

COMMUNICATION

# Visiting the doctor

**LEVEL**

Elementary (A2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A2\_2114X

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

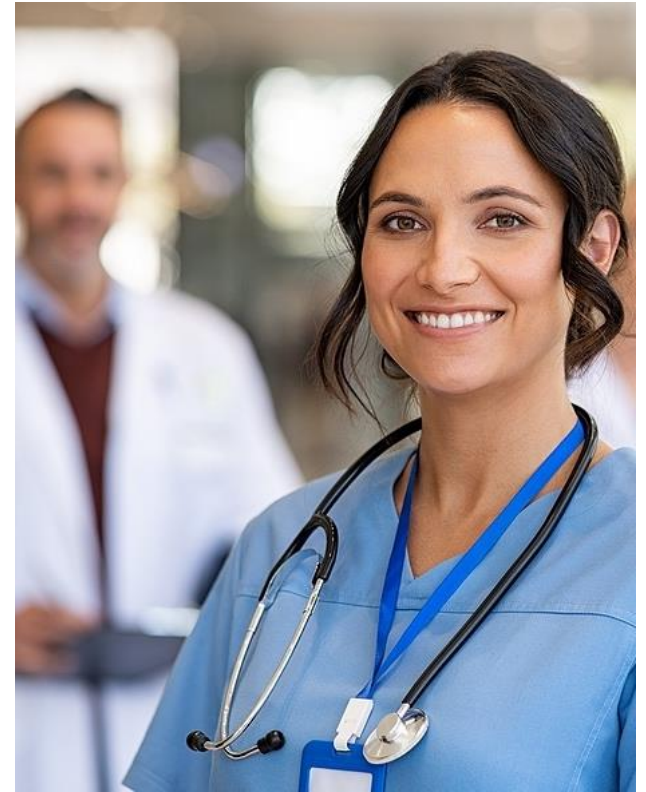
- I can describe an illness or health issue to a doctor.
- I can distinguish between different types of bodily discomfort.



## Warm-up

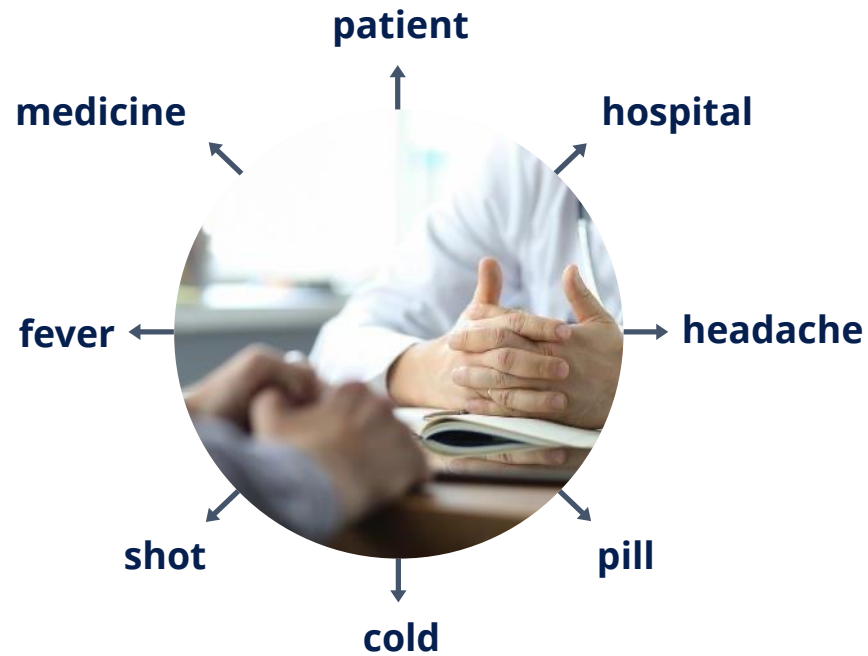
**Have you ever  
taken a first aid  
course?**

**Share your answer with the  
rest of the class!**





# Do you remember these words?





# Do you remember these words?



If we are very ill, we should go to the **hospital**.

When our head hurts, we have a **headache**.





