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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Dental Prosthetics

1 Get ready!

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

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

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.

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.

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

Speaking

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 ...

Listening

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

1. What is the purpose of the conversation?
   A. to list different prosthetic materials
   B. to suggest ways to reduce discomfort
   C. to compare crowns to bridges
   D. to discuss a damaged appliance

2. What will the man most likely do next?
   A. make an appointment to patch the broken porcelain
   B. have the crown replaced as soon as possible
   C. wait until the appliance causes discomfort
   D. ask for information about oral bacteria

Writing

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

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.
Tooth Anatomy

The visible part of a tooth is the **crown**. The crown is composed of white **enamel**. Underneath the enamel is a very hard substance called **dentin**. The base of the tooth is surrounded by gum tissue. Beneath the dentin is the **root canal** which extends down into the **jawbone**. The root contains **blood vessels** and **nerves**. This is considered the tooth’s **pulp**. **Cementum** is a hard substance that covers the root. A **periodontal ligament** secures the tooth tightly to the jawbone.

### Get ready!

1. Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.
   1. Which parts of a tooth are visible?
   2. Which parts of a tooth are not visible?

### Reading

2. Read the textbook excerpt. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).
   1. Dentin composes the crown.  
   2. The pulp is contained within the root.  
   3. The cementum and periodontal ligament have the same basic function.

### Vocabulary

3. Match the words or phrases (1-6) with the definitions (A-F).
   1. **crown**  
   2. **nerve**  
   3. **cementum**  
   4. **dentin**  
   5. **blood vessel**  
   6. **root canal**

   A. a set of narrow spaces inside the root of the tooth  
   B. the layer of living cells under the enamel  
   C. a tube that moves blood around the body  
   D. the visible section of the tooth above the gumline  
   E. a layer of hard substance that covers the root  
   F. a body part that carries messages between the brain and the body
4 Write a word or phrase that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

1. Some teeth have more than one part of the tooth extending below the gumline.  
2. The soft, living tissue inside the tooth may be diseased if a patient has a toothache.  
3. The dentist replaced a chip in the tooth’s hard, white, exterior part of the tooth.  
4. Damage to the tissue keeping the teeth firmly attached to the bone may result in a loose tooth.

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.

1. What is the conversation mostly about?
   A. The condition of a patient’s teeth.  
   B. The results of patients grinding their teeth  
   C. The issue the man needs address with the patient.  
   D. The reason the patient came into the clinic.

2. What will the man most likely do next?
   A. examine the patient’s mouth  
   B. ask the woman to perform a cleaning  
   C. fill the cracks in the patient’s teeth  
   D. 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 _______ anything during her cleaning?  
Hygienist: Yes. I get the impression that she _______ her teeth.  
Dentist: Why? Is the _______ on her teeth worn down?  
Hygienist: That’s what it looks like to me. And some of the teeth have small _______.  
Dentist: That’s not good. I’ll ask her about it.  
Hygienist: She also has a pretty deep cavity and is complaining of _______ in that tooth.  
Dentist: The _______ 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.
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.

curette \[N-COUNT-U6\] A curette 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.
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.