**Advanced vocabulary:**

* **addict**: a person, who is obsessed (addicted) by (to) something, drugs or alcohol, for example. My friend used to be an addict, but thankfully he's healthy now.
* **a check-up**: an examination done by a doctor. I felt ill for a few days, so I went for a check-up.
* **a runny nose**: a nose that has liquid coming out of it. I caught a cold so now I have a runny nose.
* **chronic disease**: a type of disease that continues to occur for a long time. My friend Rob needs to use inhaler every day, because he has chronic asthma.
* **impediment**: a physical defect that hinders normal or easy speech. After an accident, Jim developed an impediment - he stutters.
* **epidemic**: when disease spreads very quickly and effects a large number of people. There was a large epidemic in South Africa in 20th century. It took away millions of lives.
* **painkillers**: medicine for dealing with pain. I had to take the painkillers last night, because I couldn't handle the pain.
* **rehab**: a course of treatment for drug or alcohol or any other dependence. After talking to a doctor, Jim decided to go to a rehab.
* **to diagnose**: to recognise an illness by examining the patient. Although Nick had a very rare disease, his doctor managed to diagnose it correctly.
* **to stutter**: to talk with a continued accidental repetition of sounds. Sometimes you might develop a stutter if you have been scared by someone or something

**Useful idioms:**

* **alive and kicking**: to continue being well and healthy. My grandma is almost 90 but she's still alive and kicking.
* **to break a habit**: to stop doing something that is a habit, especially something bad or harmful. I was a drug addict, but a managed to break this habit.
* **to black out**: to lose consciousness.I blacked out before my final exam, because I was too worried about it.
* **to be under the weather**: to feel ill. Mary won't be at work todays, she's a bit under the weather.
* **to phone in sick**: to call your superior to inform him/her that you are sick and won't be at work for some time. I had to phone in sick last week, because I caught a flu.
* **sick as a dog =** **to be at death’s door**: very sick. Paul caught a flu a few days ago and now he's sick as a dog.
* **white as a sheet**: can be sad about a very pale person. Jonh looks sick. Look at him! He's white as a sheet.