

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bad Breath

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"Yuck!" Ann said. "Your breath stinks!"

"Thanks a lot!" Ann's dad said. "Aren't you sweet?"

"Sorry, Daddy. I am telling you the truth," Ann said.

"I know. I am sure it does. I had onions for lunch," Dad said.

"What can you do to get rid of that smell?" Ann asked.

"I could eat a mint. I could chew some gum. I could brush my teeth. I could use mouthwash," Dad said.

Dad went to brush his teeth. He came out and smiled at Ann.

"What's the look for?" Dad asked Ann.

"I was just thinking. What makes breath bad?" Ann asked.

"There are a few things," Dad said. "Foods and drinks can. Sometimes garlic, onions, or soda can. Smoking can, too. For some people, bad breath means they don't brush or floss enough."

"Why does brushing help?" Ann asked.

"If you don't brush, food stays in your mouth. It rots and smells. Germs build up. They can smell, too," Dad said.

"So what should I do?" Ann said.

"Never smoke. Watch what you eat. Brush two times a day. Floss once a day. See the dentist two times a year," Dad said.

"What can the dentist do?" Ann asked.

"He can really check your mouth. He can really clean your mouth. He can make sure you don't have gum disease. When you are older, that can cause bad breath, too. OK?" Dad asked.

"OK," Ann said. She leaned nearer her dad. "Your breath is much better, Daddy."



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"Good. I'll stay away from the onions next time!" Dad said. They both laughed.

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## Questions

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Why did Dad have bad breath?
- A. smoking
  - B. not brushing
  - C. illness
  - D. food
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. How did Dad get rid of his bad breath?
- A. He chewed gum.
  - B. He brushed his teeth.
  - C. He ate a mint.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Which does not cause bad breath?
- A. food and drink
  - B. smiling too much
  - C. germs
  - D. smoking
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. How many times a year do you need to see the dentist?
- A. 5
  - B. 2
  - C. 4
  - D. 3
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. What can't the dentist do?
- A. check for gum disease
  - B. see if you will have bad breath in the future
  - C. check your teeth
  - D. clean your mouth
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. How many times a day should you floss?
- A. at least three times
  - B. at least one time
  - C. at least four times
  - D. at least two times
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. All bad breath is caused by germs.
- A. true
  - B. false

