

LEVEL 1

abulia (ă-bū'lē-ă)

1. Loss or impairment of the ability to perform voluntary actions or to make decisions.
2. Reduction in speech, movement, thought, and emotional reaction; a common result of bilateral frontal lobe disease.

abasia (ă-bā'zē-ă)

Inability to walk.

achondroplasia (ā-kon'drō-plā'zē-ă)

This chondrodystrophy, characterized by an abnormality in conversion of cartilage to bone, is the most common form of short-limb dwarfism;

alexia (ă-lek'sē-ă)

An inability to comprehend the meaning of written or printed words and sentences, caused by a cerebral lesion. Also called optic alexia, sensory alexia, visual alexia, to differentiate from motor alexia (anarthria), in which there is loss of the power to read aloud even though the significance of what is written or printed is understood.

areolas (ă-rē'ō-lă)

One of the spaces or interstices in areolar tissue.

articulate (ar-tik'yū-lit)

1. Capable of distinct and connected meaningful speech.
2. To join or connect together loosely to allow motion between the parts.
3. To speak distinctly and precisely

acetic (a-sē'tik)

1. Denoting the presence of the two-carbon fragment of acetic acid.
2. Relating to vinegar; sour.

acetone (as'e-tōn)

A colorless, volatile, flammable liquid; extremely small amounts are found in normal urine, but larger quantities occur in the urine and blood of people with diabetes, sometimes imparting an ethereal odor to the urine and breath.

anima (an'i-mă)

In jungian psychology, the feminine archetype from the collective unconscious that manifests itself in men in dreams or in the imagination as a mediation between the unconscious and the ego, thus providing an unconscious template for relating to women.

appendage (ă-pen'dij)

Any part, subordinate in function or size, attached to a main structure.

albumin (al-bū'min)

A type of simple protein, varieties of which are widely distributed throughout the tissues and fluids of plants and animals; albumin is soluble in pure water, precipitable from solution by strong acids, and coagulable by heat in acid or neutral solution.

amniocentesis (am'nē-ō-sen-tē'sis)

Transabdominal aspiration of fluid from the amniotic sac.

areolas (ă-rē'ō-lă)

One of the spaces or interstices in areolar tissue.

achromatic (ak'rō-mat'ik)

Refracting light without chromatic aberration.

apex (ă'peks)

The extremity of a conic or pyramidal structure, such as the heart or the lung.

audiogram (aw'dē-ō-gram)

The graphic record drawn from the results of hearing tests with an audiometer, which charts the threshold of hearing at various frequencies against sound intensity in decibels.

bicuspid (bī-kūs'pid)

Teeth having two cusps. Humans have eight bicuspid or premolar teeth: two in front of each group of molars.

benzene (ben'zēn)

The basic six-carbon ring structure in most aromatic compounds; a highly toxic hydrocarbon from light coal tar oil; used as a solvent.

blood (blūd)

The "circulating tissue" of the body; the fluid and its suspended formed elements that are

circulated through the heart, arteries, capillaries, and veins; blood is the means by which 1) oxygen and nutritive materials are transported to the tissues, and 2) carbon dioxide and various metabolic products are removed for excretion.

caduceus (kă-dū'sē-ūs)

A staff with two oppositely twined serpents and surmounted by two wings; emblem of the U S Army Medical Corps. For veterinary medicine, the double serpent was changed in 1972 to its present form, with a single serpent.

carcinogen (kar-sin'ō-jen, kar'si-nō-jen)

Any cancer-producing substance or organism, such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, or agents such as in certain types of irradiation.

cervix (ser'viks)

1. neck.
2. Any necklike structure.

chromosome (krō'mō-sōm)

