

IELTS reading practice

Multiple choice

2. Read the following text, and chose the best answer to the questions below.

The Placebo Effect

A placebo is a sham or simulated medical intervention. Sometimes patients given a placebo treatment will have a perceived or actual improvement in a medical condition, a phenomenon commonly called the placebo effect.

A study of Danish general practitioners found that 48% had prescribed a placebo at least 10 times in the past year. The most frequently prescribed placebos were antibiotics for viral infections, and vitamins for fatigue. Specialists and hospital-based physicians reported much lower rates of placebo use.

1. *The placebo effect refers to*

- A) a simulated medical treatment
- B) an improvement in a patient's health as a result of a simulated medical treatment
- C) a common medical phenomenon

2. *According to a study, placebos were prescribed in Denmark*

- A) mainly by doctors working in hospitals
- B) instead of antibiotics
- C) for fatigued patients or those suffering with viruses