

Going to the doctor: advanced

COMMUNICATION

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_4032X_EN

LANGUAGE
English



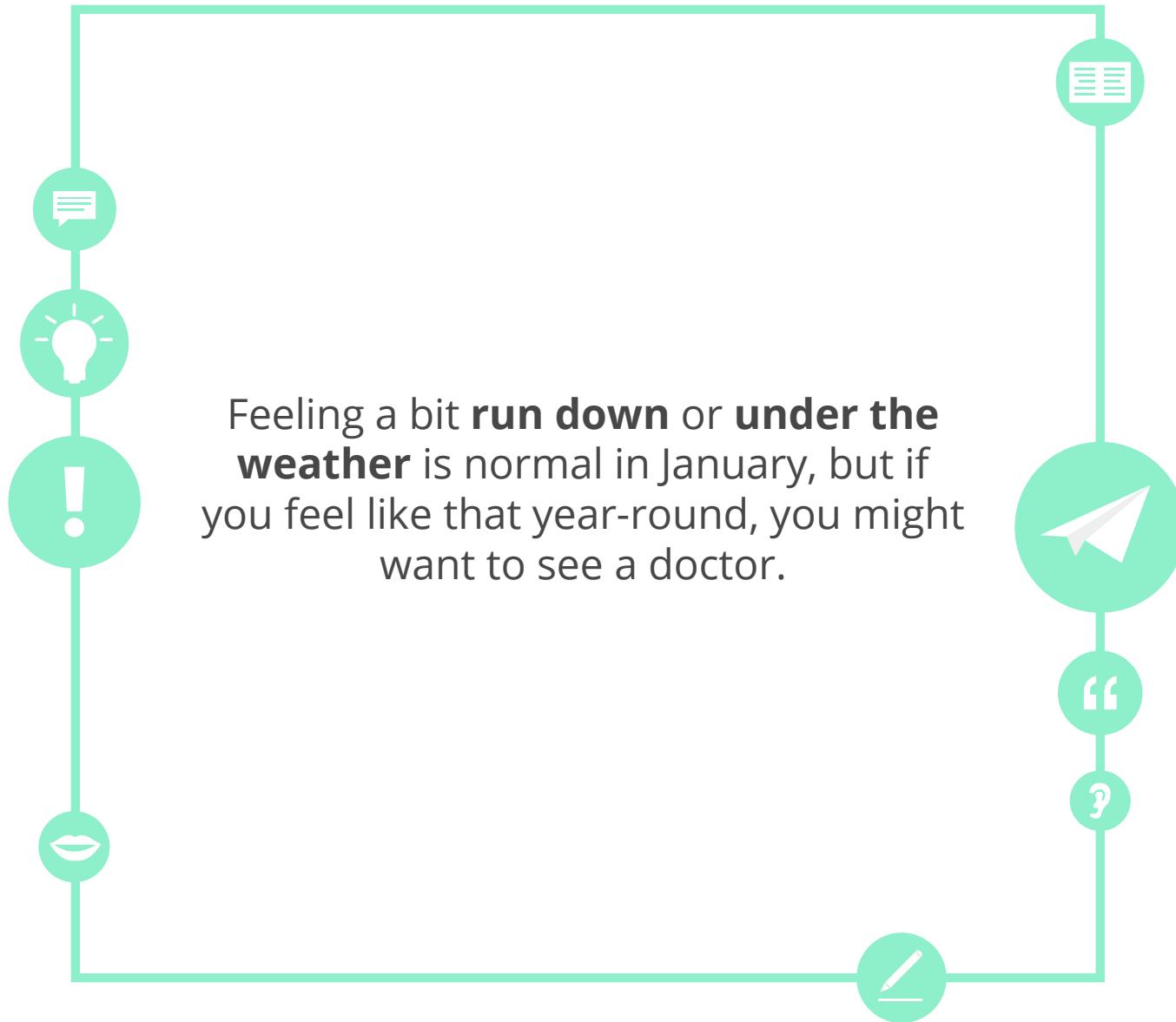


Goals

- Can recognise and explain the meaning of some more advanced medical terms as well as a variety of idioms related to illness.

