ANTIBIOTICS (lesson 1)

Task 1. Match the words in column A with their correct definitions in column B. Write the letter of the correct definition next to the number.

A		B	
1.	**cure**	**a.**	a specific genetic variant or subtype of a microorganism.
2.	**transmission**	**b.**	to authorize the use of a medicine or treatment for someone.
3.	**infectious**	**c.**	a test of the performance, qualities, or suitability of a new drug or treatment before it is widely used.
4.	**inhibition**	**d.**	spread from one person to another by direct or indirect contact.
5.	**contagious**	**e.**	the process of passing a disease from one person or place to another.
6.	**strain**	**f.**	involving the introduction of instruments into the body.
7.	**trial**	**g.**	the ability of a microorganism to withstand the effects of a drug that was once effective.
8.	**invasive**	**h.**	a substance or treatment that ends a medical condition.
9.	**over-the-counter**	**i.**	caused by microorganisms that can invade the body and multiply.
10.	**resistance**	**j.**	the action of stopping, restraining, or slowing down a process.
11.	**prescribe**	**k.**	sold directly to a consumer without requiring a doctor's authorization.

Task 2. Match the words in Column A with the correct partner in Column B to form natural collocations. Each word in Column A matches with only one option in Column B.

Column A		Column B	
1.	inappropriate	**a.**	trial
2.	experience	**b.**	effects
3.	prevent the spread of	**c.**	prescription
4.	resistant	**d.**	a course of antibiotics
5.	life-threatening	**e.**	measures
6.	adverse	**f.**	therapy
7.	over-the-counter	**g.**	condition
8.	clinical	**h.**	strain
9.	ineffective	**i.**	symptoms

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10.	preventive	**j.**	disease
11.	complete	**k.**	drugs

Task 3. Fill in each blank with the correct collocation from the box. Use each collocation once.

preventive measures • ineffective therapy • life-threatening condition
experience symptoms • over-the-counter drugs • adverse effects
prevent the spread of disease • clinical trial • resistant strain
complete a course of antibiotics • inappropriate prescription

1. Patients sometimes suffer from _____ such as nausea or stomach pain when taking antibiotics.
2. Before a new antibiotic is used in hospitals, it must go through a _____.
3. Doctors are worried about the new _____ of bacteria that does not respond to common antibiotics.
4. The patient did not recover because the doctor chose an _____.
5. An _____ of antibiotics can cause resistance and harm patients.
6. It is important to _____, even if you feel better before the medicine is finished.
7. Washing hands regularly and wearing masks are examples of _____ against infections.
8. Without urgent treatment, the patient may die from a _____.
9. People with the flu usually _____ such as fever, cough, and weakness.
10. Vaccination programs help to _____ in the community.
11. In some countries, people can buy _____ without seeing a doctor.

Reading

Task 4. Read the text about antibiotics carefully. Match each heading with the correct paragraph in the text.

____ Use in veterinary medicine and agriculture
____ Slow innovation and underfunded research
____ Antibiotic resistance as a growing threat
____ Unregulated access and global regulation needs
____ Discovery and impact of antibiotics
____ Public health measures and alternatives

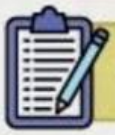
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Introduction

1 Antibiotics have revolutionized modern medicine by offering effective treatment for bacterial infections that once caused widespread death. Before their discovery in the early 20th century, diseases like tuberculosis, pneumonia, and syphilis were often fatal. The introduction of penicillin by Alexander Fleming in 1928 marked a turning point in medical history, opening the door to many other antibiotic drugs. These medicines work by killing bacteria or inhibiting their growth, allowing the immune system to overcome infections more easily. As a result, surgical procedures, cancer treatments, and organ transplants became much safer. However, antibiotics are ineffective against viruses, and their overuse can lead to antibiotic resistance—a growing global health concern that threatens medical progress.

2 In recent decades, antibiotic resistance has become a pressing issue due to misuse and overprescription. Bacteria can mutate, making them resistant to existing drugs, which reduces the effectiveness of treatment. This has led to the emergence of "superbugs" that are difficult to treat and pose serious health risks. Therefore, responsible use of antibiotics and the development of new drugs are essential to sustain the benefits they bring to modern medicine.





Antibiotics save lives, but resistance weakens their power.

3



To prevent antibiotic resistance, public health campaigns now focus on educating people about proper usage. Doctors are urged to prescribe antibiotics only when necessary, and patients should always complete their prescribed course. Furthermore, scientists are researching alternatives, such as bacteriophages—viruses that attack bacteria—or developing entirely new classes of antibiotics. Hospitals and farms are also implementing stricter hygiene and usage protocols to reduce dependency. Global cooperation and innovation are key to preserving the effectiveness of antibiotics for future generations.



REMEMBER:

Antibiotics treat bacteria, not viruses. Misuse leads to resistance. Responsible use, research on new drugs, public awareness, and international cooperation are essential to protect these life-saving medicines. Always follow prescriptions and support hygiene to reduce antibiotic reliance.

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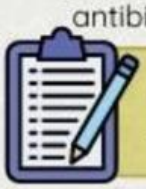
4 Antibiotics have also played a critical role in veterinary medicine and agriculture. Animals raised for food often receive antibiotics to prevent disease and promote growth. While this practice supports food production, it has contributed significantly to antibiotic resistance in both animals and humans. Resistant bacteria from livestock can transfer to humans through meat consumption or environmental exposure. Regulatory agencies in many countries now limit non-therapeutic antibiotic use in animals. The goal is to maintain animal health without contributing to global resistance. Responsible antibiotic policies in agriculture are just as crucial as those in hospitals and clinics to safeguard public health.

5 

In many parts of the world, especially in developing countries, antibiotics are available without prescription, further fueling resistance. This easy access often leads to self-medication and incomplete treatments. Governments are working to improve regulations, raise awareness, and ensure antibiotics are used appropriately to prevent worsening the resistance crisis on both local and international levels.

6 Another challenge is the slow pace of developing new antibiotics. Pharmaceutical companies often focus on more profitable drugs for chronic diseases, leaving antibiotic research underfunded. However, global initiatives and incentives are being introduced to encourage innovation in this field. Organizations and governments are now funding research collaborations, supporting clinical trials, and offering financial rewards for breakthroughs in antibiotic development.





Animal use, poor regulation, and slow innovation all contribute to today's antibiotic resistance crisis.

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