

# ENGLISH FOR DENTISTS IN PRACTICE

## PART SEVEN: LOOSE TEETH

### VOCABULARY PRACTICE

*Read the text below and complete it with the words from the table:*

**Question : What to do if you get a loose front tooth?**

**Answer:** A loose front tooth is very normally seen in children. This is a normal

1)... phenomenon ... when the permanent teeth are about to 2)... erupt.... This however is not normal in adults, unless slowly happening with 3)... advancing .....age. If you are an adult with such a problem, you should definitely set up an appointment with a dentist.

**Question: Can a loose tooth be saved? Or will it need to be removed?**

**Answer:** Prognosis depends on the cause of the condition and on the 4)... severity .... of the problem. Whether or not treatment is possible will depend on how much gum tissue is left to hold the teeth in place. Grinding your teeth, often done at night, puts undue forces on the teeth. This in turn can make them lose. The prognosis is typically good as the grinding stops when one wears a 5)... night guard ..... to reduce the biting forces. A 6)... compression ..... to the mouth area can obviously damage the teeth- the trauma. The amount of damage 7)... varies ... , but can lead to loss of teeth. And if a tooth is extremely loose, it is most likely that you lose it. The reason is that there is probably very little 8)..... foundation ..... left to hold it in place. It is pretty much impossible to replace lost gum and bone. An exception to this is when a tooth is knocked and made loose. In this case tooth may be 9)... salvageable .... if replaced and splinted for some time.

**Question: What causes loose teeth?**

**Answer:** One of the main factors in 10)... mature ..... people is gum disease, which is an infection that influences the 11)... gingiva ..... , or gums. Bruxism is also frequently related to this particular symptom because jaw 12)... knock..... and tooth clenching can contribute to dental mobility. Mouth injuries (particularly in sports) can also lead to the consequences of loose teeth and can be 13)... abrupt ..... enough to cause 14).. severe ..... tooth loss.

*Look at the terms below and try to match them with their definitions*

1. \_\_\_splinting\_\_\_\_\_: a process that connects teeth together hence creating a support system that will stop further loosening.
2. \_\_\_flap surgery\_\_\_\_\_: this common surgery involves lifting back the gums and removing the tartar. The gums are then pushed back in place so that the tissue fits tightly around the tooth again
3. \_\_\_scaling\_\_\_\_\_: scraping off the tartar from above and below the gum line.
4. \_\_\_periodontists\_\_\_\_\_: are experts in the diagnosis and treatment of gum disease and may provide you with treatment options that are not offered by your dentist.
5. \_\_\_root planing\_\_\_\_\_: gets rid of rough spots on the tooth root where the germs gather, and helps remove bacteria that contribute to the periodontal disease.
6. \_\_\_bone grafting\_\_\_\_\_: natural or synthetic bone is placed in the area of bone loss which can help promote bone growth