- Can explain a wide range of symptoms in detail using these phrases appropriately.







Visiting the doctor

When was the last time you visited a doctor? How would you feel if you had to visit a doctor in a foreign country?





Vocabulary review

cough

This dry **cough** is causing a tickle in my throat.



cold

I've got a terrible **cold**.



sneeze

This **sneezing** might be due to an allergy.



headache

The only thing that works when I have a **headache** is a nap!



bug

Luckily it was just a 24 hour **bug**.



virus

The flu **virus** mutates often so it is difficult to find a vaccine.





Answer these questions

How do you treat a
cough or a cold?

What is the best way
to prevent yourself
from getting a virus?

How do you cure a
headache?

What might sneezing
be symptomatic of?



Body parts

Name as many parts of the body as you can.





Which adjectives could you use with the words below to describe a symptom?

nose

chest

throat

virus

bacteria

contagion



Dialogue

Read through the short dialogue between a receptionist and a patient.



Good afternoon, Springhead Medical Centre. How can I help you?



Good afternoon, I'd like to make an appointment with the GP please.

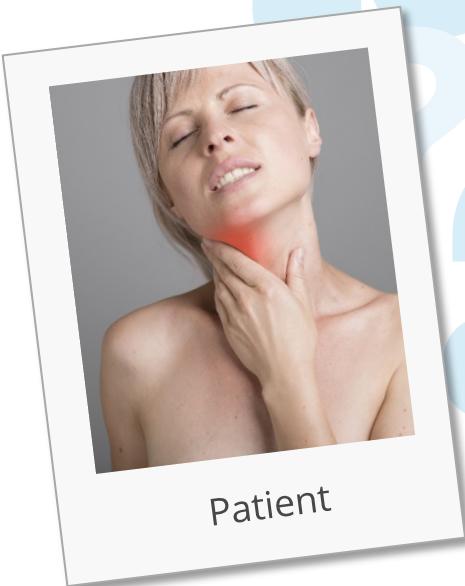


Are you registered here?



Improvisation time!

Continue the dialogue from the previous page.
Make an appointment and briefly describe your symptoms to the receptionist.





Preview

We are now going to look at advanced ways to describe health problems to a professional.



Doctor, doctor, I'm feeling a bit **under the weather**.



Going to the doctor

A doctor often follows certain steps when we attend an appointment.
Can you think of any other steps?

The doctor listens to the **symptoms** as described by the patient.



The doctor **takes** the **temperature** and **pulse** of the patient.



The doctor **takes** the patient's **blood pressure**.

Or, the doctor might **order** more **tests** or **make a referral** to a specialist.



The doctor may **make a diagnosis** and **write a prescription**.



“

Common health problems

Below are some **common health problems** and how you might describe them to a doctor.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| faint/pass out/lose consciousness | I fainted yesterday morning and lost consciousness for about 10 seconds. |
| nausea | I feel nauseous at the smell of certain foods. |
| migraine | I've recently been getting debilitating migraines . |
| sinuses | I have had a terrible pain in my sinuses ever since I had that cold. |
| abdominal pain | I've had a pain in my abdomen for a few days. |



Your turn...



Following the appointment steps, discuss the processes a doctor may complete if you tell them you recently passed out at work and have been suffering from terrible migraines.



What are the names for these different medical specialists?

A



B



C



D





More specialists

How many more **specialists** can
you think of?

Have you ever visited any?