# Do you remember these words?



When we have a high temperature, we may have a **fever**.

An injection is also called a **shot**.



When we sneeze and cough, we may have a **cold**.

We can take a **pill** if we have a **headache**.







# Discuss

**Answer** the question below.

**What are some causes of headaches?**

**Share your ideas with the rest of the class!**





# Vocabulary

waiting room



We wait to see the doctor in the **waiting room**.

prescription



A doctor can write us a **prescription** if we need some medicine.

insurance



In the USA, people must have health **insurance** to get medical care.





# Vocabulary

**emergency**



In an **emergency**, an ambulance will take us to hospital.

**surgery**



If we need an operation, we have **surgery**.



# Visiting the doctor



A surgeon performs **surgery**.

Sometimes we wait for a long time in the **waiting room**.





# Visiting the doctor



Some medicines are only available on **prescription**.

When we go abroad, we should have travel **insurance** in case we get ill.



In an **emergency**, we call 112 in Europe.

Some people have cosmetic **surgery** if they are not happy with how they look.





## Create sentences

prescription  
fever insurance emergency  
Waiting patient  
room surgery  
pill shot  
headache



# Multiple choice

Choose the correct option.

- 1 A doctor must write us a \_\_\_\_\_ for some medicines.  
**a. surgery** **b. prescription**
- 2 When we need an operation, we have \_\_\_\_\_.  
**a. insurance** **b. surgery**
- 3 You should have travel \_\_\_\_\_ when you go on holiday.  
**a. insurance** **b. emergency**
- 4 When we have a serious illness, it is an \_\_\_\_\_.  
**a. waiting room** **b. emergency**
- 5 Sometimes, when we are very sick, we need to take \_\_\_\_\_.  
**a. shot** **b. medicine**



# Discuss

1. **Tell** your classmates what visiting the doctor is like in your country.
2. **Use** the phrases below to help you.

We don't need  
insurance...

I usually have  
to wait...

I have to pay  
for  
prescriptions...

The waiting  
room is...







# Vocabulary

**appetite**



When we have no **appetite**, we don't want to eat.

**dizzy**



When we feel **dizzy**, our head feels like it is spinning and it's difficult to stand.

**ache**



Our legs often **ache** after exercise.



# Vocabulary

**painful**



If something is **painful**, it hurts a lot.

**itchy**



If your skin is **itchy**, you want to scratch it.



I'm good, except for some  
**aches and pains** in my legs  
since I started running again.



This is a phrase that can be used to describe a  
**general feeling** of being unwell and/or having  
minor health issues.





# Aches and pains



Insect bites can make us **itch**.

Pregnant women sometimes feel **dizzy**.





# Visiting the doctor



If we have a big **appetite**, we want to eat a lot of food.

If our stomach is **aching**, we usually don't have an **appetite**.



Breaking a bone is very **painful**.

If our tooth **aches**, we should go to the dentist.





# How do these people feel?

1. **Look** at the pictures.
2. In breakout rooms or together as a class, **say** how you think each person is feeling.







# Vocabulary

**bruise**



If something hits us,  
we get a **bruise**.

**infection**



We should not go  
too close to people  
with an **infection**  
because they can  
make us ill.

**first aid**



Everyone should  
have a **first aid** kit in  
their car.



# Vocabulary

**indigestion**



Sometimes we get **indigestion** after eating.

**sore**



Sometimes, when we sit for too long, our shoulders become **sore**.



# Our body



A **bruise** is often many different colours.

Have you ever taken a **first aid** course?





# Our body



Our feet can hurt and be **sore** if we walk a lot.

We can take some medicine if we have **indigestion**.



The flu is an **infection**.

**First aid** is the first help we give when someone has an accident.





# Matching

**Match** the descriptions to the words.

**indigestion**

**first aid**

**bruise**

**infection**

- A** When someone or something hits your face or body your skin often changes colour. It can be purple, red, yellow or green. It sometimes hurts when you touch it. Occasionally people also get one after they get a shot.
- B** After we eat, sometimes we feel a pain in our stomach. This is often after we eat too much food. It also happens often to pregnant women. We can take some pills to feel better.
- C** This is often the reason that we feel ill. A cold or the flu are examples of this. When we have this, we shouldn't get too close to other people, especially small children or old people.
- D** This is the help that we give someone after they have an accident. We should have a kit for this in our house, car and at work. This kit has plasters, bandages, scissors and a few other things.



