Learn English on your Terms

Daily Life - Toothache (C0264)

- A: What seems to be the problem?
- B: I have a really bad toothache! My cheek is swollen and I can't eat anything.
- A: Let's have a look. Hmmm. This doesn't look too good. I think we may have to pull out your wisdom tooth. It's pressing against your molars and that's one of the reasons you are experiencing so much pain.
- B: When you pull my tooth will you also have to extract the nerve and the root?
- A: First we will take some x-rays and see what we're dealing with. I also noticed a small cavity up front here, so you are going to need a filling.
- B: I guess that's what I get for not flossing or brushing my teeth three times a day.
- A: It could be that, or maybe you are eating too many sweets. In any case, I'll administer an anesthetic and you won't feel a thing!

Key Vocabulary



swollen	A	increase in size with liq- uid or internal pressure
wisdom tooth	N	one of four rearmost molars on each side of both jaws
to experi- ence	V	have the experience of; undergo; feel
that is what one gets for	P	that is what one deserves for
to brush	V	to clean with a brush
to admin- ister	V	to give or apply as a remedy or relief

Supplementary Vocabulary

fluoride	N	a mouthwash given by
		the dentist that con-
		tains fluoride



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root canal N

a dental operation to save a tooth by removing the diseased contents from the canal of the root of the tooth and filling it with a protective substance

rinse your mouth

P

put water in one's mouth, swish it around and spit it back out

gums N

the firm, fleshy tissue that covers the inside of the jaws and that surrounds the bases of the teeth

molar N

a type of tooth at the back of the mouth with a rounded or flattened surface for grinding food