

I fell and hit my head

LEARNING OUTCOME

learn how to describe a health emergency

Everyday life

1 Look at the photo and answer the questions.



Where are the people and what are they doing?
What kinds of things do people go to casualty for?

Everyday vocabulary

2 Look at these phrases (1–8) to describe health emergencies. Explain the words and expressions in *italics*.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 I fell and <u>hit my head</u> . | 5 I <u>burnt</u> my hand. |
| 2 I'm <u>having trouble</u> breathing. | 6 I've got a <u>pain</u> in my chest. |
| 3 I <u>can't stop</u> vomiting. | 7 The pain <u>came on gradually</u> . |
| 4 I feel <u>dizzy</u> . | 8 It's a <u>sharp</u> pain. |

3 Work in pairs. Think of other ways to describe health emergencies and add them to the list in 2.

4 Work in pairs. Have you ever had a health emergency and had to go to casualty? What happened? Tell your partner.

Dialogue

5 03 William has hurt himself and he's at the casualty department of a hospital. Listen to the dialogue. What is going to happen to William?

6 Listen again and complete the sentences with the correct words. Then listen again and check.

- Did you lose consciousness at all? Do you feel sick or dizzy?
- No, I'm just a bit shaky. And I've hurt my wrist.
- On a scale of one to ten,
- Oh, yes. It's badly bruised, isn't it? Hmm.
- So I'll send a nurse in to clean you up and do those.
- When will I be able to go home?

EVERYDAY ENGLISH TOOLKIT: DESCRIBING A HEALTH EMERGENCY IN A HOSPITAL CASUALTY DEPARTMENT

Complete the phrases from the dialogue with the words in the box. What other words could you use to replace the gapped words and the words in *italics*?

ache • blood • bruised • cut • hurts • wrist

Describing what happened

I've hurt my (1)

I burnt my hand.

Describing symptoms

It's badly (2)

You've got a deep (3) on your forehead.

I'm having trouble moving my wrist.

There was a lot of (4)

I can't stop vomiting.

I feel faint.

Describing pain

It really (5)

I've got a pain in my chest.

The pain came on gradually.

It's a dull (6)

Over to you!

7 Work in pairs. One of you is the doctor in the casualty department and the other is a patient with a health emergency. Follow the steps below and role-play a conversation. Use the phrases in 2 and the expressions in the Everyday English Toolkit.

Student A: You are the doctor. Ask Student B questions to find out what's wrong. Decide what needs to happen to Student B.

Student B: You were in the sea when you got badly stung by a jellyfish on your back and arms. As you were coming out of the water, you stepped on a broken bottle and cut your foot. Describe your symptoms to the doctor.