One of the bodies (normally 46 in somatic cells in humans) in the cell nucleus that is the bearer of genes, has the form of a delicate chromatin filament during interphase, contracts to form a compact cylinder segmented into two arms by the centromere during metaphase and anaphase stages of cell division, and is capable of reproducing its physical and chemical structure through successive cell divisions. In bacteria and other prokaryotes, the chromosome is not enclosed within a nuclear membrane and not subject to a mitotic mechanism. Prokaryotes may have more than one chromosome.

coagulant (kō-ag'yū-lant)

An agent that causes, stimulates, or accelerates coagulation, especially with reference to blood.

conflict (kon'flikt)

Tension or stress experienced by an organism when satisfaction of a need, drive, motive, or wish is thwarted by the presence of other attractive or unattractive needs, drives, or motives.

cryalgnesia (krī'al-jē'zē-ā)

Pain caused by cold.

colostomy (kō-los'tō-mē)

Establishment of an artificial connection between the lumen of the colon and the skin.

coloboma (kol-ō-bō'mā)

Any defect, congenital, pathologic, or artificial, especially of the eye due to incomplete closure of the retinal fissure.

concha (kon'kā)

In anatomy, a structure comparable with a shell in shape, as the auricle or pinna of the ear or a turbinate bone in the nose.

conatus (kō-nah'tūs)

A striving toward self-preservation and self-affirmation.

cyanide (sī'an-īd)

1. The radical $-CN$ or ion $(CN)^-$. The ion is extremely poisonous, forming hydrocyanic acid in water; has the odor of almond oil; inhibits proper metabolism of oxygen through disruption of respiratory proteins (cytochromes) at the cellular level.
2. A salt of HCN or a cyano-containing molecule.
3. Often used as a shortened term to describe cyanide gas.

deglutition (dē'glū-tish'ūn)

The act of swallowing.

dehydrate (dē-hī'drāt)

1. To extract water from.
2. To lose water.

diabetic (dī'ā-bet'ik)

1. Relating to or suffering from diabetes.
2. One who suffers from diabetes.

dura mater (dū'rā mā'tēr)

Pachymeninx (as distinguished from leptomeninx, the combined pia mater and arachnoid); a tough, fibrous membrane forming the outer covering of the central nervous system, consisting of periosteal and meningeal dura layer and an inner part, the dural border cell layer, continuous with the arachnoid barrier cell layer.

dioptrics (dī-op'triks)

The branch of optics concerned with the refraction of light.

drusen (drū'sen)

Small bright structures seen in the retina and in the optic disk.

dilation (dī-lā'shūn)

1. Physiologic or artificial enlargement of a hollow structure or opening.
2. The act of stretching or enlarging an opening or the lumen of a hollow structure.

dentin (den'tin)

The ivory forming the mass of the tooth. About 20% is organic matrix, mostly type I collagen, with some elastin and a small amount of mucopolysaccharide; the inorganic fraction (70%) is mainly hydroxyapatite, with some carbonate, magnesium, and fluoride. The dentin is traversed by a large number of fine tunnels known as tubules, running from the pulp cavity outward; within the tubules are processes from the odontoblasts.

dentistry (den'tis-trē)

The healing science and art concerned with the structure and function of the orofacial complex, and with the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of deformities, pathoses, and traumatic injuries thereof.

dispense (dis-pens')

To give out medicine and other necessities to the sick; to fill a medical prescription

edentulous (ē-den'tyū-lūs)

Toothless, having lost the natural teeth.

esotropia (es'ō-trō'pē-ă)

The form of strabismus in which the visual axes converge; may be paralytic or concomitant, monocular or alternating, accommodative or nonaccommodative.

extraction (eks-trak'shūn)

Luxation and removal of a tooth from its alveolus.

encephalogram (en-sef'ă-lō-gram)

The record obtained by encephalography.

encephaloid (en-sef'ă-loyd)

Resembling brain substance; denoting a carcinoma of soft, brainlike consistency, with reference to gross features.

fetus (fē'tūs)

The unborn young of a viviparous animal following the embryonic period.

fibrose (fī'brōs)

