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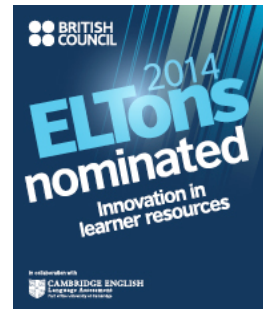
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Level 4

Doubts cast on influenza medication

11th April, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1404/140411-medication-4.html>



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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1404/140411-medication-4.html>

Experts are questioning why money was spent on developing and stocking up on influenza drugs. Tamiflu and Relenza are prescribed by doctors to treat the flu. Governments have stockpiled the drugs in case there is an influenza epidemic. New research that looked at many clinical trials casts doubt on the effectiveness of the drugs and their manufacturers' claims. The study questions whether governments should spend money on the drugs.

The research says the drugs shorten the symptoms of influenza but there isn't enough evidence that they reduce the chances of hospitalization. Researchers said Tamiflu increased the risk of nausea and depression. The makers said the research excluded "real-world data". The research said Relenza was the same as gargling with salt water or taking pain relievers. Its maker said: "In the right patient, it can reduce the duration of flu symptoms."

Sources: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/04/09/tamiflu-relenza-study/7478287/>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-26954482>
<http://www.cbc.ca/news/health/tamiflu-s-effectiveness-in-cutting-hospitalizations-questioned-1.2604783>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1404/140411-medication-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Experts are questioning | a. on the drugs |
| 2. stocking up | b. to treat the flu |
| 3. prescribed by doctors | c. effectiveness of the drugs |
| 4. clinical | d. why |
| 5. casts doubt on the | e. trials |
| 6. spend money | f. on influenza drugs |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. research says the drugs | a. "real-world data" |
| 2. there isn't enough | b. of hospitalization |
| 3. reduce the chances | c. shorten the symptoms |
| 4. increased the risk of nausea | d. with salt water |
| 5. the research excluded | e. evidence |
| 6. the same as gargling | f. and depression |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1404/140411-medication-4.html>

Experts are questioning (1) _____ on developing and stocking up on influenza drugs. Tamiflu and Relenza are prescribed by doctors (2) _____. Governments have stockpiled the drugs in case there is (3) _____. New research that looked at many clinical (4) _____ the effectiveness of the drugs and their manufacturers' claims. The (5) _____ governments should spend (6) _____.

The research says (7) _____ the symptoms of influenza but there isn't enough evidence that they (8) _____ hospitalization. Researchers said Tamiflu (9) _____ nausea and depression. The makers said the research excluded "real-world data". The research said Relenza was the (10) _____ with salt water or (11) _____. Its maker said: "In the right patient, it can reduce (12) _____ symptoms."

MEDICINE SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1404/140411-medication-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about medicine in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

