

Unit 10 L1-2 (q5)

Innovations that keep us secure

Airbags

(Line 1-2)

Airbags safeguard car drivers and passengers if they are involved in a car crash. Most modern vehicles have a driver's airbag in the steering wheel and another for the front seat passenger. Some cars also have side airbags which drop down behind the driver to protect people in the back seats. Airbags inflate immediately when a car collides with something solid such as another vehicle or a building. They cushion the occupants of the car and prevent them from hitting dangerous objects such as the steering wheel or the windscreen. Since cars have had airbags, the percentage of serious injuries in car accidents has decreased dramatically.

Smoke alarms

(Line 9)

In the past, before the invention of smoke alarms, many people perished in their homes, not because of flames, but because they inhaled smoke while they were sleeping. This is because most fires happen at night. Nevertheless, it is now feasible for people to purchase inexpensive smoke alarms which they can fit themselves. Like alarm clocks, they are loud enough to wake sleepers and give them sufficient time to flee. The best location for a smoke alarm is at the top of the stairs or in halls and corridors. Some smoke alarms are so sensitive that smoke from cooking can activate them, so they shouldn't be put in or near kitchens.

Vaccinations

(Line 16)

Vaccination is a medical treatment which can prevent people from acquiring dangerous diseases and stop these from spreading. Many childhood illnesses, which were ubiquitous in the past, have disappeared because of the mass vaccination of infants.

(Line 18)

When doctors vaccinate their patients, they give them a diluted strain of the infection they intend to prevent. This assists the body in resisting the disease in the future. Many vaccinations are permanent.



What do the underlined words in these sentences from the article refer to?

- a ... if they are involved in a car crash. (line 1) they = car drivers and passengers (not airbags)
- b Most modern vehicles have a driver's airbag in the steering wheel and another for the front seat passenger. (lines 1-2)
- c ... but because they inhaled smoke ... (line 9)
- d Like alarm clocks, they are loud enough ... (line 11)
- e ... and stop these from spreading. (line 16)
- f Many childhood illnesses, which were ubiquitous in the past ... (line 16)
- g When doctors vaccinate their patients, they give them ... (line 18)