

- 1 Case notes: overview
- 2 Review your work
- 3 Discuss homework: 3 paras

1. Overview

Occupational English Test

PPP NURSAMPLE07

PPP NURSAMPLE07

WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES
WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes and complete the writing task which follows.

Notes:

Assume that today's date is 27 May 2019.

You are a charge nurse working in the surgical ward of Longford General Hospital. A male patient was admitted to your unit for open stent graft surgery.

PATIENT DETAILS:

Name: Robert England (Mr)
DOB: 09 Nov 1957 (62 y.o.)
Address: 76 Laburnum Close, Longford
Next of kin: Wife, Anna (60 y.o.), no children

Social background:

Recently retired wine waiter - now works freelance as wine taster
Interests: gardening, cooking, reading, TV, travel
Sedentary lifestyle

Past medical history:

Current BMI 29.5 (overweight – borderline obese)
High-fat, high-salt diet & 'lots of red meat'
Ex heavy smoker (30 cigs/day) - quit 55 y.o.
Moderate alcohol intake (2 glasses wine/day w. meals)
Hypertension diag. 2017

Family history: Father dec. 57 y.o. - ruptured AAA (abdom. aortic aneurysm)
Mother dec. 83 y.o. - Alzheimer's

Current medications:

Verapamil (80mg 3x/day) - hypertension

Hospital admission: 19 May 2019

Presenting problem:

Lower back pain, pulsing sensation & generalised abdominal pain
Full blood count/ liver function test – unremarkable
Ultrasound
CT abdomen with contrast → large (7cm) AAA (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm)

Diagnosis: AAA (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm)
Need for urgent stent graft surgery

Medical treatment:

20 May 2019 Stent graft surgery (open)
Pt transferred →ICU for 48 hrs post-op

Nursing management:

Indwelling Foley catheter in situ
Wound drain (Redivac) in situ
PCA (patient-controlled analgesia) device in situ
Mepore dressing on surgical site (dissolvable sutures)
Need to observe for DVT risk & check breathing – pt. in upright position
IV antibiotics (Cefazolin 2g pre-op, 1g intra-op)

Assessment: Good progress: vital signs within normal range

27 May 2019

Pt instructed in necessary lifestyle changes:

- ↓intake of alcohol, animal fats, fried foods, salt
- ↑dietary fibre
- Achieve & maintain optimal weight (?referral to dietician)
- No weight-bearing/strenuous exercise (→6 wks.)
- Gentle exercise, gradually ↑
- No driving →4 wks.

Pt discharged w. low-dosage aspirin
Community nurse home visits arranged (1x/day →1 wk.)

Discharge plan: Community nurse to monitor breathing, cleanse & dress wound, check vital signs
Check compliance w. lifestyle advice
NB Review 30 May 2019 in Outpatients Dept.

Plan: Write to Community Nursing Service

Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter to Mrs Moore, Head of the Community Nursing Service. In your letter, briefly outline Mr England's condition, medication and recommended follow-up care. Address your letter to Mrs Fiona Moore, Head of the Community Nursing Service, 26 Park Road, Longford.

In your answer:

- Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences
- Do not use note form
- Use letter format

The body of the letter should be approximately 180–200 words.

PARAGRAPHS:

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Timeline - homework
- 3 'Advice para'
- 4 Background
- 5 Requests

NB = take note

Questions?

<u>Introduction</u>	Purpose: monitor and follow up care
<u>Timeline</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission 19May2019: back pain, pulsing sensation& abdomen pain • Diagnosed: AAA • 20May, 2019 urgent stent graft surgery • <i>Mepore</i> dressing • Good progress
<u>Advice/ instruction</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life style modification (alcohol, ↓ fried food & salt ↓) • Maintain optimal weight • Referral dietitian if needed • No weight bearing for 6 weeks • Gentle and gradual exercise • No driving 4 wks • Low dose aspirin
<u>Background</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Over weight (BMI 29.5)] • [Sedentary life style] • <u>Hypertension on medication – very appropriate</u>
<u>Request</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor breathing • Clean&dress wound • Check vital sign • Check compliance w lifestyle advice • Outpatient Dept appointment 30May,2019 for review

Good timeline paragraph?

