



## FUNCTION: TALKING ABOUT MEDICAL PROBLEMS

Read the dialog with a partner.

Clerk: May I help you?  
PVT Olsen: I'd like to see a doctor, please.

Clerk: Sure. May I see your ID?

PVT Olsen: Yes. Here it is.

Clerk: Do we have your medical records here?

PVT Olsen: No, I've never been here before.

Clerk: Okay. Then I need to get some information from you. How old are you?

PVT Olsen: I'm twenty.

Clerk: Where do you work?

PVT Olsen: I'm with DLI.

Clerk: Do you smoke?

PVT Olsen: No. I stopped before I joined the army.

Clerk: Good. Have you taken any medication?

PVT Olsen: I took two aspirin this morning.

Clerk: Are you allergic to any drugs, like penicillin?

PVT Olsen: I don't think so.

Clerk: Describe your symptoms.

PVT Olsen: I have a fever, and I feel dizzy. I also have a sore throat and a headache.

Clerk: Okay. Have a seat. In a few minutes, the nurse will check your temperature, blood pressure, and pulse. Afterwards, the doctor will examine you.

### EXERCISE A

Match the sentences that have similar meanings.

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Do any drugs make you sick? | a. I sprained my ankle.              |
| _____ 2. Please sit down.            | b. Are you taking any medications?   |
| _____ 3. Write your name here.       | c. I got an order for some medicine. |
| _____ 4. What's the matter?          | d. Do you have a fever?              |
| _____ 5. Do you have a temperature?  | e. Please sign in.                   |
| _____ 6. Are you taking any pills?   | f. Have a seat.                      |
| _____ 7. He wrote me a prescription. | g. Are you allergic to any medicine? |
| _____ 8. I injured my ankle.         | h. What are your symptoms?           |

**EXERCISE B****NOTES**

Read the answer. Then, choose the correct question.

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| 1. Yes, my stomach hurts.<br>a. When is sick call?<br>b. Why is your nose bleeding?<br>c. Do you feel ill?                                   | 6. Yes, penicillin.<br>a. Did you eat lunch today?<br>b. Do you run every day?<br>c. Are you allergic to any drug?           |
| 2. I think I will, thanks.<br>a. Do you want to lie down?<br>b. Did you go by yourself?<br>c. When's the doctor coming?                      | 7. I was barbecuing a steak.<br>a. How did you get this burn?<br>b. Why are you bleeding?<br>c. Why did you wipe the mirror? |
| 3. Yesterday afternoon.<br>a. Whose seat is this?<br>b. When did you see the doctor?<br>c. Who's going to sick call?                         | 8. No, not very well.<br>a. Will you take a seat?<br>b. Did you sign in?<br>c. Can you breathe?                              |
| 4. Yes, I do. I take this pill every day.<br>a. Are you going by yourself?<br>b. Do they have your record?<br>c. Do you take any medication? | 9. You're nervous.<br>a. Why is my pulse so fast?<br>b. Is the lab on this floor?<br>c. Are your injuries serious?           |
| 5. I feel dizzy and have a fever.<br>a. Do you have any records?<br>b. When is sick call?<br>c. What are your symptoms?                      | 10. Just a little.<br>a. What's the doctor's name?<br>b. Will it hurt?<br>c. Where's my prescription?                        |

**EXERCISE C**

With your group, think of possible answers to the questions.

What are some common allergies?

What do you do for muscle aches?

What would a doctor tell a patient with a fever?

What do you do for a cold or flu?

What information would you find in a medical record?