To form fibrous tissue.

fluorescein (flōr-es'ē-in)

An orange-red crystalline powder that yields a bright green fluorescence in solution and is reduced to fluorescin; a nontoxic, water-soluble indicator used diagnostically to trace water flow.

fluoroscopy (flōr-os'kō-pē)

Examination of the tissues and deep structures of the body by x-ray, using the fluoroscope or its successor, video fluoroscopy (q.v.).

folie (fō-lē')

Old term for madness or insanity, which now is taken to mean a psychotic disorder generally of the paranoid delusional type.

gastrostomy (gas-tros'tō-mē)

Establishment of a new opening into the stomach.

glaucoma (glaw-kō'mă)

A disease of the eye characterized by increased intraocular pressure, excavation, and atrophy of the optic nerve; produces defects in the field of vision and eventual blindness.

gestation (jes-tā'shūn)

pregnancy.

halitosis (hal'i-tō'sis)

A foul odor from the mouth.

habitus (hab'i-tūs)

The physical characteristics of a person.

heterochromia (het'ēr-ō-krō'mē-ā)

A difference in coloration in two structures that are normally alike in color.

hordeolum (hōr-dē'ō-lūm)

A suppurative inflammation of a gland of the eyelid.

hydroxide (hī-drok'sīd)

1. A compound containing a potentially ionizable hydroxyl group; particularly a compound that liberates OH⁻ upon dissolving in water.
2. The hydroxide anion, OH⁻.

hemic (hē'mik)

hematic.

hemiparesis (hem'ē-pā-rē'sis, -par'ē-sis)

Weakness affecting one side of the body.

hypoglossal (hī'pō-glos'al)

1. Below the tongue.
2. Relating to the twelfth cranial nerve (nervus hypoglossus).

immunopathology (im'yū-nō-pā-thol'ō-jē)

The study of diseases or conditions resulting from immune reactions.

immunodeficiency (im'yū-nō-dē-fish'en-sē, i-myū')

A condition resulting from a defective immune mechanism; may be *primary* (due to a defect in the immune mechanism itself) or *secondary* (dependent on another disease process), *specific* (due to a defect in either the B-lymphocyte or the T-lymphocyte system, or both) or *nonspecific* (due to a defect in one or another component of the nonspecific immune mechanism: the complement, properdin, or phagocytic system).

indolent (in'dō-lent)

Inactive; sluggish; painless or nearly so, said of a morbid process.

inhaler (in-hāl'ēr)

1. respirator
2. An apparatus for administering pharmacologically active agents by inhalation.

isomerase (ī-som'ēr-ās)

A class of enzymes catalyzing the conversion of a substance to an isomeric form, e.g., glucosephosphate isomerase.

isopter (ī-sop'tēr)

A line of equal retinal sensitivity in the visual field.

infrasonic (in'frā-son'ik)

Denoting those frequencies that lie below the range of human hearing.

ketosis (kē-tō'sis)

A condition characterized by the enhanced production of ketone bodies, as in diabetes mellitus or starvation.

kyphos (kī'fos)

A hump, the convex prominence in kyphosis.

macropsia (mā-krop'sē-ă)

Perception of objects as larger than they are.

macula (mak'yū-lă)

1. A circumscribed flat area, up to 1 cm in diameter, differing perceptibly in color from the surrounding tissue.
2. A small discolored patch or spot on the skin, neither elevated above nor depressed below the skin's surface.

malar (mā'lār)

Relating to the mala, the cheek or cheek bones

mandrel (man'drēl)

The shaft or spindle to which a tool is attached and by means of which it is rotated.

mastication (mas'ti-kā'shŭn)

The process of chewing food in preparation for deglutition and digestion; the act of grinding or comminuting with the teeth.

mortar (mōr'tār)

A vessel with rounded interior in which crude drugs and other substances are crushed or bruised by means of a pestle.

