



MEETING THE PATIENT



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
19MA-A6XC-7ENB

1 Warm up

Look at the picture. What questions might the doctor ask in this situation? And the patient?



Doctor:

1)

2)

3)



Patient:

1)

2)

3)

2

Listening 1

Listen to a conversation between a doctor and a patient. Order the topics as they talk about them.



Medications

How strong the pain is

Smoking

Exercise

Alcohol

Diet

Sleep

How the pain started

Allergies

3

Listening 2

Listen to the conversations again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F). Correct the false ones.

1. Mr. Oladele doesn't take any medications. _____

2. He doesn't know of any allergies. _____

3. He doesn't smoke. _____

4. He does exercise three times a week. _____

5. He doesn't eat meat. _____

6. He doesn't drink much alcohol. _____

7. His backache is quite strong at the moment. _____

8. He was doing yoga when the pain started. _____



4 Focus on language 1

Here are some of the questions from the dialogue. Put the words in the correct order.

1. for you / I / can / today / do / What / ?

2. you / Do / any allergies / if / you / know / have / ?

3. me / you / how often / tell / you / Could / exercise / ?

4. what / me / like / your diet / Tell / is / .

5. how much alcohol / you / Would / in a week / mind / telling me / you / drink / ?

6. sleep / is / How / your / ?

7. on a scale / are / How much pain / you / from 1-10 / feeling now, / ?

8. start / this / did / When / pain / ?

9. what / when / were / you / Can I ask / doing / the pain started / ?





In English, direct questions have auxiliary verbs (e.g., *do, does, did, can*) and inversion (i.e., the auxiliary verb comes before the subject).

Do you feel any pain in this area?

How are you feeling today?

Indirect questions are a way of asking something more politely. Here are some examples of indirect questions:

Can/Could you tell me...?

Do you know...?

Do you have any idea...?

Would you mind telling me...?

Can/May I ask...?

Tell me...

When asking indirect questions, the main question stays as an affirmative sentence, so it:

- does not have inversion: *What time is it?* → *Do you know what time it is?*
- does not need auxiliary verbs: *Where do you live?* → *Can you tell me where you live?*

When asking a yes/no question indirectly, we use *if* or *whether*.

Do you feel pain here? → *Can you tell me whether you feel pain here?*

1. Which questions above are direct questions?
2. Which are indirect questions?

5 Focus on language 2

Rewrite the question to make them more polite.

1) **How old are you?**

May I ask _____ 1

2) **What is your concern today?**

Tell me what _____ 2

3) **Are you taking any medications?**

Could you tell me _____ 3

**4) How long has this been going on?**

Do you know _____ 4

5) Are you sexually active?

Would you mind telling me _____ 5

6) Do you have a family history of this condition?

Do you have any idea _____ 6

7) How did you fall?

Can I ask _____ 7

8) Where does it hurt the most?

Can you tell me _____ 8

6**Speaking preparation**

Work in pairs. Your teacher is going to say if you're Student A or B. Prepare direct and indirect questions.

Roleplayer card: Student A**Setting:** Local medical clinic**Patient:** You are seeing a 20-year-old patient who is complaining of a skin condition.**Task:**

- Think about what questions you can ask, both related to the problem, and to get to know the patient better.



Roleplayer card: Student B

Setting: Local medical clinic

Patient: You are seeing a 60-year-old patient who is complaining of a cough.

Task:

- Think about what questions you can ask, both related to the problem, and to get to know the patient better.

7

Speaking

Now role-play a doctor / patient interaction. Record the conversation. Follow the instructions below.

1. Student A, ask your questions you prepared in the previous task, and any others you feel necessary.
2. Student B, use the card below to answer the questions. Ask any questions you might have.

Roleplayer card: Student A

Setting: Local medical clinic

Patient: You are 60 years old and have had a strong cough in the last 10 days. Answer the doctor's questions with the information below. Make up any information that's not on the card. Then think of two questions to ask the doctor.

Task:

- You do not smoke, but drink alcohol around three times a week.
- You are taking a blood pressure medication, and do not have any allergies.
- You eat well but sleep very little. You exercise most days (walking).
- Your cough started when you went on a walk and it started to rain.
- You had a temperature and a sore throat for a few days, but not anymore.

When you have finished the first conversation, change roles and repeat the task using the card below.



Roleplayer card: Student B

- Setting:** Local medical clinic
- Patient:** You are 20 years old and have noticed a skin problem on the inside of your legs. It is red, sore and itches a lot. Answer the doctor's questions with the information below. Make up any information that's not on the card. Then think of two questions to ask the doctor.
- Task:**
- You do not smoke, but drink alcohol nearly every day.
 - You are not taking any medications but have an allergy to peanuts.
 - You eat and sleep very well.
 - You love cycling and have been on a long trip recently.
 - The condition started during the trip but has grown a lot since.

8

Reflecting on the task

Reflect on the conversations you have just had. Make notes on the following questions:

1. Did you use direct and indirect questions correctly?
2. Did you use the correct intonation to ask questions?
3. Were you able to answer all the doctor's questions?
4. Did your partner understand you at all times?
5. Was your volume and pace suitable?
6. Did the conversation flow naturally?

9

Extension task 1

Write down the conversations you had in the previous task. Make any necessary changes and perform the conversation again with a partner.



10

Extension task 2

Part A: Correct the following indirect questions.

1. Do you know this is the first time you have had this problem?

2. Could you tell what your symptoms are?

3. Tell me how are you feeling today.

4. Do you have any idea how long have you been taking this medication?

5. Do I ask whether you are under stress at work?

6. Would you mind tell me whether you have lost weight recently?

Part B: Now write the above questions in direct form.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Answer the questions in your own words.