- Clear sequence
- Dates correct
- Summarising when appropriate
- Results: *consequently, as a result, due to*
- Sequence language: subsequently, following, after, etc.

Original	Improved
<p>On 19th May, Mr England presented with a complaint of generalized abdominal pain accompanied with pulsating sensation and lower back pain. Full abdominal CT scan performed and confirmed that he has had abdominal aortic aneurism. The following day Mr England underwent urgent stent graft surgery and mepore dressing was then applied. Postoperatively he made a good progress.</p>	<p>On 19th May, Mr England presented with a complaint of generalized abdominal pain accompanied by a pulsating sensation and lower back pain. A full abdominal CT scan was performed and confirmed that he has had an abdominal aortic aneurism. The following day, he urgently underwent urgent stent graft surgery and a Mepore dressing was then applied. Postoperatively, he has made a good progress.</p> <p>Capitals are not used for conditions. Only names: people, places, organisations (inc. brand)</p> <p>Language: not a big problem 'a'</p> <p>Collocation:</p> <p>He <u>plays football</u></p> <p>He made good progress He showed good progress</p>

Mr England presented to our hospital on 19 May, 2019 complaining of lower back and abdominal pain. Therefore, several tests were done which showed Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. Consequently urgent stent graft surgery was ordered. His condition improved and showed good progress on the following days and wound dressing was done with Mepor.

Mr England presented to our hospital on 19 May, 2019 complaining of lower back and abdominal pain. Therefore, several tests were done, which showed abdominal aortic aneurysm. *Consequently*, urgent stent graft surgery was ordered. His condition improved and **he** showed good progress on the following days and wound dressing was done with Mepore.



You can capitalise when the condition includes a name...

Don't worry about repeating pronouns:

He / she / it / *her* / *his* / they / them / we

Present – to walk into the hospital themselves

Was admitted – more like was carried and it was done for him.

Academic language can be a problem:

Language of university/IELTS

moreover

I undergo surgery – present simple V1

I underwent surgery – past simple V2

I have undergone an apple – present perfect V3

Mr England was admitted on 19th of May 2019 complaining of lower back pain associated with pulsating sensation and generalized abdominal pain which prompted him to undergo the aforementioned procedure. Thereafter, his surgical site was dressed with mepore, and he was commenced on antibiotic. In addition, although he has made significant progress, his breathing pattern should be checked regularly.

Mr England was admitted on 19th May 2019 complaining of lower back pain associated with **a** pulsating sensation and generalized abdominal pain, which prompted him to undergo the aforementioned procedure. Thereafter, his surgical site was dressed with **Mepore**, and he was commenced on **an** antibiotic. In addition, although he has made significant progress, his breathing pattern should be checked regularly. ✓

Nondefining relative clause: information can be removed and it still makes sense

Timeline = past story

Request = future action

Mr. England was instructed to decrease his alcohol consumption and follow proper dietary pattern. He has been advised to maintain his desirable weight, due to which a referral to dietician might be required. No weight-bearing for 6 weeks. Please encourage him to do moderate exercise, driving was restricted for 4 weeks and a low dose of aspirin was prescribed.

Mr. England was instructed to decrease his alcohol consumption and follow **a** proper dietary pattern. He has been advised to maintain his desirable weight, due to which a referral to dietician might be required. **He has also been instructed** no weight-bearing for 6 weeks. Please encourage him to do moderate exercise, driving was restricted for 4 weeks and a low dose of aspirin was prescribed.

It's the wrong paragraph!

On 19th May, Mr England was diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm resulting in a necessity for urgent surgery on 20th May. During his hospitalisation, he has been making good progress, his vital signs were normal range, and, his wound has dissolvable sutures with mepore dressing.

On 19th May, Mr England was diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm resulting in a necessity for urgent surgery on 20th May. During his hospitalisation, he has been making good progress, his vital signs ~~were~~ **are in** normal range, and, his wound has dissolvable sutures with mepore dressing. ✓

Why the detail about sutures?

