew** is to bite food several times with your teeth in order to make it small enough to swallow.
- chop** [V-T-U9] To **chop** is to cut something into several, smaller pieces.
- clean** [V-T-U15] To **clean** something is to remove germs and debris from it.
- clinic** [N-COUNT-U2] A **clinic** is place where people go to receive a specific kind of medical or dental treatment. The amount of money patients pay for services may be less at a clinic.
- contamination** [N-UNCOUNT-U12] **Contamination** is the act of something or someone becoming infected or unclean.
- control** [V-T-U12] To **control** something means to dominate or manage it.
- crown** [N-COUNT-U8] The **crown** is the section of the tooth that sits above the gumline and that is visible.
- crush** [V-T-U9] To **crush** is to press something so hard that it breaks into smaller pieces.
- urette** [N-COUNT-U6] A **urette** is a dental instrument with a curved, pointed, metal end. It is used to remove tartar from below the gum line.
- curve** [V-T-U15] To **curve** something is to bend it.
- cut** [V-I-U9] To **cut** is to use an object to divide something into two or more pieces. The object is usually sharp.
- daily** [ADV-U10] If someone does something **daily**, he or she does it every day.
- dental assistant** [N-COUNT-U3] A **dental assistant** is someone whose job it is to get an office ready for patients and clean it afterwards. They may also do administrative tasks or take x-rays or molds.
- dental history** [N-COUNT-U13] A **dental history** is a patient's record of past dental treatments.
- dental hygienist** [N-COUNT-U1] A **dental hygienist** is a certified specialist in oral health and dental hygiene, working alongside a dentist, who provides preventive dental services.
- dental practice** [N-COUNT-U2] A **dental practice** is a place where one or more dentists works.
- dental public health** [N-UNCOUNT-U5] **Dental public health** is a specialty of dentistry that deals with the oral health of populations instead of individual private patients, such as at schools and government run clinics.
- dental record** [N-COUNT-U13] A **dental record**, or chart, is an official document used in dental offices to record the treatments performed on a patient along with other important information.

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# Dental Hygienist

**Career Paths: Dental Hygienist** is a new educational source for Dental Hygienist industry professionals who want to improve their English communication in a work environment. Incorporating career-specific vocabulary and contexts, each unit offers step-by-step instruction that immerses students in the four key language components: reading, listening, speaking, and writing. **Career Paths: Dental Hygienist** addresses topics including instruments, oral health, dental cleanings, patient anxiety, and periodontal disease.

The series is organized into three levels of difficulty and offers a minimum of 400 vocabulary terms and phrases. Every unit includes a test of reading comprehension, vocabulary, and listening skills, and leads students through written and oral production.

**Included Features:**

- A variety of realistic reading passages
- Career-specific dialogues
- 45 reading and listening comprehension checks
- Over 400 vocabulary terms and phrases
- Guided speaking and writing exercises
- Complete glossary of terms and phrases

The **Teacher's Guide** contains detailed lesson plans, a full answer key and audio scripts.

The **audio CDs** contain all recorded material.



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