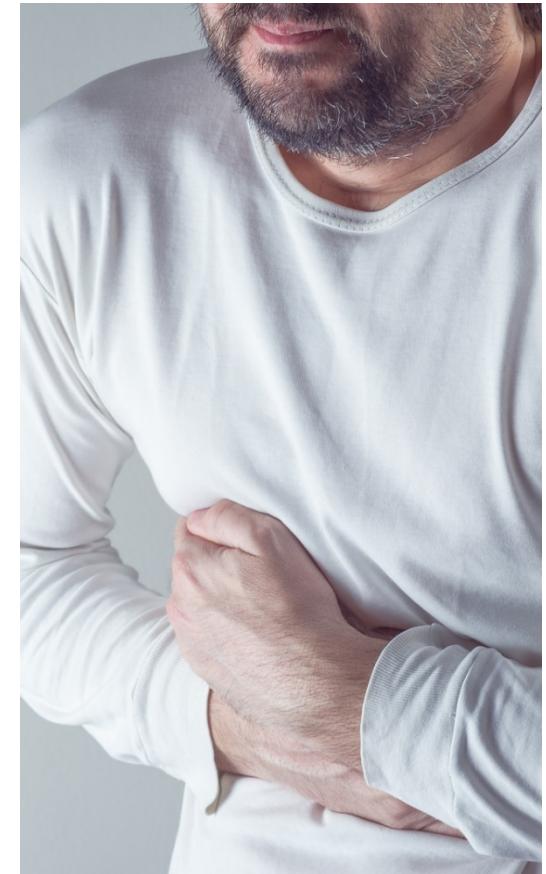




Practising vocabulary

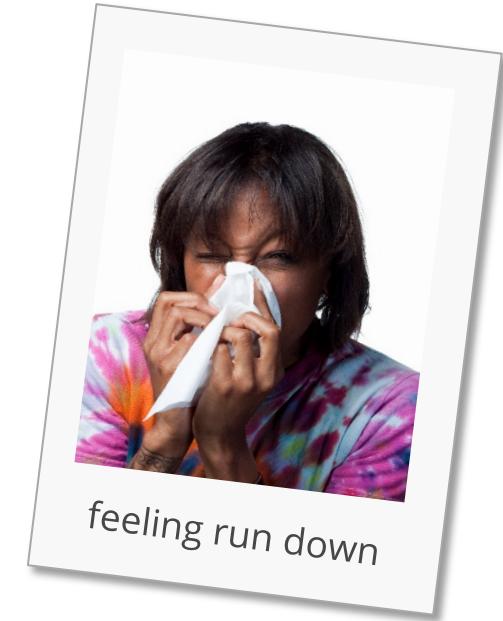
Answer the questions below to the best of your knowledge.

1. Have you ever **fainted** or **lost consciousness**? Which **specialist** do you think you might be **referred** to if you did?
2. What is a treatment for **migraine**? Do you know anyone who suffers from them?
3. What **tests** might a doctor **run** if you have **nausea** and **abdominal pain**?
4. Would the doctor **write a prescription** for blocked **sinuses**? What might be prescribed?





Do you know the meanings of these common idioms?





Match the ways to describe pain with their meanings

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. throbbing | → Causing so much pain you cannot move |
| 2. dull | → Serious and unpleasant |
| 3. sharp | → Sharp pain in the head |
| 4. splitting | → Extremely painful, any part of body |
| 5. severe | → Pain in your muscles, difficulty moving |
| 6. agonising | → Sudden and severe |
| 7. stiff | → Not a strong pain, but continues for a long time |
| 8. crippling | → A pain which comes in regular beats |



Using some of the idioms we have discussed, how might you describe your symptoms in each of these pictures?





For which parts of the body might we use these words to describe an illness?

throbbing

splitting

agonising

stiff

crippling

dull



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps to complete the idioms.

1. When might you look as pale as a _____?
2. What happens when you are _____ around the gills?
3. What might cause someone to be burnt _____?
4. After having a cold, how soon are you back on your _____?
5. If you are feeling _____ the weather, is it serious? What kind of ailments might you have?
6. How do you know when you are coming _____ with something?



Now, answer the questions.



Vocabulary

Below are some more ways we can describe **ailments** with examples.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| benign | You are very lucky, the tumour is benign . |
| malignant | Unfortunately, the tumour is malignant . |
| contagious | You will be contagious for around four more days. |
| lingering | The cold should go away quickly, but the blocked sinuses will be lingering . |



Conversation

Answer the questions below.



