



Unit 7

Medical Issues

Acupuncture Might Help

- a. Do you remember the conversation between Freddy and Ron in the video clip in the computer lesson? Mark whether the statements are true or false.

Statement	True	False
1. Freddy and Ron work together.	☐	☐
2. Freddy hurts his back.	☐	☐
3. Freddy has not been to the doctor.	☐	☐
4. Ron has gone to an acupuncturist	☐	☐
5. Freddy would rather have surgery than acupuncture.	☐	☐
6. Ron hurts himself.	☐	☐

b. Complete the following sentences from the dialogue in the video.

1. You do seem to be in _____.
2. I don't know how I feel _____.
3. Should I make an appointment _____?

c. Who is each statement talking about? What do they say?

1. He hurt his shoulder. ☐ Freddy / ☐ Ron

"_____."

2. He might need to have an operation. ☐ Freddy / ☐ Ron

"_____."

3. He wants his friend to try something new. ☐ Freddy / ☐ Ron

"_____?"

4. He has tried acupuncture and thinks it's helpful. ☐ Freddy / ☐ Ron

"_____."

5. He wants to know how to contact the acupuncturist. ☐ Freddy / ☐ Ron

"_____?"

d. What happens next in the video? Read the scriptwriter's note. Then write the continuation of the video script.

Woman walks by and notices Freddy and Ron...

Woman: _____

Ron/Freddy: _____

Woman: _____

Ron/Freddy: _____

Woman: _____

Ron/Freddy: _____

Woman: _____

Ron/Freddy: _____

Common Sense, Not Blind Faith

a. Do you remember the text from the computer lesson? Answer the following questions.

1. What attitude does the writer express toward the medical profession in the first paragraph?

2. How does the writer explain the problem of modern Western medicine in the second paragraph?

3. Which two reasons does the writer give to explain why people in the West are attracted to alternative medicine in the third paragraph?

4. Which third reason does the writer add in the fourth paragraph?

5. Which reason does the writer give to explain why all medical treatment can be risky in the final paragraph?

6. With which message does the writer finish the article?

b. Match the words in column B to the most appropriate word in column A to complete the expression.

A	B
1. a second	a. faith
2. bedside	b. healers
3. blind	c. manner
4. common	d. opinion
5. dangerous	e. sense
6. natural	f. treatments

1. ☐ 2. ☐ 3. ☐ 4. ☐ 5. ☐ 6. ☐

c. Read a debate between Dr. Robert, a conventional Western doctor, and, Tony Lee, a natural healer. Complete the dialogue with words and expressions from activity b.

- Dr. Robert: Mr. Lee, you and your fellow (1) _____
_____ cannot possibly offer all the medical treatments that we can.
- Tony Lee: Dr. Robert, some of those are considered to be (2) _____,
_____ such as surgery and cancer treatment.
- Dr. Robert: Mr. Lee, I believe that whereas we have scientific evidence to support our
treatments, you rely more on people having (3) _____ in yours.
- Mr. Lee: Actually, Dr. Robert, I prefer to think that my patients are using their
(4) _____ when they choose a treatment of massage and
a change of diet over a treatment of drugs with bad side-effects.
- Dr. Robert: If one of my patients has any doubts about a treatment I have recommended,
he or she can always ask another doctor for a (5) _____.
- Mr. Lee: That is true with us, too, but I believe we are better than conventional doctors in
one important aspect.
- Dr. Robert: I can't imagine what that could be.
- Mr. Lee: According to research, 7 out of 10 sick people prefer to be visited by a natural
healer to a doctor. We have a much better (6) _____.
- Dr. Robert: I believe we'll just have to agree to disagree.

Additional Reading

Global Reading

1. Read the title of the additional reading. What information do you expect to find in the article?

2. Read the first sentence of the first paragraph. What is the writer's purpose?

3. Read the first sentence of the second paragraph. What is the purpose of asking a question?

Do you expect the writer to answer the question? _____

4. Read the first sentence of the third paragraph. What will the writer discuss in this paragraph?

5. The text continues by referring to four general types of alternative medicine. What are they?

Close Reading

1. The marker *While* in line 3 signals that the writer wants to emphasize the difference between two situations. What are the two things the writer contrasts?

2. What does the abbreviation "CAM" in line 3 refer to? _____

3. In line 5, the writer uses the expression *such as* to give examples. What does the writer give examples of? _____

4. The writer uses the expression *in place of* in line 10. What other expression in the paragraph means the same thing? _____

5. The writer uses the words *apart from* and *earlier than* in lines 14 and 15 to compare two separate things. What does the writer compare? _____

6. In the fourth paragraph, the writer uses commas to provide a list. What does the writer list?

7. In line 30, the writer uses the word *purportedly* to express doubt. What does he express doubt about? _____

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Complementary and Alternative Medicine

Complementary and alternative medicine, as defined by NCCAM, is a group of diverse medical and health care systems, practices and products that are not presently considered to be part of conventional medicine. While some scientific evidence exists regarding some CAM therapies, for the most part there are key questions that are yet to be answered through well-designed scientific studies - questions such as whether these therapies are safe and whether they work for the diseases or medical conditions for which they are used.

