

# Vocabulary

## Theme 7 – Infection

antibiotic (n)

*related: antibiotic (adj)*

- a medicine that destroys or slows down the growth of microorganisms

antibody (n)

- a protein produced in the blood that attacks and kills harmful foreign substances (antigens)

antigen (n)

- any substance that activates the immune system to produce antibodies against it

bacteria (n)

- a large group of single-celled microorganisms that cause infections and disease

endemic disease (n)

- an infectious disease that is consistently present in a specific population or region

epidemic (n)

- the widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time

exponent (n)

- a number or symbol that shows how many times a number should be multiplied by itself

exponential growth (n)

- a pattern of data that shows greater increases with passing time, creating an upwards curve

immune system (n)

- a complex network of organs, cells, and proteins that defends the body against infection

infectious disease (n)

- an illness caused by germs that enter the body, multiply, and create an infection that can be transmitted from one person to another

lymph (n)

- a clear fluid that flows through the lymphatic system, containing white blood cells in a liquid resembling blood plasma

lymph nodes or glands (n)

- hundreds of small structures that contain white blood cells and work as filters for foreign

substances

### lymphatic or lymph vessels (n)

- tube-like channels that carry lymph from tissues back into the bloodstream

### lymphatic system (n)

- a network of tissues and organs that produce, store, and carry white blood cells that fight infections and other diseases; part of the immune system

### non-infectious or non-communicable disease (n)

- an illness that is not caused by pathogens, so it cannot spread from one person to another (such as cancer, diabetes, etc.)

### pandemic (n)

- an epidemic of an infectious disease that has spread across a large region, such as multiple continents or worldwide, affecting a substantial number of individuals

### pathogen (n)

- a microorganism that can cause disease

### plasma (n)

- the liquid component of blood that helps your body recover from injury, distributes nutrients, removes waste, and prevents infection

### platelets (thrombocytes) (n)

- tiny cells in the blood that help with clotting

### red blood cells (erythrocytes) (n)

- cells in the blood that contain a protein called hemoglobin, which carries oxygen from the lungs to all parts of the body

### spleen (n)

- an organ that produces white blood cells, filters the blood, stores blood cells, and destroys old blood cells; part of the lymphatic system

### thymus (n)

- an organ that aids the immune system by stimulating the production of white blood cells; part of the lymphatic system

### vaccine (n)

- a biological substance used to stimulate immunity to a specific disease or pathogen

### virus (n)

● an infectious microorganism that can only multiply inside living cells  
white blood cells (lymphocytes) (n)

- cells found in the blood that help the body fight infection and disease