1

Which is a more positive diagnosis – to have something malignant or benign?

2

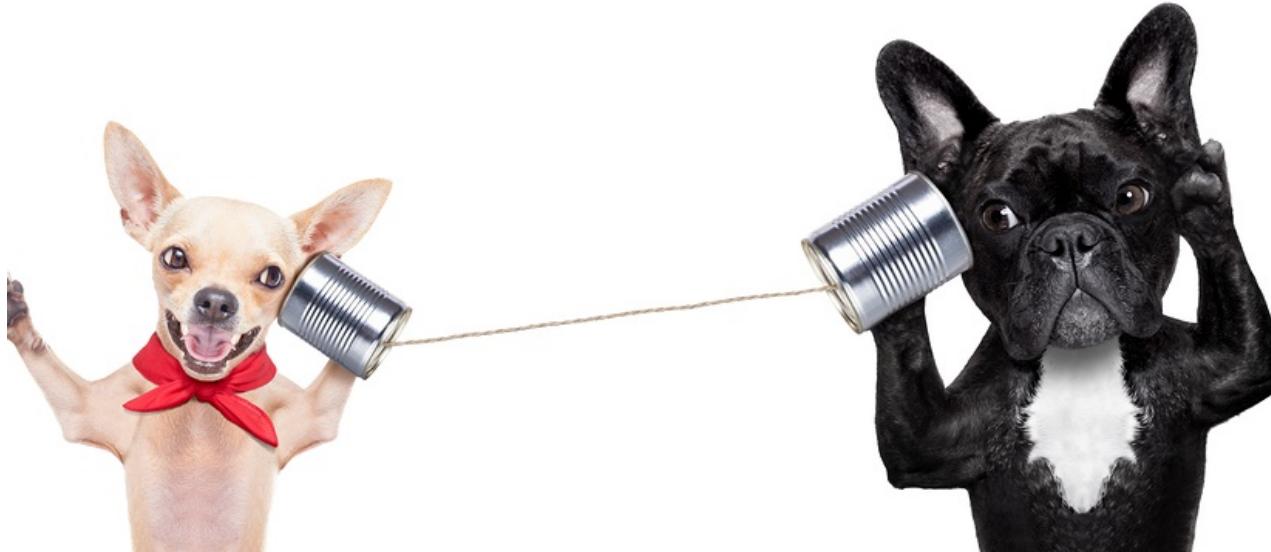
Which illnesses are highly contagious?

3

Which illnesses can linger for a long time?



Get ready to listen



The next few slides will focus on
training your listening comprehension



While you are listening...

While you are listening, make notes on the answers to these questions.

What symptoms
had the patient
been having?

Which test result
might explain
them?

To which
specialist is the
patient referred?

Which test is the
patient about to
have?



Questions

What **questions** might you have
for the **doctor** if you were the
patient in the previous scenario?



While you are listening...

Listen to a second diagnosis of a different patient. Why does the doctor mention these things?



aggravate
symptoms



watch your
intake



Role play

Prepare a short role play with one of your classmates. One of you is the doctor and one the patient. Make your symptoms, diagnosis and advice as interesting as possible!

