

Unit 11 Communicating with the elderly

Vocabulary from the book

advanced years
 awkward (area)
 balanced meal
 be in (great) shape
 bereavement
 bother someone
 can't face someone or something
 cut something out
 dentures
 dizzy spell
 dribble
 ease
 funny turn
 get on well with
 get one down
 gout
 hearing aid
 hospice
 impairment
 in later life
 in the mood
 institutionalise
 isolation
 itch
 keep an eye on someone or something
 later life
 leak
 loneliness
 lose control of (your bladder)
 mild depression
 offer a helping hand
 pick at
 play up
 put in a home
 rash
 relieve
 scratch
 separation
 shake
 sneeze
 social services
 spasm
 stick (walking)
 support network
 to go (getting worse)
 trouble someone
 waterworks
 wear and tear

Additional vocabulary

alleviate
 bit odd
 commit
 discharge
 dread
 podagra
 senior years
 twitch

Exercise 1

Match the words in the two columns to make a common useful phrase from the unit.

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1 advanced | a turn |
| 2 balanced | b depression |
| 3 dizzy | c years |
| 4 funny | d network |
| 5 hearing | e services |
| 6 mild | f spell |
| 7 play | g and tear |
| 8 social | h meal |
| 9 support | i up |
| 10 wear | j aid |

Exercise 2

Complete the expressions with a word from the second column and then match the expressions to the meanings.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| 1 lose control of your _____ | eye | a assist |
| 2 offer a helping _____ | home | b be incontinent |
| 3 keep an _____ on someone | face | c dread |
| 4 put in a _____ | hand | d watch |
| 5 can't _____ someone or something | bladder | e institutionalise |

Exercise 3

Match the words or phrases with their synonyms.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1 dentures | a relieve |
| 2 ease | b cause a problem |
| 3 play up | c deteriorate |
| 4 gout | d eliminate |
| 5 get worse | e difficult |
| 6 awkward | f podagra |
| 7 cut out | g false teeth |

Exercise 4

Identify which one out of the following groups of words is the odd one out.

1	loneliness	isolation	separation	impairment
2	walking stick	gout	dentures	hearing aid
3	bother	play up	trouble	throw up
4	impair	relieve	ease	alleviate
5	occasional	lot of	bit of	touch of
6	put in a home	institutionalise	discharge	commit

Exercise 5

Fill the gaps with suitable words from the unit.

- 1 **Doctor:** Do you have anyone that can help you with things like the shopping?
Patient: Well, I _____ on well with my neighbours and they always offer to help.
- 2 **Doctor:** Do you manage to get out of the house much?
Patient: I guess I could if I really wanted to, but to be honest I'm rarely in the _____; I mean, somehow I just don't feel like it. I mean, it can be really embarrassing when I'm out socialising; my hands _____ so badly now that I can hardly hold a drink without spilling most of it.
- 3 **Doctor:** What about your appetite?
Patient: I don't really eat regularly; I just _____ at whatever is in the fridge when I feel a bit hungry.
- 4 **Patient:** Is there something that I should be doing to prevent me having these problems with my hip?
Doctor: No, not at all. I'm afraid it is just _____ and tear.
- 5 **Patient:** Is it true that _____ is caused by drinking too much red wine and port?
Doctor: Well, it can be a factor in bringing an attack on but it's not the actual cause; it's actually caused by excess uric acid in the body which then forms crystals round the cartilage joints.
- 6 **Doctor:** Well, to be honest, Mr Thompson, you're in great _____ for a man of your age.
- 7 **Doctor:** And is everything OK with your _____; you know, passing water and so on?

If you are having difficulty, here are the words for the exercise.

waterworks mood shape pick shake gout get wear
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