



## TAKING CARE OF YOUR TEETH

Not everyone likes going to the dentist, but it's important to have healthy teeth. Work through these exercises and learn some of the words you can use to describe teeth and what you can do to take care of them.

### 1. OW!

Which sentence is British English and which American English? Which is incorrect English?

- a) I had a terrible toothache all last night.
- b) I had a terrible teethache all last night.
- c) I had terrible toothache all last night.

### 2. TOOTHY

Make five sentences.

- |                                             |                                          |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| a) If you have <b>false</b> teeth, ...      | 1. they are perfect!                     |
| b) If you have <b>stained</b> teeth, ...    | 2. they stick forward out of your mouth. |
| c) If you have <b>prominent</b> teeth, ...  | 3. they are no longer white.             |
| d) If you have <b>crooked</b> teeth, ...    | 4. they are not your natural teeth.      |
| e) If you have <b>immaculate</b> teeth, ... | 5. they are not in a straight line.      |

### 3. LAST TIME

Form a complete sentence with these words. The punctuation will help you.

I had • I went • Last time • out. • to have • to the dentist • two teeth

### 4. KEEP 'EM CLEAN!

Identify the correct expressions. What's the German equivalent?

- a) With **dental floss – dental thread** you can clean between your teeth.
- b) To remove bits of food between your teeth after a meal, you use **a toothpick – a toothstick**.
- c) Lots of children wear **a brace – a bracelet** to make their teeth grow straight.
- d) Do you get swollen **flesh – gums** if you brush your teeth too hard?
- e) I didn't need any fillings, but I had to have a lot of **plague – plaque** removed.

### 5. CHECK-UP

Build a dialogue. Start with sentence b).

- a) Goodbye now.
- b) Hello. I'd like to make an appointment with Dr Henderson, please.
- c) Well, if it's just for a check-up, then we could fit you in at 2 o'clock. How does that sound?
- d) I'm afraid we're busy all this week. Would next Tuesday be convenient?
- e) That's perfect. Thanks very much. Good-bye.
- f) Tuesday's fine... if it's in the afternoon, that is.

### 6. TOOTH AND NAIL

Replace the expressions in brackets with the correct idiom.

by the skin of our teeth • teething •  
through his teeth • tooth and nail

- a) We had some \_\_\_\_\_ (small, initial) problems, but in the end everything worked out fine.
- b) We fought \_\_\_\_\_ (very hard) to get a place for our daughter at the local school.
- c) We passed the final exam \_\_\_\_\_ (but it was close and we nearly failed).
- d) We could tell from his face that he was lying \_\_\_\_\_ (quite obviously).

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