manometer (mā-nom'ē-tēr)

An instrument for indicating the pressure of any fluid or the difference in pressure between two fluids, whether gas or liquid.

metacarpal (met'ă-kar'pāl)

1. Relating to the metacarpus.
2. Any one of the metacarpal bones.

maceration (mas'ēr-ā'shūn)

1. Softening by the action of a liquid.
2. Softening of tissues after death by nonputrefactive (sterile) autolysis; seen especially in the stillborn, with detachment of the epidermis.

metatarsal (met'ā-tar'sāl)

Relating to the metatarsus or to one of the metatarsal bones.

mutism (myū'tizm)

1. The state of being silent.
2. Organic or functional absence of the faculty of speech

nail (nāl)

One of the thin, horny, translucent plates covering the dorsal surface of the distal end of each terminal phalanx of fingers and toes. A nail consists of corpus or body, the visible part, and radix or root at the proximal end concealed under a fold of skin.

necrocytosis (nek'rō-sī-tō'sis)

A process that results in, or a condition that is characterized by, the abnormal or pathologic death of cells.

nebulizer (neb'yū-līz'ēr)

A device used to reduce a liquid medication to extremely fine cloudlike particles; useful in delivering medication to deeper parts of the respiratory tract.

ophthalmic (of-thal'mik)

Relating to the eye.

opsin (op'sin)

The protein portion of the rhodopsin molecule; at least three separate opsins are located in cone cells.

oropharyngeal (ōr'ō-fā-rin'jē-āl)

Relating to the oropharynx.

oxide (ok'sīd)

A compound of oxygen with another element or a radical, e.g., mercuric oxide, HgO.

percutaneous (per'kyū-tā'nē-ūs)

Denoting the passage of substances through unbroken skin, as in absorption by inunction; also passage through the skin by needle puncture, including introduction of wires and catheters by Seldinger technique.

perinatal (per'i-nā'tāl)

Occurring during, or pertaining to, the periods before, during, or after the time of birth; i.e., before delivery from the 22nd week of gestation through the first 28 days after delivery.

perineurium (per'i-nū'rē-ūm)

One of the supporting structures of peripheral nerve trunks, consisting of layers of flattened cells and collagenous connective tissue, which surround the nerve fasciculi and form the major diffusion barrier within the nerve; with the endoneurium and epineurium, composes the peripheral nerve stroma.

plantar (plan'tar)

Relating to the sole of the foot.

pleura (plūr'ā)

The serous membrane enveloping the lungs and lining the walls of the pulmonary cavities.

parietal (pā-rī'ē-tāl)

Relating to the wall of any cavity.

pericardium (per'i-kar'dē-ūm)

The fibroserous membrane, consisting of mesothelium and submesothelial connective tissue, covering the heart and beginning of the great vessels. It is a closed sac having two layers: the visceral layer (epicardium), immediately surrounding and applied to all the heart's surfaces, and the outer parietal layer, forming the sac, composed of strong fibrous tissue (fibrous pericardium [TA]) lined with a serous membrane (serous pericardium [TA]).

pneumonocyte (nū-mōn'ō-sīt)

Nonspecific term referring to cells lining alveoli in the respiratory part of the lung.

pogoniasis (pō'gō-nī'ā-sis)

A rarely used term for the growth of a beard on a woman, or excessive hairiness of the face in men.

predisposition (prē'dis-pō-zish'ūn)

A condition of special susceptibility to a disease.

paroccipital (par'ok-sip'i-tāl)

Near or beside the occipital bone or the occiput.

pterygium (tē-rij'ē-ūm)

A triangular patch of hypertrophied bulbar subconjunctival tissue, extending from the medial angle or canthus of the eye to the border of the cornea or beyond, with apex pointing toward the pupil.

periotic (per'ē-ō'tik, -ot'ik)

Surrounding the internal ear; referring to the petrous portion of the temporal bone, or the spaces and tissues in the bony labyrinth that surround the membranous labyrinth.