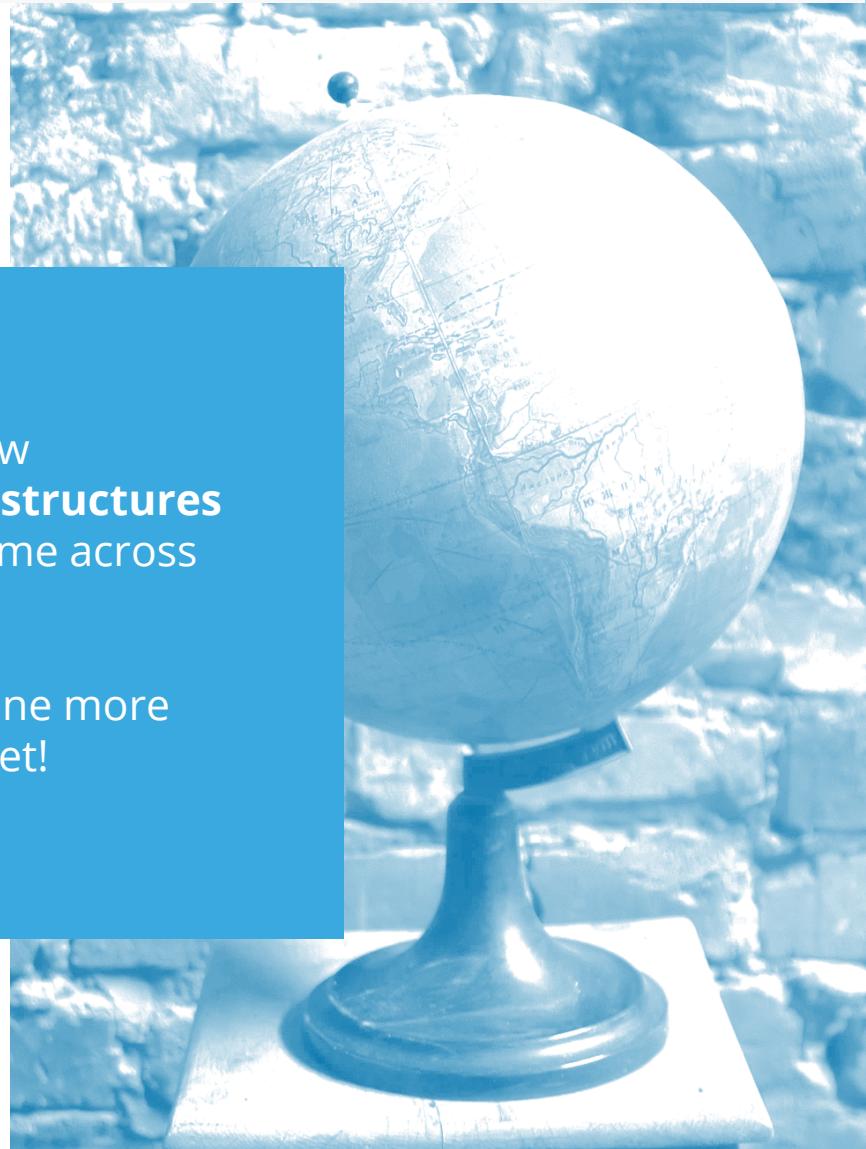




Reflect on this lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

1. ghost, 2. green, 3. out, 4. feet, 5. under, 6. down

Exercise p. 22

Causing so much pain you cannot move
Extremely painful, any part of body, 7. Pain in your muscles, difficulty moving, 8.
time, 3. Sudden and severe, 4. Sharp pain in the head, 5. Serious and unpleasant, 6.
1. A pain which comes in regular beats, 2. Not a strong pain, but continues for a long

