

A painless operation

I can understand a text about a medical operation.

Revision: Student's Book page 14

1 Complete the table.

Accidents and injuries	
Noun / Phrase	Verb
1 blood	_____
2 a _____	burn yourself
3 a cut	_____ your finger
4 a _____	sprain your ankle
5 an injury	_____ yourself
6 a _____ arm	break your arm

2 Complete the sentences with the words below.

bruise fell over hurt hurts pain slipped

- I've got a big black _____ where I banged my arm.
- I've got a _____ in my shoulder.
- My finger _____.
- Joe _____ himself when he was playing football.
- My mum _____ on the ice and _____.

3 Read the text. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- Lenkei took about half an hour to hypnotise himself. ☐
- Lenkei didn't speak during the operation. ☐
- All the operations were successful. ☐

It didn't hurt!

- 1 In 2008, Alex Lenkei had a problem with the bone in his arm and he needed a serious operation. Normally, with an operation like
- 5 that, the doctor gives the patient an anaesthetic so that he or she doesn't feel any pain. But Lenkei refused the anaesthetic. Instead, he hypnotised himself and simply told himself that
- 10 he could not feel any pain. That took about thirty seconds. Then the operation started. According to Mr Lenkei, pain signals do not reach his brain when he is hypnotised.

- 2 The doctor, David Llewellyn-Clerk, was a bit worried. He had to take some bone from Lenkei's arm. He watched Lenkei carefully during the operation, as he wasn't sure that Lenkei could feel no
- 20 pain. 'I didn't think Mr Lenkei could hear us,' said Dr Llewellyn-Clerk, 'but half way through the operation, he said "How's it going?"' That's when the doctor realised that Lenkei was not
- 25 in pain. The operation lasted 83 minutes.

- 3 Mr Lenkei started hypnotising people when he was sixteen and is now an expert. It wasn't
- 30 his first operation without anaesthetic. In 1996, a friend hypnotised him before a thirty-minute operation on his stomach. Both operations were successful,
- 35 so Lenkei had a third operation without anaesthetic in 2013, this time on his ankle, which also went well.



Reading Strategy

When you do a matching task, follow these steps:

- 1 Read the text to get a general idea of the meaning. Do not worry if you do not understand every word.
- 2 Read the task and all the options carefully.
- 3 Read the paragraphs of the text carefully one by one and match them to the correct option.
- 4 Check that the extra options do not match any of the paragraphs.

4 Read the Reading Strategy. Then match the questions below with paragraphs 1–3 of the text. There is one extra question.

In which paragraph does the writer tell us ...

- when the first operation happened? ☐
- why Lenkei needed an operation on his arm? ☐
- what Lenkei did just before the operation on his arm? ☐
- on what part of his body the third operation was? ☐
- when Doctor Llewellyn-Clerk realised that Lenkei was not in pain? ☐
- when Lenkei first hypnotised someone? ☐
- what happens to pain signals in his body while he is hypnotised? ☐
- when Lenkei had his second operation? ☐
- how long the operation on his arm took? ☐
- what the doctor did to Lenkei's arm during the operation? ☐