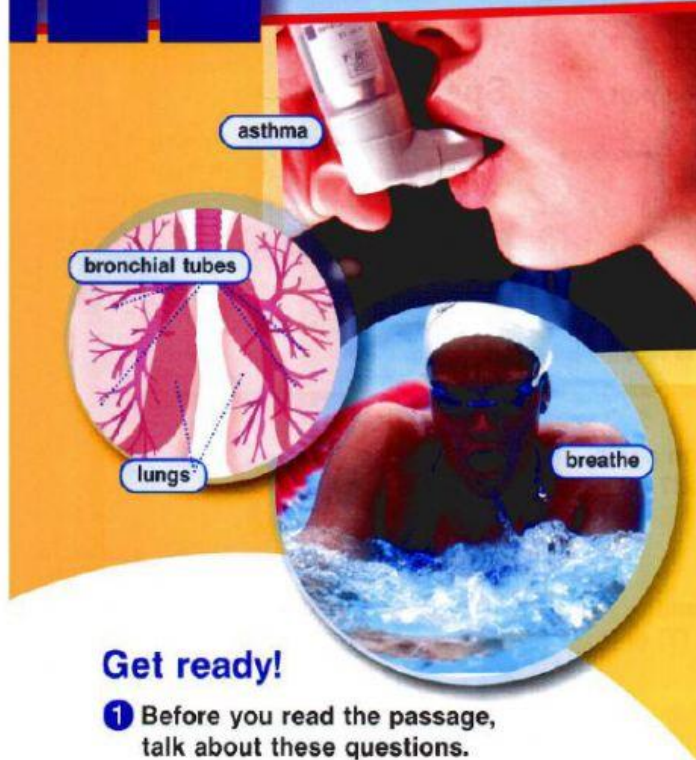


7 Respiratory system



Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What are some parts of the respiratory system?
- 2 What are some common ailments of the respiratory system?

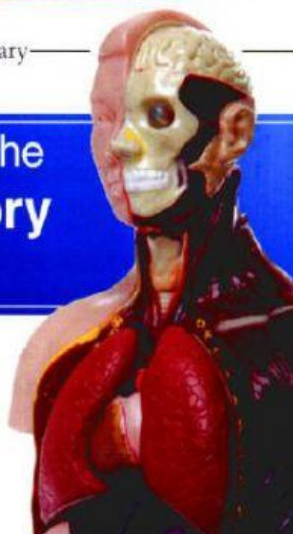
Reading

2 Read the passage from a medical dictionary. Then, choose the correct answers.

- 1 What is the main topic of the passage?
 - A comparing treatments of respiratory illnesses
 - B defining two types of respiratory illnesses
 - C categorizing parts of the respiratory system
 - D explaining how oxygen enters the blood
- 2 Which of the following is NOT a symptom of asthma?
 - A wheezing
 - B coughing
 - C inflamed bronchial tubes
 - D excessive oxygen entering the blood
- 3 When do alveoli lose their shape in a person with emphysema?
 - A when the person exhales
 - B when the person inhales
 - C when bronchial tubes become inflamed
 - D when the person takes medicine

— Hyde's Medical Dictionary —

Illnesses of the Respiratory System



Asthma - Asthma is a chronic disease of the lungs. It involves inflammation of the bronchial tubes and other airways. This causes wheezing, coughing, and difficulty breathing. One way to treat asthma is to inhale medicine using an inhaler.

Emphysema - Emphysema is a progressive respiratory disease. It is the result of bronchial tube damage. In emphysema, the alveoli lose their shape and functionality when the person exhales. As a result, less oxygen is allowed to enter the bloodstream. Smoking tobacco is one of the most common causes of emphysema.

Vocabulary

3 Fill in the blanks with the correct words and phrases from the word bank.

word BANK

asthma lungs bronchial tubes
exhale oxygen

- 1 Air passes into the lungs from the trachea through the _____.
- 2 Sam's _____ makes him cough and wheeze.
- 3 Emphysema makes it difficult to _____.
- 4 The _____ are the main organs of the respiratory system.
- 5 _____ is a naturally occurring gas essential to human survival.

4 Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

- 1 To treat Jan's asthma, the doctor gave her medicine to breathe in. _ n _ _ l e
- 2 People with respiratory illness often find it difficult to inhale and exhale. _ r _ _ t _ e
- 3 Small air sacs in the lungs are the endpoints of the respiratory airway. _ l _ e _ l i
- 4 The patient suffers from damaged and misshapen alveoli. _ _ p _ y _ _ m _
- 5 The network of organs and airways responsible for gas exchange can be adversely affected by smoking. _ e _ _ i _ _ t _ r _ _ y _ _ e _

5 Listen and read the passage from a medical dictionary again. What happens to the alveoli in people with emphysema?

Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between a doctor and a patient. Mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 _ The woman has had asthma for years.
- 2 _ The woman's new illness is curable.
- 3 _ The man writes the woman a prescription.

7 Listen again and complete the conversation.

Doctor: Good morning, Mrs. Simmons. I've taken a look at your chest x-rays.

Patient: Yes. And 1 _____?

Doctor: I'm 2 _____, it appears to be emphysema.

Patient: Oh really? I thought it was just my 3 _____.

Doctor: Well, you've had asthma for years. But this is an entirely new 4 _____.

Patient: Can it be cured?

Doctor: Unfortunately, emphysema is incurable. But there are 5 _____ that can slow its progression.

Patient: I hope they work. I just want to be able to 6 _____ well.

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

I've taken a look at ...
It appears to be ...
Can it be ...

Student A: You are a doctor. Talk to Student B about:

- a respiratory illness
- whether it can be cured
- treatment options

Student B: You are a patient. Talk to Student A about treating your respiratory illness.

Writing

9 Use the conversation from Task 8 to fill out the doctor's prescription note.

Doctor: _____
Prescription Note

Patient Name: _____

Date: _____

Diagnosis: _____

Prescription: _____