



1 The hospital team

LANGUAGE

1 Grammar

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- 1 Surgeons *performs / performing / perform* operations.
- 2 I'm a midwife, I *delivers / I'm delivering / deliver* babies.
- 3 The paramedic is unavailable. He *responds / 's responding / respond* to an emergency.
- 4 A Do you work in a hospital? B Yes, I *work / do / does*.
- 5 I *want / wanting / wants* to qualify as a physiotherapist.
- 6 I like to *working / working / work* with people.
- 7 Do you / You are / Are you taking the patient to surgery?
- 8 I *do /'m doing / to do* a night shift this week.

2 Key words from the unit

Complete the sentences with the words from the list.

- 1 _____ are on the bottom grade.
- 2 _____ often work in administration.
- 3 The new job is a _____ for her.
- 4 Psychiatric nurses _____ in mental health.
- 5 You can do a _____ course while you work.
- 6 You need to send a CV when you _____.
- 7 Contact with patients can be very _____.
- 8 We are looking for well _____ staff.

qualified
nursing officers
promotion
part-time
apply for a job
auxiliary nurses
rewarding
specialize

READING AND VOCABULARY

A big hospital is like a small town; it needs thousands of people to make it work. All these people are organized into teams and each person in each team has a rank and often a specialism. In the past, the health care team's chain of command was simple: doctors made decisions and gave senior nurses orders. Senior nurses then instructed junior nurses, and so on. Things are changing. In many countries nurses have much more responsibility than they once had.

One thing is not changing; it is still a doctor who is in charge of a patient's treatment. In Britain, that doctor is called a consultant. Next in line to the consultant is the registrar. Consultants and registrars train the junior doctors who are called house officers or interns. Junior doctors work the same long, unsocial hours that nurses do on the wards. The most senior nurses are nursing officers; they are administrators. Then come ward managers who supervise staff nurses and students.

It is not only doctors and nurses who deliver treatment and care; there are many other specialists too. For example, there are physiotherapists who specialize in exercises to treat injury or dysfunction and occupational therapists who help patients manage every-day living. There are also many people the patient does not meet like lab technicians doing the tests and pharmacists dispensing medicines.

Like any town, a hospital has teams of office staff and ancillary workers such as porters, orderlies, technicians, drivers, cleaners, receptionists and cooks. Every team is essential for the delivery of treatment and care. This includes the volunteers who, without pay, raise money for the hospital and run shops, cinemas, libraries and restaurants.

Use the information in the text to complete the sentences with a, b or c.

- 1 A hospital is like a small town because _____.
 - a it's busy.
 - b it's full of different kinds of people.
 - c there are so many buildings.
- 2 The difference between now and the past is that _____.
 - a nursing is easier.
 - b nurses make more decisions.
 - c nurses work harder.
- 3 Consultants and nursing officers are both _____.
 - a senior staff.
 - b house officers.
 - c in charge of a patient's treatment.
- 4 Ward managers are _____.
 - a nurses.
 - b office workers.
 - c senior doctors.
- 5 Lab technicians and pharmacists _____.
 - a deliver treatment and care.
 - b work in the background.
 - c help the specialists.
- 6 Hospital volunteers are _____.
 - a sometimes needed.
 - b paid well.
 - c essential.

4 Words from the text

Match each verb 1–7 to a suitable phrase a–g. The first one is done for you.

1 specialize	a new staff
2 train	b unsocial hours
3 make	c a busy department
4 dispense	d injuries and dysfunctions
5 run	e quick decisions
6 work	f in paediatrics
7 treat	g medicines

5 Further vocabulary practice

Underline the correct words in *italics* to complete the sentences.
The first one is done for you.

- 1 The nurse understands the treatment / to treat.
- 2 You can consult / consultant the doctor about it.
- 3 I want to see a *specialist* / *specialize* / *specialism*.
- 4 I'm working in *reception* / *receptionist*.
- 5 The director *manager* / *management* / *manages* the hospital.
- 6 A registrar helps to *trainer* / *train* / *training* junior doctors.
- 7 He is *nursing* / *nurse* full time now.



WRITING

6 Write your profile

Read the example personal profile and write a similar one about yourself, explaining:

- why you became a nurse
- what you are doing now
- your career plans.

Example Personal Profile

When I was a child I wanted to be an accountant because mathematics was my favourite subject at school. I was no good at science and not very good with people, so I thought that nursing was not for me. But when I was sixteen my grandmother got very ill. I watched the nurses care for her as she slowly died, and I realized that I wanted to be like them.

When I left school I applied to train as a nurse. A training college accepted me and I started the course two years ago. I am still training and getting experience. I know that nursing is not right for everyone, but personally I love it.

For the past two months I have been working in a children's ward. It's a wonderful experience and I'm going to specialize in paediatrics as soon as I can. I'm ambitious and I want to go as high in my chosen career as possible.