Pandemic Imagery:

Perspectives of young people and children

The complete LEXCOVID vocabulary can be consulted at:
www.diccionariodemedicina.app/web/covid-19/

(Primary-level definition) 

(Secondary-level definition) 

We present a striking, spontaneous perspective on various concepts relating to the pandemic, which has turned the world upside-down for the last three years.

During the first quarter of 2022, children and adolescents from twenty education centres in Catalonia, Toledo, Logroño and Alicante explained and drew pictures about **22 words relating to the Covid-19** pandemic, such as *Coronavirus, pandemic, PCR, isolation, mask, ICU and vaccine*. We have compiled and digitalised over 20,000 definitions and 15,000 drawings. Based on positive knowledge and, above all, imagery, we have created definitions that have been reviewed by linguists, teachers and doctors.

The drawings we have reproduced are a selection of the most representative views on 12 themes. They form the pandemic imagery captured by school children from 3rd-year primary to 4th-year secondary courses. In each panel, the exhibition, therefore, offers a selection of the most thought-provoking and fascinating drawings, accompanied by definitions of the terms in three languages (Catalan, Spanish and English) based on the children‘s imagery.

Vocabulary of pandemic terms

This vocabulary is structured using the CDR methodology (Estopà, 2022), based on the series of definitions and drawings explained in the introductory chapter of this book. This is a bottom-up methodology, where experts begin with shared knowledge from a number of schoolchildren in order to construct definitions more suited to their needs. It can be consulted in digital form at the following website address. At this portal, each entry is accompanied by an audio file, along with drawings made by students.

Level One corresponds to Primary School (third to sixth year) and Level Two to Secondary School (first to fourth year). Furthermore, this website link provides access to the commented infographics in the last chapter of this book, as well as all the medicine dictionary with illustrations, audios, an atlas and games.

Here are the definitions of the 12 terms featured in the exhibition:

isolation

Isolation is a situation that involves separating someone who has a contagious disease from other people, so they don‘t spread it. During the **Covid-19 pandemic**, people who were infected with Covid had to go into isolation.

anti-vaxxer

An anti-vaxxer is someone who, for a variety of reasons (health, religious, political, philosophical, **personal**), refuses to get a **vaccination** because they do not believe the vaccine for a certain disease will have a positive effect. Furthermore, anti-vaxxers question whether the **vaccines** are safe or effective and think that they are more damaging than beneficial to their **health**. Sometimes, anti-vaxxers belong to an ideological movement against people getting **vaccinated**.

lockdown

Lockdown is the process of confining a **person** or a population inside a specific place because there is a high-risk situation outside (war, **illnesses** , state of alert, etc.). Lockdown is obligatory, it lasts for a variable amount of time, and people can only go outside to cover their basic needs (to buy food, care for sick people, etc.). During the **Covid-19 pandemic**, various lockdowns of the population were decreed, in order to avoid **contagion**, and this created a lot of anxiety in some people.

contagion

A contagion is the transmission of a **disease** by one person or animal to another **person** or animal. For example, rabies is a disease which dogs or bats can transmit to a person if they bite them. Another example: the Covid-19 contagion, a disease which many people get through contact with sick people who sneeze or cough.

coronavirus

Coronaviruses are a family of **viruses** that get their name from their external structure, formed of points which resemble a crown.
Coronaviruses cause various **respiratory diseases**, such as **Covid-19**, caused by Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, a virus popularly known by some **as Covid**.

covid-19

Covid-19 is an infectious disease, very contagious, caused by a **virus** of **the Coronavirus** family, known as **SARS-CoV-2**. In 2020, Covid-19 turned into a **pandemic**.

The name is an abbreviation formed by the first letters of the following English words: **Corona Virus Disease**, while the 19 refers to 2019, which was the year when the virus appeared for the first time.

The popular term is abbreviated to **Covid**.
By contrast, specialists tend to use **COVID-19**, written in capital letters.

social distancing

Social distancing is the safe, physical separation established between **people** who are near each other, especially in open or enclosed public spaces, as a measure to prevent the transmission of a **virus** or **bacteria**. The recommended distance is between 1 and 2 m.

During the **Covid-19 pandemic**, it was standard practice and a health-control measure in order to contain the propagation of the **Coronavirus**. It was applied especially in education centres, hospitals, shops, means of transport and leisure venues. Maintaining social distancing involves avoiding physical contact, and it must be respected with or without using a **face mask**.

The term **safety distance** is also used.

bubble group

A bubble group is a group of **people** who interrelate and spend many hours together. Bubble groups are very common in primary and secondary schools, because students spend many hours a day together. Bubble groups are also formed at home with the people you live with. Isolating bubble groups makes it possible to reduce the transmission of a **virus** or **disease**.

pandemic

A pandemic is a **disease** that spreads to all countries and causes many people to become infected, as happened with **Covid-19**. Sometimes, there may be no cure, so it is necessary to stay at home for a period of time, for safety reasons.

PCR

A PCR is a very reliable **test** that is used for various reasons: for **scientific research**, to identify dead bodies or to know whether someone has a **virus** or **bacteria** causing **disease** in their body, such as **Covid-19**.

A PCR test to find out whether someone has Covid-19 involves taking a sample of mucous secretions from their nose and/or throat, with a swab, or a sample of their saliva collected in a recipient. This test must be carried out by a healthcare professional in a medical centre and then analysed in a **laboratory**. The result may be **negative** or **positive**.

PCR stands for **Polymerase Chain Reaction**.

antigen test

An antigen test detects the proteins of a specific **microbe**, which may infect people. It is habitually used to diagnose **infectious diseases**, such as Covid-19. To carry out an antigen test, it is necessary to have a sample of mucus secretions from a person‘s nose or **saliva**, which is collected using a swab, also known as a hyssop, which is placed on a test strip that indicates two values: control (C) and test (T). The result is positive if a stripe appears on both the control and test values; if the result is negative, the stripe only appears on the control value. This test is carried out at a medical centre, a **pharmacy** or at home, if the person does it themselves, and the sample is analysed very quickly at the same place the test is made.

The **antigen test** is also known as **antigenic test** and **rapid antigen test**, or its abbreviation, **RAT**.

vaccine

A vaccine is a substance, often in liquid form, that is introduced into a person‘s **body** with the aim of creating **antibodies** that prevent the development of a specific **disease** or minimise its effects and therefore provide immunity. The more people who have been vaccinated, the sooner herd immunity is achieved. This means that a significantly large group of people are protected against the **virus** causing the disease, thereby making **contagion** more difficult. There are vaccines for many types of diseases. For example, in the case of **Covid-19**, there are many types of vaccines, but the ones most used during the **pandemic** were Messenger RNA and **Viral Vector** vaccines.

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https://www.upf.edu/web/iulaterm/lexcovid (IP: Rosa Estopà)

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