On the 19th of May, Mr England was admitted to the hospital with a complaint of lower back pain, pulsing sensation and generalised abdominal pain. Contrast CT report revealed an abdominal aortic aneurysm, and he underwent urgent stent surgery on the following day. He has been under ICU care for 48 hours, and he has made good progress postoperatively. Please note that Morpore dressing was applied to the surgical site.

On 19th May 2019, Mr England was admitted to our hospital with lower back pain and pulsing sensation, as well as abdominal pain. Subsequently, CT scan confirmed abdominal aortic aneurysm and he was operated on urgent stent graft surgery. Consequently, a mepore dressing was carried out, as a result of him making a good recovery.

Having been experiencing symptoms suggestive of AAA, Mr England was admitted on 19th April to our hospital, where investigations were carried out and confirmed the aforementioned diagnosis, for which urgent stent graft surgery was performed. Postoperatively, as a result of his wound being treated accordingly, his breathing and DVT risk being monitored, as well as medication being provided, he has recuperated well.

On the 19th of May, Mr England was admitted to the hospital with a complaint of lower back pain, a pulsing sensation and generalised abdominal pain. His contrast CT report revealed an abdominal aortic aneurysm, and he underwent urgent stent surgery on the following day. He has been under ICU care for 48 hours, and he has made good progress postoperatively. Please note that a Morpore dressing was applied to the surgical site.

On 19th May 2019, Mr England was admitted to our hospital with lower back pain and a pulsing sensation, as well as abdominal pain. Subsequently, a CT scan confirmed an abdominal aortic aneurysm and he was ~~operated on~~ given urgent stent graft surgery. Consequently, a Mepore dressing was carried out, as a result of him making a good recovery.

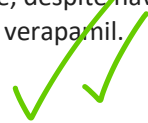
As a result?? This is not a result.

Having been experiencing symptoms suggestive of AAA, Mr England was admitted on 19th April to our hospital, where investigations were carried out ~~and that~~ confirmed the aforementioned diagnosis, for which urgent stent graft surgery was performed. Postoperatively, as a result of his wound being treated accordingly, his breathing and DVT risk being monitored, as well as medication being provided, he has recuperated well.

Nice para but the last sentence is a bit convoluted – too many subordinate clauses. Grammar is correct though.

Having experienced pain in his abdomen and lower back, Mr England was admitted to our hospital on 19th May, resulting in him being diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm, for which successful open stent graft surgery was subsequently performed. Postoperatively, due to him being treated accordingly, he has progressed well and his vital signs remain within the normal range, despite having hypertension, which is controlled by verapamil.

Having experienced pain in his abdomen and lower back, Mr England was admitted to our hospital on 19th May, resulting in him being diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm, for which successful open stent graft surgery was subsequently performed. Postoperatively, due to him being treated accordingly, he has progressed well and his vital signs remain within the normal range, despite having hypertension, which is controlled by verapamil.



Homework

<u>Introduction</u>	Purpose: monitor and follow up care
<u>Timeline</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission 19May2019: back pain, pulsing sensation& abdomen pain • Diagnosed: AAA • 20May, 2019 urgent stent graft surgery • <i>Mepore</i> dressing • Good progress
<u>Advice/ instruction</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life style modification (alcohol, <u>fixed food & salt</u>) • Maintain optimal weight • <u>Referral dietitian if needed</u> • No weight bearing for 6 weeks • Gentle and gradual exercise • No driving 4 wks • Low dose aspirin <p>Additionally, he has been advised to reduce his alcohol intake, etc. Please note that he has been instructed not to drive for 4 weeks. Please be aware that he may / might require...</p>
<u>Background</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Over weight (BMI 29.5)] • [Sedentary life style] • <u>Hypertension on medication – very appropriate</u> <p>How should we write this one?</p>
<u>Request</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor breathing • Clean&dress wound • Check vital sign • Check compliance w lifestyle advice • Outpatient Dept appointment 30May,2019 for review <p>In view of the above, it would be appreciated if you could provide further monitoring and care.</p> <p>Please + verb 1</p>

