21 Medicine

The doctors of ancient Egypt didn't yet understand the causes of illnesses. They thought people got sick because of evil spirits. European doctors made patients bleed on purpose; Native Americans held ceremonies or prayed to animal spirits to **heal illnesses**. In ancient Greece, Hippocrates explained that diseases have natural causes. He separated medicine from religion, explaining that disease was caused by poor diet and poor living habits. Hippocrates warned that doctors should, "First, do no harm." The first medicine was various plants. Raw garlic, for example, was eaten as a natural **antibiotic**. Modern medicine still uses plants but now has many other ways to heal. Doctors have become specialists who help certain conditions, like heart disease. Other specialists can perform **surgery**, treat **cancer**, deliver babies, etc. Modern medicine is constantly advancing. Heart surgery can be performed through a tiny hole while the patient's heart is still beating; lasers can be used instead of knives for eye and other surgeries; people who lose a finger, leg or other body part can now receive decent replacements.

Check the above bold words, read the paragraph, then brainstorm more vocabulary below.

Hippocrates

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vaccine

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blood

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Pasteur

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blood type

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organ

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