paraoral (par'ā-ō'rāl)

Near or adjacent to the mouth.

paranoia (par'ā-noy'ā)

A severe but relatively rare mental disorder characterized by the presence of systematized delusions, often of a persecutory character involving being followed, poisoned, or harmed by other means, in an otherwise intact personality.

persona (per-sō'nā)

A term that embodies the totality of the individual, the total constellation of the physical, psychological, and behavioral attributes of each unique person; in jungian psychology, the idealized presentation to others of all that is acceptable in one's personality; a personality assumed to mask the true one.

personality (per'sōn-al'i-tē)

The unique self, the totality of someone's conscious and unconscious cognition and interpersonal behavior and related emotional responses; the sum of the integrated and unintegrated personality traits used by an individual to relate to others.

preconscious (prē-kon'shūs)

In psychoanalysis, one of the three divisions of the psyche according to Freud's topographic psychology, the other two being the conscious and unconscious; includes all ideas, thoughts, past experiences, and other memory impressions that with effort can be consciously recalled.

pasteurellosis (pas'tūr-ē-lō'sis)

Infection with bacteria of the genus *Pasteurella*.

pseudofracture (sū'dō-frac'chūr)

A condition in which a radiograph shows formation of new bone with thickening of periosteum at site of an injury to bone.

penicillin (pen'i-sil'in)

1. Originally, an antibiotic substance obtained from cultures of the molds *Penicillium notatum* or *P. chrysogenum*; interferes with cell wall synthesis in bacteria.
2. One of a family of natural or synthetic variants of penicillic acid. They are mainly bactericidal, are especially active against gram-positive organisms, and, with the exception of hypersensitivity reactions, show a particularly low toxic action on animal tissue.

postmortem (pōst-mōr'tēm)

1. Pertaining to or occurring during the period after death.
2. Postmortem examination.

prenatal (prē-nā'tāl)

Preceding birth.

parasite (par'ā-sīt)

1. An organism that lives on or in another and draws its nourishment therefrom.

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2. In the case of a fetal inclusion or conjoined twins, the usually incomplete twin that derives its support from the more nearly normal autosome.

pathogen (path'ō-jen)

Any virus, microorganism, or other substance causing disease.

psychataxia (sī'kă-tak'sē-ă)

Mental confusion; inability to fix one's attention or to make any continued mental effort.

psychogenesis (sī'kō-jen'ě-sis)

The origin and development of the psychic processes including mental, behavioral, emotional, personality, and related psychological processes.

psychopathic (sī'kō-path'ik)

Relating to or characteristic of psychopathy.

pharmacogenetics (far'mă-kō-jě-net'iks)

The study of genetically determined variations in responses to drugs in humans or in laboratory organisms.

polyphobia (pol'ē-fō'bē-ă)

Morbid fear of many things; a condition marked by the presence of many phobias.

pupillometry (pyū'pi-lom'ě-trē)

Measurement of the pup

pustule (pūs'tyūl)

A circumscribed, superficial elevation of the skin, up to 1 cm in diameter, containing purulent material.

pyrosis (pī-rō'sis)

Substernal pain or burning sensation, usually associated with regurgitation of acid-peptic gastric juice into the esophagus.

pyranose (pī'ră-nōs)

A six-membered-ring sugar in the form of a six-membered ring in which the oxygen bridge forms a pyran.

quotidian (kwō-tid'ē-ăn)

Daily; occurring every day.

quadriplegia (kwah'dri-plē'jē-ă)

Paralysis of all four limbs.

quadrantanopia (kwah'drant-an-ō'pē-ă)

Loss of vision in a quarter section of the visual field of one or both eyes;

quango (kwang'gō)

A committee wholly or partially supported by government funds in which some members are appointed by government and others by nongovernmental agencies or organizations;

retching (rech'ing)