	Please note that...condition / medication
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Email: alain@set-english.com

Original	Improved
<p>Mrs Fiona Moore Head of the community nursing service 26 park road Langford</p> <p>27 May 2019</p> <p>Dear Mrs Moore,</p> <p>Re:Mr Robert England DOB:09 November 1957</p> <p>I am writing to request home visits for Mr Robert England,who is recovering after stent graft surgery.He requires further monitoring and care ,and is being discharged today.</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Mr English, who underwent a stent graft surgery due to abnormal aortic aneurysm. He is set to be discharged today and needs follow-up care and monitoring.</p>	<p>Mrs Fiona Moore Head of the Community Nursing Service 26 Park Road Langford</p> <p>27 May 2019</p> <p>Dear Mrs Moore,</p> <p>Re: Mr Robert England, DOB: 09 November 1957</p> <p>I am writing to request home visits for Mr Robert England, who is recovering after stent graft surgery. He requires further monitoring and care, following her discharge.</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>I am writing to introduce Mr English, who underwent a stent graft <u>surgery</u> due to <u>abnormal</u> aortic aneurysm. He is <u>set</u> to be discharged today and needs follow-up care and monitoring.</p> <p>Informal? Due to inaccurate</p>

Contraction = informal

Introduction : I'm writing regarding Mr Robert England a 62 year old male, who is being discharged today after stent graft surgery. He requires continue monitoring and follow up care.

Mrs Fiona Moore
Head of the Community Nursing Service
26 Park Road
Longford

27th May 2019

Dear Mrs Moore,

Re: Mr Robert England, DOB: 9th November 1957

I am writing regarding Mr England, who was admitted to our hospital for an urgent stent graft surgery. He is scheduled to be discharged today, and now requires further monitoring, continued care and support.

Introduction :

Re: Robert England, DOB

I am writing regarding Mr Robert England, **a 62 year old male**, who is being discharged today after stent graft surgery. He requires continued monitoring and follow up care.

Mrs Fiona Moore
Head of the Community Nursing Service
26 Park Road
Longford

27th May 2019

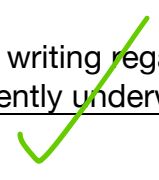
Dear Mrs Moore,

Re: Mr Robert England, DOB: 9th November 1957

I am writing regarding Mr England, who was admitted to our hospital for ~~an~~ urgent stent graft surgery. He is scheduled to be discharged today, and now requires further **monitoring**, continued **care** and support.

Support = very general

Introduction: I am writing regarding Mr England, who recently underwent



Introduction: I am writing regarding Mr England , who recently underwent stent graft surgery in ours hospital and ready to be discharged. He now requires your monitoring and follow -up care.

I am writing regarding Robert England, who was undergone an open stent graft operation due to abdominal aortic aneurysm. He is scheduled to be discharged today, and now requires your care and monitoring.

I am writing regarding Mr England who underwent an open graft surgery due to abdominal aort aneurysm. He is due to be discharged today and now requires your further care.

Hello,Alain,

Intro:

I am writing regarding Mr Robert England, who underwent urgent stent graft surgery at our hospital. He is due for discharge now and requires your monitoring, follow-up care and home visits for one week.

I am writing regarding Mr England, who has undergone an open stent graft surgery in our hospital due to an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He schedules to be discharged on the 27th of May and requires your further monitoring, care and support.

stent graft surgery in ours-hospital and is ready to be discharged. He now requires your monitoring and follow - up care.

I am writing regarding Robert England, who ~~was~~ has undergone an open stent graft operation due to an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He is scheduled to be discharged today, and now requires your care and monitoring.

I am writing regarding Mr England who underwent an open graft surgery due to abdominal aortic aneurysm. He is due to be discharged today and now requires your further care.

Hello,Alain,

Intro:

I am writing regarding Mr Robert England, who underwent urgent stent graft surgery at our hospital. He is due for discharge now and requires your monitoring, follow-up care and home visits for one week.

Yes 1 wk – very good point here!

I am writing regarding Mr England, who has undergone ~~an~~ open stent graft surgery **recently** due to an abdominal aortic aneurysm. He is scheduled to be discharged on the 27th of May and requires your further monitoring, care and support.

