

## A Trip to the Dentist



When Mark was an ESL student, he didn't go to the dentist because it was too expensive. Now, he has a new job with benefits. Mark's benefits include a dental plan that pays for an annual check up and cleaning. The dental plan also pays for some fillings. Mark is happy that he can

finally go to the dentist and get some dental work done.

This morning Mark got up extra early to clean his teeth. Mark has his first dental appointment this morning. Mark feels very nervous. He has never been to the dentist before and he doesn't know what to expect. He thinks about his toothache and wonders whether the dentist will pull out his teeth. Thinking about this makes Mark even more nervous, so he decides to think about something else instead.

When Mark walks into the dental office, the receptionist greets him. She asks him if he has a dental plan and gives him a form to fill out. After Mark fills out the form, he returns it to the receptionist. The receptionist tells him that the hygienist will be with him shortly, and he wonders what a hygienist is.

When the hygienist arrives, she takes him to a separate room and asks him to sit in the big chair in the middle of the room. She asks him about his dental health and if he has problems with his teeth. Mark explains that he has a terrible toothache and starts to worry about what the hygienist will do to his tooth. The

hygienist talks to Mark about his oral hygiene habits and begins to clean his teeth. She tells him he should brush and floss his teeth regularly. Mark wants to answer, but he is embarrassed because it's hard to talk with her hands in his mouth!

After the hygienist cleans Mark's teeth, she takes some x-rays of his mouth so the dentist can see if Mark's teeth and mouth are healthy. The dentist comes into the room and talks to Mark about the x-rays. He tells Mark that his toothache is from cavities. The dentist tells Mark to book another appointment to get some fillings done.

When his appointment is finished, Mark thanks his dentist and books an appointment to get fillings. He is happy that his teeth are clean and he is thankful that his cavities will be fixed soon. He is even happier that the hygienist and dentist didn't pull out all of his teeth! He smiles at everyone he sees on the way home.