## Giving advice

**Your friend has a stomachache. What advice would you give them?**



**Your friend's back is sore from sitting all day at work. What advice would you give them?**





# Game

**Describe** the word in bold without saying any of the other words on the card.

## **Headache**

pain  
hurt  
aspirin

## **Appetite**

food  
hungry  
eat

## **Prescription**

medicine  
doctor  
chemist

## **Surgery**

surgeon  
operation  
hospital





# End of the lesson

Idiom

***Doctor's orders!***

**Meaning:** you have been given medical advice

**Example:** No more red meat or alcohol for me, I'm afraid. Doctor's orders!



# Additional practice



# Fill in the gaps

**Complete** the sentences with the correct word.

- 1 We wait to see the doctor in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 When our head spins, we feel \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Our feet feel \_\_\_\_\_ when we walk a long way.
- 4 If you don't have \_\_\_\_\_, medical care is expensive in the USA.
- 5 A doctor writes a \_\_\_\_\_ for some medicines.

insurance  
prescription  
waiting room  
sore  
dizzy



# A visit to the doctor (1/2)



1. **Read** the first part of the dialogue. 2. **Choose** the word that fits best.

- 1 Hello doctor, I hope you can help me. I feel very \_\_\_\_\_. My head is spinning, and I feel sick.

a. appetite                      b. painful                      c. dizzy                      d. ache

- 2 Oh dear. Have you eaten anything today? Do you have an \_\_\_\_\_?

a. insurance                      b. surgery                      c. painful                      d. appetite

- 3 No, I haven't eaten anything. I also have a stomach\_\_\_\_\_.

a. ache                      b. surgery                      c. emergency                      d. prescription

- 4 Please lie down on the bed. Is it \_\_\_\_\_ when I touch your stomach?

a. appetite                      b. painful                      c. emergency                      d. dizzy





# A visit to the doctor (2/2)



1. **Read** the second part of the dialogue. 2. **Choose** the word that fits best.

1 Yes, it hurts a lot. Do you think I need \_\_\_\_\_?

a. insurance

b. surgery

c. emergency

d. appetite

2 No! It's not an \_\_\_\_\_.

a. emergency

b. prescription

c. dizzy

d. surgery

3 Oh good. I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ so surgery would be really expensive for me.

a. prescription

b. appetite

c. ache

d. insurance

# Unscramble the words



patient

a surgeon

on

surgery

performs

a



free

medicines

some

prescription

are

in the UK



# Visiting the doctor



**You are feeling ill. You decide  
to go to the doctor.**

**Tell the doctor (your  
classmates) how you feel.**

**Your classmates will ask you  
some questions.**





# Answer key

**P.13:** 1.) b 2.) b 3.) a 4.) b 5.) b

**P.25:** A-bruise, B-indigestion, C-infection, D-first aid

**P.31:** 1.) waiting room 2.) dizzy 3.) sore 4.) insurance 5.) prescription

**P.32:** 1.) c 2.) d 3.) a 4.) b

**P.33:** 1.) b 2.) a 3.) d

**P.34:**

A surgeon performs surgery on a patient.

Some prescription medicines are free in the UK.



# Summary

## Vocabulary for healthcare:

- *waiting room; prescription; insurance; emergency; surgery; first aid*
- *Some medicines are only available on **prescription**.*
- *You need to have **insurance** to get healthcare in some countries.*

## Vocabulary for pains and illnesses:

- *appetite; dizzy; itchy; bruise; infection; indigestion; ache; painful; sore*
- *We can take some medicine without a prescription if we have **indigestion**.*
- *I am **dizzy** and I have no **appetite**.*



# Vocabulary

waiting room

prescription

insurance

emergency

surgery

appetite

dizzy

ache

painful

itchy

bruise

infection

first aid

indigestion

sore

