Going to hospital
Upper-intermediate

1 Match the words

Match the people in A to the place you find them in B and the job they do in C. The first one has been done for you.

B
on the wards                   in an ambulance
at the scene of an accident   in an operating theatre
in the waiting room           on the maternity ward
in the pharmacy               in casualty
in hospital corridors

C
They perform operations
They are senior nurses, in charge of a ward
They are ill in hospital
They push patients on stretchers from the ward to the operating theatre
They provide emergency aid
They keep the patient unconscious during an operation
They help mothers have babies
They are senior doctors who specialise in one particular area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>porter</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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</table>
2 Vocabulary

The words below describe doctors who specialise in particular areas. What do they specialise in?

- Paediatrician
- Gynaecologist
- Psychiatrist
- Neurologist
- Chiropodist

3 Match the verbs

Match the verbs in A with the words in B.

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>disease</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the heart beat</td>
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Which of the phrases above are being described below?

1. You need a syringe to do this.
2. You need a scalpel to do this, and the patient usually has stitches and a scar afterwards.
3. You need to take this to the chemist’s.
4. You need a thermometer to do this.
5. You need a stethoscope to do this.

4 Descriptions

What do you think the following words describe?

1. keyhole surgery
2. a test tube baby
3. a scan
4. a heart transplant
5. an amputation
6. a vaccination
5 Complete the gaps

Read the two texts. Which one describes the working day of a surgeon? Which one describes the working day of a nurse? Complete the gaps with the words below each text.

A) At the moment, I'm working the day shift, so I have to be on the ward, and in my uniform, at seven o'clock in the morning. We ____________ our first round at seven thirty, ____________ everything is OK, ____________ patients their medicine, ____________ their temperature, check their blood pressure, and ____________ the beds. We have to ____________ in the patient's chart at the foot of the bed.

check  do  make  fill  give  take

B) I usually start at ten. ____________ is very important, so I always scrub my hands and arms thoroughly, and I wear rubber ____________ and a ____________. We use surgical ____________, but, nowadays, we also use a lot of computer technology to help us perform _____________. It is a very demanding job, but very rewarding…

gloves  instruments  mask  hygiene  operations

6 Answer the questions and discuss

Answer the questions for yourself, then discuss them with two or three other people.

Have you ever been to hospital?
What was it like?
How did you feel?
What were the doctors and nurses like?
Describe what happened to you.

7 Dictionary quiz

Hospital and Doctor Dictionary Quiz

1. What is a hospice?
2. Do we say in hospital or at hospital?
3. Are you admitted to or from hospital?
4. If you are rushed to hospital, is it serious?
5. Which of these words go with hospital: beds/ doctors/ managers/ staff?
6. What's the abbreviation of doctor?
7. What is a GP?
8. Which of these verbs go with a doctor: see/ ask/ consult/ watch/ go to?
9. Would you refer to a dentist by the title, Dr?
10. What does the phrase, just what the doctor ordered, mean?
Teacher’s notes – Going to hospital

1) Ask students in pairs to match the people in A to the place you find them in B and the job they do in C. Do the first as an example.

**Answers:**

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2) Ask students in pairs to discuss what the doctors specialise in.

**Answers:**
Paediatrician = children
Gynaecologist = women
Psychiatrist = mental problems
Neurologist = the brain
Chiropodist = feet

3) Ask students in pairs to match the verbs in A with the words in B.

**Answers:**

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Ask students to say which of the phrases are being described.

Answers:
1. give an injection
2. perform an operation
3. a prescription
4. take temperature
5. check heart beat

4) Ask students in pairs to explain the terms.

Answers:
1. An operation performed using computer technology, which allows the surgeon to operate without cutting the patient open.
2. A baby born through artificial insemination. The mother’s egg is fertilised outside the body, in a test tube, then put back inside the mother’s body to develop naturally.
3. A way of looking inside the body using a computer.
4. A heart is taken from a recently dead patient and placed inside another person.
5. A limb is cut off.
6. An injection which prevents the patient from catching a particular disease.

5) Ask students to read the two texts, answer the questions, and fill the gaps.

Answers:
The second one describes the working day of a surgeon.
The first one describes the working day of a nurse.

A) At the moment, I’m working the day shift, so I have to be on the ward, and in my uniform, at seven o’clock in the morning. We do our first round at seven thirty, check everything is OK, give patients their medicine, take their temperature, check their blood pressure, and make the beds. We have to fill in the patient’s chart at the foot of the bed.

B) I usually start at ten. Hygiene is very important, so I always scrub my hands and arms thoroughly, and I wear rubber gloves and a mask. We use surgical instruments, but, nowadays, we also use a lot of computer technology to help us perform operations. It is a very demanding job, but very rewarding…

6) Give the students a few minutes to answer the questions for themselves, then put them in small groups to discuss them. Have a brief whole class feedback.
7) Dictionary quiz

If your students have access to the Macmillan English Advanced Learner’s Dictionary and CD ROM, set them the following quiz. They can find all the answers by finding the key words hospital and doctor, and following the various links.

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