Exercise p. 19

A. cardiologist, B. neurologist, C. dermatologist, D. surgeon

Exercise p. 15



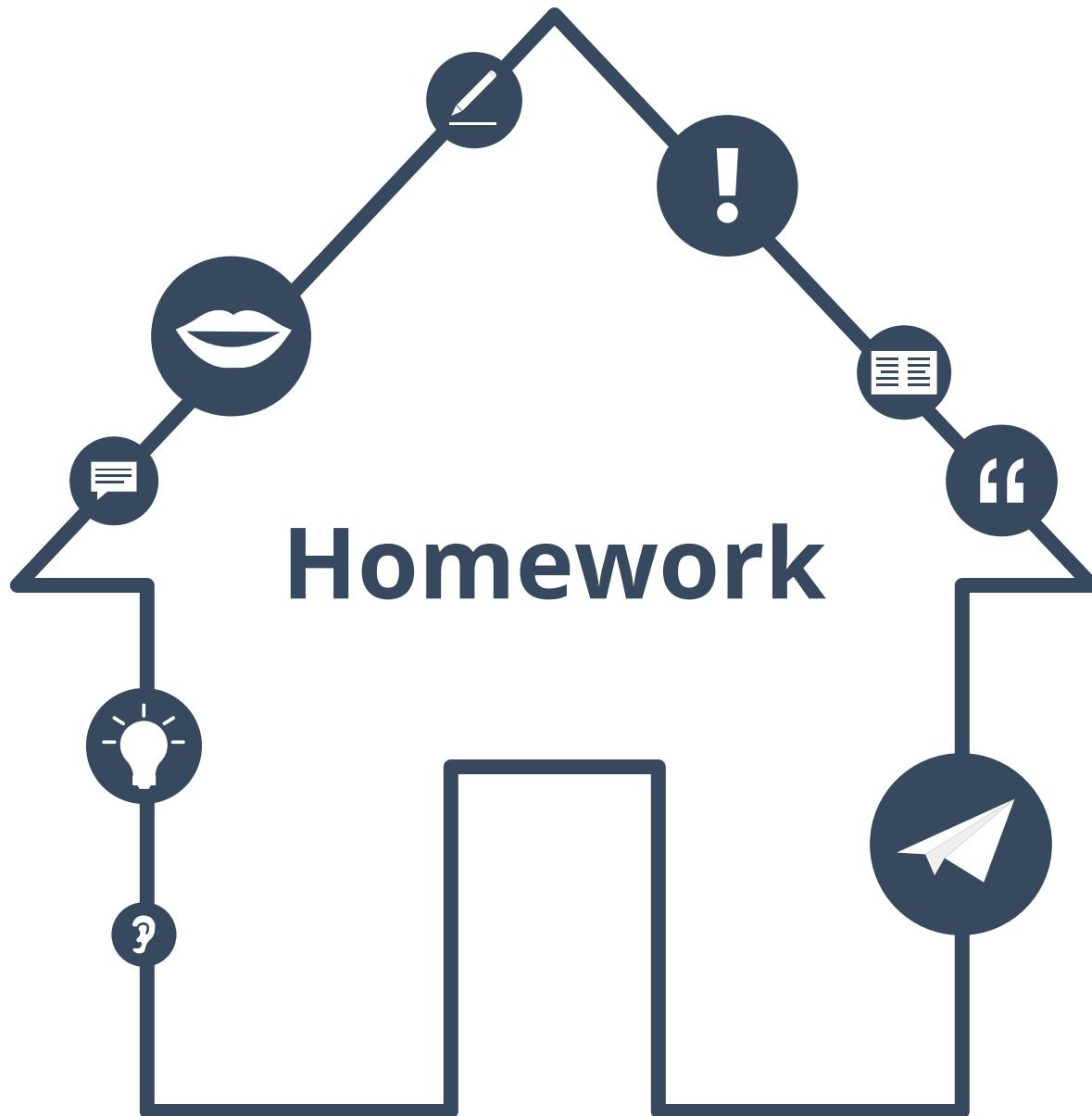
Transcription

You're running a fairly high fever and your glands are heavily swollen. I'd advise complete bed rest for a few days, up your water intake and drink hot tea as well. You'll need to avoid caffeine and alcohol, and watch your sugar consumption – as these can only aggravate your symptoms. I'm not going to write you a prescription right now as I think you'll be fit as a fiddle in no time, but do come back if you don't feel better in 7 days.

Listening p. 28

Thank you for coming in today. As you know, we've run some tests and some of the blood work came back abnormal. Your blood pressure is low, which could account for the fainting episode, though it does little to explain the splitting headaches you've been having. Low blood pressure can cause nausea, though you didn't mention that as a symptom. I'd like to refer you to a specialist, the neurologist. And secondly I'd like to run some more tests, particularly an ECG. Make an appointment with reception for the neurologist, and follow me for the ECG.

Listening p. 26





Vocabulary

Write any new vocabulary from this lesson here.





Writing

Write a short diagnosis for these symptoms. What tests would you order?

chesty cough

feeling under
the weather

blocked sinuses

a dull headache

a cold

sneezing

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