Are complementary medicine and alternative medicine different from each other? Yes. Complementary medicine is used together with conventional medicine. An example of a complementary therapy is using aromatherapy to help lessen a patient's discomfort following surgery. Alternative medicine is used in place of conventional medicine. An example of an alternative therapy is using a special diet to treat cancer instead of undergoing surgery, radiation, or chemotherapy that has been recommended by a conventional doctor.

What are the major types of complementary and alternative medicine? Alternative medical systems are built upon complete systems of theory and practice. Often, these systems have evolved apart from and earlier than the conventional medical approach used in the United States. Examples of alternative medical systems that have developed in Western cultures include homeopathic medicine and naturopathic medicine. Examples of systems that have developed in non-Western cultures include traditional Chinese medicine and Ayurveda.

Mind-body medicine uses a variety of techniques designed to enhance the mind's capacity to affect bodily functions and symptoms. Some techniques that were considered CAM in the past have become mainstream (for example, patient support groups and cognitive-behavioral therapy). Other mind-body techniques are still considered CAM, including meditation, prayer, mental healing, and therapies that use creative outlets such as art, music, or dance.

Biologically-based therapies in CAM use substances found in nature such as herbs, foods, and vitamins. Some examples include dietary supplements, herbal products, and the use of other so-called natural but as yet scientifically unproven therapies (for example, using shark cartilage to treat cancer).

Manipulative and body-based methods in CAM are based on manipulation and/or movement of one or more parts of the body. Some examples include chiropractic or osteopathic manipulation, and massage.

Energy therapies involve the use of energy fields. They are of two types:

- **Biofield therapies** are intended to affect energy fields that purportedly surround and penetrate the human body. The existence of such fields has not yet been scientifically proven. Some forms of energy therapy manipulate biofields by applying pressure and/or manipulating the body by placing the hands in, or through, these fields. Examples include Qi gong, Reiki, and Therapeutic Touch.
- **Bioelectromagnetic-based therapies** involve the unconventional use of electromagnetic fields, such as pulsed fields, magnetic fields, or alternating-current or direct-current fields.

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Comprehension Questions

1. Write a definition of complementary and alternative medicine.

2. How much scientific evidence exists regarding complementary and alternative medicine?

3. What is the difference between complementary and alternative medicines?

4. Which examples of alternative medicine have become mainstream?

Which haven't?

5. List four types of mind-body techniques.

Barbeque Burns

a. Do you remember the dialogue "Barbeque Burns". Which phrases are used:

to give advice: _____

to give an excuse: _____

b. Read the sentences about medical advice and the patient's response. Decide which each person is expressing. Mark the correct column.

	Giving advice	Giving an excuse
1. If I were you, I'd avoid lifting heavy weights.	☐	☐
2. I guess I was in the wrong place at the wrong time.	☐	☐
3. I can't believe it happened to me.	☐	☐
4. We believe you should give up smoking.	☐	☐
5. Wouldn't it be a good idea to take it easy?	☐	☐
6. This has never happened to me before.	☐	☐

c. Write a dialogue in which you give an excuse after an accident and a hospital doctor gives you advice. Use the phrases from activity b. to help you.

Hospital doctor: You'll be pleased to hear that you will recover quickly.

You: _____

Hospital doctor: _____

You: _____

Hospital doctor: _____

You: Yes, doctor, yes I will.

d. Practice your dialogue with a partner.

More Infinitives: Review

a. The computer lesson reviews infinitives. Match the sentences below to most appropriate pictures.

1. He appears to have disappeared again.
2. The head of the department doesn't like to be called at home in the middle of the night.
3. The operation is reported to have been a complete success.
4. Be serious, dude! That drug is not believed to have had any serious side effects in the past!



a. _____



b. _____



c. _____



d. _____

b. Match ends of the sentences in column B to the beginnings in column A.

A	B
1. The patient seems to be angry about...	a. given presents by grateful patients.
2. The acupuncturist appears to have forgotten to...	b. opened a new ward for eating disorders.
3. The nurses love to be...	c. the doctor's poor bedside manner.
4. Drastic surgery is considered to be a...	d. become more acceptable these days.
5. The hospital is reported to have...	e. sterilize the needles.
6. Alternative medicine appears to have...	f. dangerous treatment.

1. ☐ 2. ☐ 3. ☐ 4. ☐ 5. ☐ 6. ☐

c. Read the following situations. Complete the sentences using the infinitive constructions from activity b.

1. The patients are refusing to take their medicine today.

They _____ reached this decision because the medicine has an awful taste.

2. The nurses in the maternity ward always look more tired than the others.

They _____ the hardest working nurses in the hospital.

3. The young doctors work very long hours at the hospital.

For example, some of them _____
more than 60 hours last week.

4. Patients who are recovering from surgery respond well to a good bedside manner.

They _____ told everything about the operation and how soon
they will be able to leave the hospital.