

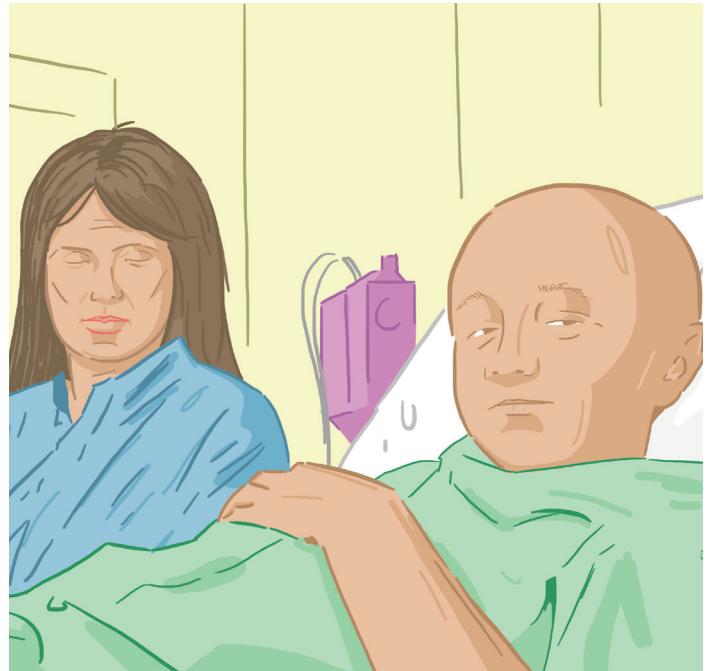
Cancer

Pre-Reading

A. Quote

Discuss this quote with your classmates.

"Man performs and engenders so much more than he can or should have to bear. That's how he finds that he can bear anything." —William Faulkner



B. Opinion

What are the first five words that come to your mind when you hear the word "cancer"?

Examples: thin, tired, crying, family, hospital...

C. Warm-Up Questions

1. Why do cancer patients often lose their hair?
2. Do you wear sunscreen? Why or why not?
3. Why do doctors ask about your family history of cancer?
4. Is it possible to catch cancer from someone who has it?

D. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. deodorant | a) the emission of energy in rays or waves |
| _____ 2. rumor | b) a rating that measures sun protection factor |
| _____ 3. radiation | c) the smoke that a person inhales when near someone who is smoking |
| _____ 4. chemotherapy | d) an underarm hygiene product, used to conceal body odor |
| _____ 5. SPF | e) a cancer treatment that involves the use of chemicals |
| _____ 6. melanoma | f) an agent that invades living cells and causes an infective illness |
| _____ 7. pass down | g) something that people tell each other without facts or proof |
| _____ 8. secondhand smoke | h) easily transferred from one person to another |
| _____ 9. contagious | i) a serious type of skin cancer |
| _____ 10. virus | j) to give from one generation to the next |

Reading

6 MYTHS ABOUT CANCER

1. *Deodorants cause cancer.*

Many people still believe that **deodorants** cause breast cancer. This likely started as an email **rumor**. Breast cancer is often found in the armpit area, but there is no known link between deodorants and cancer.

2. *Cancer causes hair loss.*

Many cancer patients lose their hair due to medical treatment. **Radiation** and **chemotherapy** can cause hair loss. It is not the cancer that causes the hair loss.

3. *Dark-skinned people don't get skin cancer.*

Darker skin provides a small amount of natural **SPF**. On the other hand, **melanoma** is more difficult to detect on darker skin. For this reason, skin cancer can be more deadly for dark-skinned people.

4. *Female cancers come from the mother.*

Many people think that breast and ovarian cancer are **passed down** from the mother. A father can also pass down genes that increase his daughter's risk of cancer.

5. *Pollution is worse than cigarette smoke.*

Air pollution is not good for the lungs of animals or humans. However, tobacco smoke is more likely to cause cancer. Even **secondhand smoke** can lead to cancer.

6. *You can't catch cancer.*

Most cancers are not **contagious** like colds and flus. A few cancers are caused by **viruses** or bacteria. The human papilloma virus (HPV) can lead to cancer in males and females. Hepatitis B can lead to liver cancer.

Further Thinking

Can you think of any more myths about cancer?
Did any of these surprise you?

Comprehension

Read the statements below. If the statement is true, write T beside the sentence. If it is false, write F and correct the information.

- _____ 1. Chemotherapy often causes hair loss.
- _____ 2. Deodorants are strongly linked to cancer.
- _____ 3. Dark-skinned people don't need sunscreen.
- _____ 4. A girl can inherit cancer risks from her father's side of the family.
- _____ 5. HPV is strictly a female form of cancer.

Vocabulary Review

A. Matching

Match the words on the left to the related statements on the right.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| _____ 1. contagious | a) Samir is sure Jolene has cancer. She has lost a lot of weight. |
| _____ 2. pass down | b) Mack got his baldness from his father's side. |
| _____ 3. rumor | c) Choose sunscreen that is at least 30 if you're going to the beach. |
| _____ 4. SPF | d) It is usually administered by an IV (intravenous). |
| _____ 5. chemotherapy | e) I have a sore throat, and I don't want you to catch it. |

B. Pronunciation

Work with a partner. Compare your pronunciation of each word. Do you pronounce these words in the same way? Ask your teacher to help you find the right vowel sounds and word stress. Mark where the main stress is in each word. How many syllables does each word have?

#	Word	# of Syllables
1	chemotherapy	
2	radiation	
3	contagious	
4	melanoma	
5	deodorant	

Writing

A. Brainstorm

Think of a health topic that you know a lot about. Use this area to brainstorm a list of myths about this topic.

B. Make a List

Turn the information that you brainstormed into a list.

6 MYTHS ABOUT _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Listening Practice

Designate each corner of your classroom as one of the following: *Strongly Agree / Agree / Disagree / Strongly Disagree*. Listen to your teacher read out the following statements. Walk to the corner that best describes your feelings about each statement.

Discuss each item when the movement stops. Why do you agree/disagree? Why do you have a strong opinion about this?

1. I worry about my health on a regular basis.
2. I like visiting people in hospitals.
3. Smokers deserve to get cancer.
4. I feel comfortable talking about cancer.
5. My doctor talks to me about the risks of cancer.
6. I know my extended family's medical history.

Role-Play

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

Create a role-play between a doctor and a person who is afraid of getting cancer. The patient is a "hypochondriac." He/she believes every myth about cancer. The doctor tries to set the patient's mind at ease. Try to use vocabulary from the reading.

Discussion

1. How do myths get passed around?
2. When it comes to rumors, are you skeptical, naive, or something in between?

Antonyms

skeptical: you don't believe something until you do your research or consult another source

naive: you believe everything you hear