Gastric and esophageal movements of vomiting without expulsion of vomitus.

retromolar (ret'rō-mō'lār)

Distal (or posterior) to the last erupted (or present) molar tooth.

retrolental (ret'rō-len'tāl)

Posterior to the lens of the eye.

radiocarpal (rā'dē-ō-kar'pāl)

1. Relating to the radius and the bones of the carpus.
2. On the radial or lateral side of the carpus.

recumbent (rē-kūm'bēnt)

Leaning; reclining; lying down.

refraction (rē-frac'shūn)

1. The deflection of a ray of light when it passes from one medium into another of different optic density; in passing from a denser into a rarer medium it is deflected away from a line perpendicular to the surface of the refracting medium; in passing from a rarer to a denser medium it is bent toward this perpendicular line.
2. The act of determining the nature and degree of the refractive errors in the eye and correction of the same by lenses.

sacroccygeal sāk'rō-kok-sij'ē-āl

Relating to both sacrum and coccyx

sacroiliac (sāk'rō-il'ē-ak)

Relating to the sacrum and the ilium

sacrum (sāk'krūm)

The segment of the vertebral column forming part of the pelvis; a broad, slightly curved, spade-shaped bone, thick above, thinner below, closing in the pelvic girdle posteriorly; it is formed by the fusion of five originally separate sacral vertebrae;

scapha (ska'fā, skā'fā)

The longitudinal furrow between the helix and the antihelix of the auricle.

secreta (se-krē'tā)

Secretions.

shin (shin)

anterior border of tibia.

sickleemia (sik-lē'mē-ă)

Presence of sickle-shaped or crescentic erythrocytes in peripheral blood; seen in sickle cell anemia and sickle cell trait.

spasmus (spaz'mūs)

spasm.

spectral (spek'trāl)

Relating to a spectrum.

staphylococcosis (staf'i-lō-kok-ō'sis)

Infection by species of the bacterium *Staphylococcus*.

streptococcic (strep-tō-kok'sik)

Relating to or caused by any organism of the genus *Streptococcus*.

syphilis (sif'i-lis)

An acute and chronic infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Treponema pallidum* and transmitted by direct contact, usually through sexual intercourse.

therapeutic (thār'ă-pyū'tik)

Relating to therapeutics or to treating, remediating, or curing a disorder or disease.

tympanic (tim-pan'ik)

Relating to the tympanic cavity or membrane.

tragus (trā'gūs)

A tongue like projection of the cartilage of the auricle in front of the opening of the external acoustic meatus and continuous with the cartilage of this canal.

tramadol (trah'mă-dol)

An analgesic drug with a mechanism of action that is unusual in that one optic isomer exerts typical opioid-type effects and the other isomer interacts with the reuptake and/or release of norepinephrine and serotonin in nerve terminals.

vastus (vas'tūs)

Great.

vestibular (ves-tib'yū-lār)

Relating to a vestibule, especially the vestibule of the ear.

vasostomy (vā-sos'tō-mē)

Establishment of an opening into the deferent duct.

wafer (wā'fēr)

A thin sheet of dried flour paste used to enclose a powder. The wafer is moistened and folded over the drug, so that it can be swallowed without taste.

ward (wōrd)

A large room or other area in a medical facility where patients experiencing similar medical conditions or receiving similar treatment are housed .

warning (wōrn'ing)

A strong cautionary advice about possible dangers or contraindications in activity or pharmacy.

xanthodont (zan'thō-don't)

One who has yellow teeth.

Xenograft (zen'ō-graft)

A graft transferred from an animal of one species to one of another species

All words used for the MEDBee were taken from Stedman's Electronic Medical Dictionary Version 7. MEDBee wishes to thank Stedman's for their permission to use this dictionary in our spelling bee. The words contain limited definition in some cases to facilitate the spelling bee not for memorizing meanings. The words are grouped in a-z order but are not alphabetized.