

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

at the scene of an accident

in the waiting room

in the pharmacy

in hospital corridors

in an ambulance

in an operating theatre

on the maternity ward

in casualty

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

A	B	C
porter	on the wards or in hospital corridors	they push patients on stretchers from the ward to the operating theatre
paramedic		
surgeon		
anaesthetist		
nurse		
consultant		
sister		
patient		
outpatient		
midwife		
chemist		

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.

A	B
give	a temperature
take	an injection
check	a prescription
feel	a diagnosis
write	an illness
perform	an operation
cure	sick
treat	ill
	disease
	the heart beat

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:

A	B	C
porter	on the wards or in hospital corridors	they push patients on stretchers from the ward to the operating theatre
paramedic	in an ambulance/ at the scene of an accident	they provide emergency aid
surgeon	in an operating theatre	they perform operations
anaesthetist	in an operating theatre	they keep the patient unconscious during an operation
nurse	on the wards/in casualty	
consultant	on the wards	they are senior doctors who specialise in one particular area
sister	on the wards	they are senior nurses, in charge of a ward
patient	on the wards	they are ill in hospital
outpatient	in the waiting room	
midwife	on the maternity ward	they help mothers have babies
chemist	in the pharmacy	

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:

A	B
give	an injection/a prescription/a diagnosis
take	a temperature
check	heart beat
feel	sick/ill
write	a prescription
perform	an operation
cure	an illness/disease
treat	an illness/disease

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.

Hospital and Doctor Dictionary Quiz

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4. If you are *rushed to hospital*, is it serious?
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