

## Are medical T.V shows realistic?



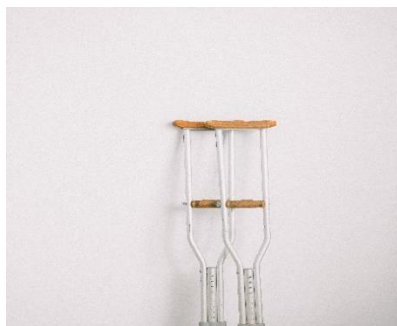
Warm up: With a partner discuss the following questions.

- a) What are some of your favourite T.V shows or movies?
- b) Can you think of any shows or movies that you think are particularly realistic?
- c) What unrealistic things in T.V shows make you *roll your eyes* or *cringe*?
- d) Do you ever watch shows about doctors and surgeons? Do you think they are realistic?

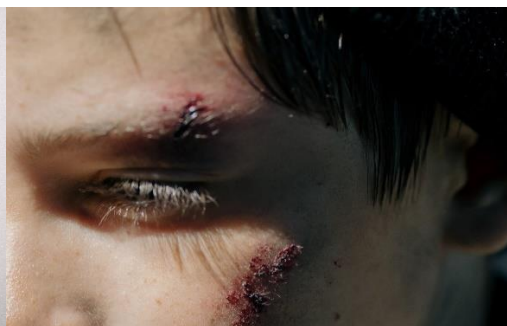


1. Match the pictures to the vocabulary in the box.

stitches	abrasion/graze	bruise
cast	incision	scrubs
scalpel	abdomen	crutches



*crutches*



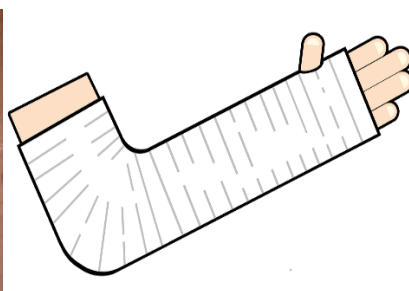
*abrasion/graze*



*scalpel*



*stitches*



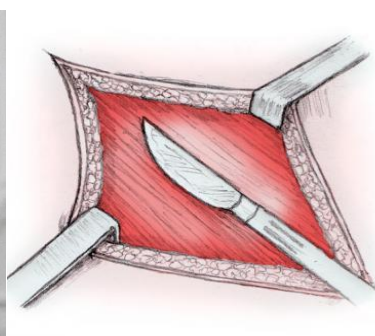
*cast*



*abdomen*



*bruise*



*incision*



*scrubs*



2. You are going to watch a video of a surgeon watching medical T.V shows and assessing how realistic they are. The surgeon uses several idiomatic phrases. Use the phrases from the box to fill in the gaps.

cringe-worthy	rule number one	OCD
kick-start	back-up	a stretch

- a) I'm being shot at, I need *back up*!
- b) This money from the government is intended to *kick-start* the economy.
- c) It's a little bit of *a stretch*, but it is plausible I guess
- d) *Rule number one* of working on a project like this: always leave yourself extra time.
- e) He's a little bit *OCD* about his car, he doesn't like if you touch anything.
- f) The clothes I wore in high school were *cringe-worthy* I had pink hair and wrote my favorite lyrics on my jeans.



3. Pairwork: Before you watch the video, decide which of these statements you think are true, and which are false.

- a) Slapping a patient while performing CPR is a useful technique. T / *F*
- b) Rubbing a person's sternum is a good way to wake them up if they are passed out or unresponsive. *T* / F
- c) Defibrillators (machines used to re-start a heart) are usually set to around 15, 000 volts. T / *F*
- d) Surgeons do not actually ever inject people with adrenaline. T / *F*
- e) If a person has been shot, it is not always necessary to remove the bullet. *T*/F



4. Watch the first 6 minutes and 30 seconds of "[Surgical Resident Breaks Down 49 medical scenes from Film & TV](#)"<sup>1</sup> and answer the questions.

a) What does she mean when she says "surgeons have severe OCD"? How does this make the scene unrealistic?

*She means that surgeons are extremely strict about following procedures, especially with regards to hygiene. The surgeons would never operate on a patient with so much hair.*

b) In "Rookie Blue", she points out 3 things that are accurate. What are 2 of these things?

*Removing excess furniture, calling for back up, real medical language*

c) In "Drop Dead Diva" somebody asks for a "12 french tube." What is a 12 french tube?

*Nothing. It is not a real thing.*

d) What does "arrythmia" mean?

*When the heart is not beating in a coordinated fashion*

e) What is H.I.P.P.A (a law in America) designed to protect?

*A law that protects patient privacy*

f) Why is the scene with the intestinal worms in Grey's Anatomy unrealistic?

*Taking a photo of an anesthetized patient is strictly forbidden, and operating galleries no longer exist*

g) How many of the questions from exercise 3 did you get correct?



5. Optional task/homework: watch "[Surgeon Breaks Down 22 Medical Scenes From Film & TV](#)" and answer the following questions:

1. Was there anything that you found surprising or interesting?

2. Did you pick up any useful phrases or vocabulary?

3. Were there any phrases or vocabulary that you found confusing?

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGOL7ZvuGMc&ab\\_channel=WIRED](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGOL7ZvuGMc&ab_channel=WIRED)