

# IELTS Reading practice

## Filling gaps

6.

***Read the following passage about the discovery of penicillin.***

The discovery of penicillin is attributed to Scottish scientist Alexander Fleming. Fleming recounted that the date of his breakthrough was on the morning of September 28, 1928. It was a lucky accident: in his laboratory in the basement of St. Mary's Hospital in London, Fleming noticed a petri dish containing Staphylococcus culture that he had mistakenly left open. The culture had become contaminated by blue-green mould, and there was a halo of inhibited bacterial growth around the mould. Fleming concluded that the mould was releasing a substance that was repressing the growth of the bacteria. He grew a pure culture and discovered that it was a Penicillium mould, now known to be Penicillium notatum. Fleming coined the term "penicillin" to describe the filtrate of a broth culture of the Penicillium mould.

***Fill the gaps in the summary below using words from the passage.***

Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin by \_\_\_\_\_ on September 28, 1928. He found that the growth of bacteria on a petri dish was \_\_\_\_\_ by a blue-green mould that had contaminated the culture. He realized that the mould was producing a substance that was responsible for \_\_\_\_\_ bacterial growth.