Stillbirth. Death before birth of a fetus that is at least twenty weeks of gestation.
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Unexplained death of infants usually during sleep.
Teratogen. A substance that alters fetal growth and development and causes birth abnormalities.
Term. Forty weeks' gestation; the baby's due date.
Toxemia. Often referred to as pre-eclampsia, an abnormal condition of late pregnancy characterized by swelling, high blood pressure, and protein in the urine.
Trimester. One of the three-month periods into which pregnancy is divided.
Trisomy 18. A genetic abnormality characterized by an extra chromosome 18 and severe mental retardation and physical anomalies.
Tubal ligation. A surgical procedure, involving tying off or cauterizing the fallopian tubes, which is used for sterilization of women.
Ultrasound. A technique for visualizing the fetus in the uterus which allows for estimating the size and detecting some abnormalities; also called pulse-echo sonography.
Umbilical cord. The lifeline through which nourishment, oxygen, and waste products pass between the placenta and the fetus.
Uterus. Womb; the female organ in which the fetus grows during pregnancy.
Vernix. An oily substance covering the fetus due to secretion of skin glands.
Viability. Capability of surviving outside the uterus; usually after twenty weeks gestation.

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