

3 Big Questions About Coronavirus

Here's what you need to know about the new illness- and how to stay healthy.

Adapted from Scholastic, [March 16, 2020](#) and [KidsHealth](#).



People wear masks for protection.

*What can you do to protect you and your family from **COVID-19**?*

vocabulary

**avoid = stay away from*

**pandemic = a health problem in many locations*

**spread = transfer*

1. What is this new coronavirus?

At the end of 2019, a new coronavirus started making people sick. Coronavirus, or COVID-19, was first detected in Wuhan, China. People develop symptoms like the flu. Symptoms include a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. The virus spreads easily and now many people in different countries are affected. On March 11, the World Health Organization (*WHO*) declared a global pandemic*.

2. How Does Coronavirus (COVID-19) Spread*?

COVID-19 spreads easily. When infected people sneeze or cough, they can release the virus into the air. You can get sick if you touch your nose, eyes, or mouth.

3. How Can People Stay Safe?

To stay safe and healthy, you should practice the same steps to avoid* a cold:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitizer that contains alcohol
- Don't touch your face, nose, eyes, or mouth
- Stay away from sick people
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow and then, wash your hands

- Clean or wipe surfaces that people touch a lot, like door handles, remote controls, and sink faucets
- Stay home

A. Comprehension: Choose the correct answer.

1. *Where was COVID-19 first identified?*

- A. in El Salvador
- B. in the US
- C. in China
- D. in Ethiopia

2. *What is a symptom of the virus?*

- A. a fever
- B. diarrhea
- C. a stomachache
- D. vomiting

3. *Why is this virus a **pandemic**?*

- A. a few people are sick
- B. many people are sick in one area
- C. 1 person is sick
- D. many people are sick in different areas

4. *How can we stay safe?*

- A. wash your hair frequently
- B. avoid sick people
- C. go to busy places
- D. touch your eyes, nose, and mouth

B. Grammar: What **should** you *do* during this health crisis?

Write **should** or **shouldn't**.

Example: I should keep 6 feet of space between people.

- I _____ visit my friends and family.
- I _____ wash my hands often.
- I _____ go to a party.
- I _____ touch my face.
- I _____ clean things my family touches.
- I _____ cover my cough or sneeze.
- I _____ throw away dirty tissues.
- I _____ spend time with sick people.
- I _____ go shopping in crowded places.



Answers: (Part A) 1.C / 2.A / 3.D / 4.B, (Part B) 1.shouldn't / 2.should / 3.shouldn't / 4.shouldn't / 5.should / 6.should / 7.should / 8.shouldn't / 9.shouldn't