

Aims To review and practise symptoms vocabulary and ways of giving advice

Time 15 minutes

Materials 1 handout for each student

- Give each student a copy of the handout and elicit what's wrong with the first person in the picture. In pairs, students should then discuss what they think is the matter with the remaining people in the picture. Check answers.

1 She's feeling dizzy.

2 He's got a broken arm.

3 His ankle is swollen.

4 She's got a cough.

5 He's got a runny nose.

6 She's got a rash on her arm and legs.

7 He's got a cut on his face.

- Tell students to read through the dialogue in task B and answer the questions. At this point, they shouldn't worry about the gaps in the conversation. Check answers.

Patient 5. Symptoms: a runny nose, itchy eyes and lots of sneezing.

Diagnosis: hay fever.

- Students should now focus on the gaps in the dialogue and select the correct advice expressions. Check answers, ensuring that students can explain why the other expressions are incorrect.

1 The best thing would be

2 if I were you, I wouldn't

3 it would be a good idea to

4 I think you ought to

- In pairs, students prepare a role-play, based on task C. Encourage students to use a variety of expressions for giving advice and a range of language to describe symptoms. Give students time to plan and rehearse their role-play and then get volunteers to present to the class.

A Work in pairs. Discuss what's wrong with each of the people in the picture.



B Read the dialogue ignoring the gaps. Decide which patient from A is talking to the doctor. What are the patient's symptoms and what's the doctor's diagnosis?

Doctor Good afternoon. How can I help?

Patient Well, I've had a really runny nose for the last few days.

Doctor I see. Any other symptoms?

Patient Yes, my eyes have been itchy and I've been sneezing a lot.

Doctor Hmm. Have you been spending a lot of time outside recently?

Patient Well, I've been in the garden a fair bit. Trying to tidy the place up now the spring's here.

Doctor Ah. It sounds like you've got hay fever. It's very common at this time of year.

Patient Oh right. Is there anything I can take for it?

Doctor Yes. ¹_____ to take some antihistamines. I'll give you a prescription for some.

Patient OK. Thank you.

Doctor Now, the tablets can make some people drowsy, so ²_____ drive while you're taking them.

Patient That's alright. I can catch the bus to work.

Doctor Perhaps ³_____ get some eye drops too. And ⁴_____ stay away from gardening until you're feeling better.

Patient OK. Thanks, doctor.

Complete the gaps in the dialogue with the correct advice expressions below.

- 1 I really think you should / The best thing would be
- 2 if I were you, I wouldn't / in your position, I would
- 3 it would be a good idea to / you must
- 4 you need / I think you ought to

C Work in pairs. Choose one of the other patients from A and prepare a role-play between him / her and the doctor.

Student A: You are the patient. Tell the doctor how long you've been feeling unwell, what your symptoms are and answer any questions.

Student B: You are the doctor. Listen to the symptoms, ask relevant questions and give advice.