

New cavity-filling wonder toothpaste (Fri 25 Feb)

WARM-UPS

CHAT: Talk in pairs or groups about the dentist / teeth / toothpaste / fillings / tooth decay / cavities / pain / ...Change topic / partner frequently to energize the class.

DENTIST BRAINSTORM: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'dentist'. Share your words with your partner / group and talk about them.

MY DENTAL HISTORY: Write down very brief notes of the history of your teeth and visits to the dentist. Talk about your dental history with your partner / group.

WONDER-PASTE: Dr. Yamagishi's new synthetic enamel is indeed a wonder-paste. In pairs / groups, choose three more wonder-pastes you would like to see invented (E.g., acne paste). Share these ideas with other groups. After sharing ideas with several students groups, return to your original partner/group and discuss what you heard. Choose the best wonder-paste.

FEAR: The fear of dentists is called dentophobia. Do you suffer from this fear? What other things are you afraid of? Discuss with your group. Some people are afraid of the following things. Can you understand these fears / phobias?

- a. Fear of the dark
- b. Fear of chickens
- c. Fear of children
- d. Fear of staying single
- e. Fear of heights
- f. Fear of spiders
- g. Fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of the mouth (Arachibutyrophobia)
- h. Fear of fish
- i. Fear of foreigners (xenophobia)
- j. Fear of the color purple (Porphyrophobia)

A full list of phobias can be found at <http://www.phobialist.com/>

PRE-READING IDEAS

WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'tooth' and 'paste'.

TRUE / FALSE: Predict whether the following statements about the article are true or false:

- a. A new breakthrough has emerged that might end the trauma of dentist visits T / F
- b. Japanese researchers have invented a new kind of toothpaste. T / F
- c. The new toothpaste will prevent tooth decay and cavities. T / F
- d. The new toothpaste resembles a natural acid that fights decay. T / F
- e. The new paste repairs tiny cavities that are too small for dentist's tools. T / F
- f. This means decay will be reduced by up to 50%. T / F
- g. Tooth enamel regenerates itself very slowly if it becomes damaged. T / F
- h. This wonder-paste is the ultimate approach to therapy, which every dentist in the world should seek. T / F

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| (a) dentist | discovered |
| (b) fantastic | artificial |
| (c) breakthrough | look for |
| (d) trauma | best |
| (e) come up with | discovery |
| (f) synthetic | nightmare |
| (g) integrate | rejuvenate |
| (h) regenerate | orthodontist |
| (i) ultimate | combine |
| (j) seek | stupendous |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases based on the article

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| (a) going to the | decrease in the total incidence of tooth decay |
| (b) the sound of the dentist's | decay |
| (c) perfect | occur |
| (d) tooth | of a tooth |
| (e) crystals which perfectly | dentist |
| (f) decay will never | solution |
| (g) no more fear | drill |
| (h) the hard surface | dental visits |
| (i) provide a tremendous | of the dentist |
| (j) Pain-free | integrate with the natural enamel |

GAP FILL

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BNE: Who hates going to the dentist? Who hates the _____ of the dentist's drill? A fantastic new breakthrough has emerged from researchers in Japan that might finally end the _____ of going to the dentist. Dr. Kazue Yamagishi and her research team at the FAP Dental Institute in Tokyo have come up with what seems to be the perfect _____ to preventing tooth decay and cavities. She has formulated a new kind of dental paste that _____ the enamel which naturally protects our teeth. The new synthetic enamel paste contains crystals which perfectly _____ with the natural enamel on our teeth, and repairs tiny cavities that are too small to be seen by dentists. This means decay will never occur. This means no more _____ and no more fear of the dentist. Dr Yamagishi says on her website (<http://homepage2.nifty.com/nmc/home.html>) that, "Unlike skin or bones, the tooth enamel, which forms the hard surface of a tooth, does not regenerate itself once _____. ... regenerating the tooth enamel rather than drilling the decayed part is the ultimate approach to therapy which every dentist in the world should seek." She calls her synthetic enamel a "therapy of dreams" and believes it "will provide a tremendous decrease in the total _____ of tooth decay". Pain-free dental visits is now a dream come true for many of us.

integrate trauma damaged resembles sound drilling solution incidence

DISCUSSION:

- a. What do you think of this article?
- b. Do you like the dentist?
- c. What thing do you most dislike about going to the dentist?
- d. What's your favorite toothpaste?
- e. How many times a day do you clean your teeth?
- f. How often do you have a check-up?
- g. Do you practice good oral hygiene?
- h. What is the worst smell on someone's breath?
- i. Do you know anyone with really bad breath?
- j. How important are straight, white teeth to you?
- k. How many times in your life have you had a toothache?
- l. What do you think of the idea of false teeth / dentures?
- m. What do you do when you sit in the dentist's waiting room?
- n. Have you ever worn braces on your teeth?
- o. If you met Dr. Yamagishi, what would you say to her?
- p. Teacher / Student additional questions.

HOMEWORK

VOCAB EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information on Dr. Yamagishi's wonder toothpaste. Share your findings with your class next lesson.

ORAL HYGIENE: Create a poster on how to take care of your teeth.

LETTER TO YOUR DENTIST: Write a letter to your dentist explaining the new wonder toothpaste.

FULL TEXT

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BNE: Who hates going to the dentist? Who hates the **sound** of the dentist's drill? A fantastic new breakthrough has emerged from researchers in Japan that might finally end the **trauma** of going to the dentist. Dr. Kazue Yamagishi and her research team at the FAP Dental Institute in Tokyo have come up with what seems to be the perfect **solution** to preventing tooth decay and cavities. She has formulated a new kind of dental paste that **resembles** the enamel which naturally protects our teeth. The new synthetic enamel paste contains crystals which perfectly **integrate** with the natural enamel on our teeth, and repairs tiny cavities that are too small to be seen by dentists. This means decay will never occur. This means no more **drilling** and no more fear of the dentist. Dr Yamagishi says on her website (<http://homepage2.nifty.com/nmc/home.html>) that, "Unlike skin or bones, the tooth enamel, which forms the hard surface of a tooth, does not regenerate itself once **damaged**. ... regenerating the tooth enamel rather than drilling the decayed part is the ultimate approach to therapy which every dentist in the world should seek." She calls her synthetic enamel a "therapy of dreams" and believes it "will provide a tremendous decrease in the total **incidence** of tooth decay". Pain-free dental visits is now a dream come true for many of us.