

Everyday English At the doctor's

1 Match the pictures with a word or phrase from the box.

a sore throat a cold diarrhoea /,daɪə'ri:ə/ flu
an allergy a sprained ankle food poisoning



2 Read the symptoms and complete the doctor's diagnosis with the words from 1.

Patient's symptoms	Doctor's diagnosis
1 I can't stop coughing and blowing my nose.	You've got _____
2 I've got a fever, my whole body aches, and I feel awful.	You've got _____
3 It hurts when I walk on it.	You've got _____
4 I keep going to the toilet.	You've got _____
5 My glands are swollen, and it hurts when I swallow.	You've got _____
6 I keep being sick, and I've got terrible diarrhoea.	You've got _____
7 I start sneezing when I'm near a cat.	You've got _____

8.10 Listen and check. What else does the doctor say? Practise with a partner.

3 8.11 Listen to a conversation between Edsom (E), a student from Brazil, and a doctor (D). Answer the questions.

- What are Edsom's symptoms?
- What questions does the doctor ask?
- What does the doctor think is the matter with Edsom?
- What does she prescribe?
- What advice does she give him?
- Does he have to pay for anything?

4 Complete the conversation.

8.11 Listen again and check. Practise the conversation with a partner.

Roleplay

5 Work with your partner. Act out a similar scene at the doctor's with different problems.

Seeing the doctor

D Hello. Come and sit down. What seems to be the ¹ _____?

E Well, I haven't felt ² _____ for a few days. I've had a bad ³ _____, and now I've got a ⁴ _____.

D Any sickness or diarrhoea?

D No, I haven't been ⁵ _____ or had any diarrhoea.

D Do you feel hot?

E Yes, especially at night. I can't sleep because I feel hot, and I start ⁶ _____ when I lie down.

D OK, I'll just ⁷ _____ your temperature. Can I just pop this in your mouth?

E Aaargh!

D Ah, yes. You do have a bit of a ⁸ _____. Now, let me see your throat. Open your ⁹ _____ wide, please.

E 'ot can u see?

D Pardon?

E Can you see anything?

D Yes, your throat looks very red. Does this ¹⁰ _____?

E Ouch!

D And your glands are ¹¹ _____.

E Is it serious?

D No, not at all. You just have a bit of a ¹² _____ infection. You should have antibiotics. Are you allergic to penicillin?

E No, I'm not.

D Good. Now, you ¹³ _____ go to work for a couple of days, and you ¹⁴ _____ drink plenty of liquids. Just take things easy for a while. I'll write you a prescription.

E Thank you. Do I have to pay you?

D No, no. Seeing me is free, but you'll have to pay for the ¹⁵ _____. It's £8.80.

E Right. Thanks very much. Goodbye.

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