Head of Community
Nursing Service 26 Park
road Longford.

Dear Fiona Moore ,

Re: Robert England, D.O.B: 09th November 1957

I am writing regarding Mr England, who was admitted to our surgical unit for open stent graft surgery. He is scheduled to be discharged today and now requires monitoring and care.

Head of Community
Nursing Service 26 Park
road Longford.

Dear Fiona Moore ,

Re: Robert England, D.O.B: 09th November 1957

I am writing regarding Mr England, who was admitted to our surgical unit for open stent graft surgery. He is scheduled to be discharged today and now requires monitoring and care.



REVIEW

Relationship Building

A1

A2

A3

A4



1 Repetition

2 Timing: must give empathy whenever they complain

3 Appropriate: NORMAL / SERIOUS

NORMAL	SERIOUS
<p>Basic phrases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can understand that must hard • I can understand your concern • 'That's quite understandable' • I see that must be hard for you • That must be difficult for you • I'm sorry to hear that <p>Combinations & fillers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ah, I'm sorry to hear that; that must be difficult for you • Well, That must be difficult for; I can understand that • Oh, I see that must be hard for you; I'm sorry to hear that • Etc. 	<p>Basic phrases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can understand • I can only imagine what you must be feeling • I realise this must be a very difficult for you • Please accept my condolences (if someone <u>died</u> already) <p>Intensifier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So so • Very very • Really really

Relationship Building	IPP	Structure	Info Give	Info Gather
Empathy Appropriate	Ask for their feelings/opinion	Let Pt know when changing topics	Checking understanding	Open / Closed

PPP SAMPLE 14

ROLEPLAYER CARD NO. 1	NURSING
<p>SETTING Patient's home</p> <p>PATIENT You're 60 years old and you live alone. You've been visited regularly by the community nurse since you had a stroke six months ago. You're getting more mobile now, but three days ago you fell in the kitchen, cutting your leg and hurting your wrist badly.</p>	<p>TASK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When asked, tell the nurse how you're feeling (that you were coping well until the fall three days ago) Tell the nurse that you got up during the night to get a glass of water, tripped over and hurt your wrist and cut your leg. You tried to dress the leg yourself, but you're afraid you may need stitches. Tell the nurse that your wrist hurts a lot and seems swollen. It is clearly bruised and you can't move it properly. Apologise to the nurse for falling over. You feel embarrassed. Ask where you can get an X-ray (transport?). Ask how to avoid falls in the future.

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PPP SAMPLE 14

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1	NURSING
<p>SETTING Patient's home</p> <p>NURSE You're a community nurse who regularly visits a patient who had a stroke six months ago. The patient's making good progress but three days ago he/she had a fall and cut his/her leg. You think his/her wrist may also be broken and should be X-rayed.</p>	<p>TASK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet the patient and ask how he/she is. Ask about the fall. Find out the extent of the injuries. Reassure the patient that the cut isn't serious (stitches unnecessary) and you'll dress it. Ask about the wrist (pain, movement, etc.). Sympathise with the patient. Explain that the wrist needs to be X-rayed for a possible fracture (bruised, swollen, movement restricted). Explain that someone from the local health centre will accompany him/her for an X-ray. Stress the importance of getting assistance promptly in the event of an accident. Explain the need to avoid trip hazards in the home – suggest a referral to the occupational therapist.

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DOCTORS

OET PPP MED Speaking 12

ROLEPLAYER CARD NO. 1	MEDICINE
<p>SETTING Suburban Clinic</p> <p>PATIENT You've recently been diagnosed with otosclerosis (abnormal bone growth) in your right ear and you're soon going to have corrective surgery. You feel anxious about possible post-operative side-effects because after a previous operation you experienced severe vomiting and a very sore throat.</p>	<p>TASK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When asked, express anxiety about post-operative side-effects and describe your previous negative experiences. Insist that you prefer a local rather than a general anaesthetic in order to avoid a painful throat. Ask why you need a breathing tube (intubation) during the procedure, as it can cause throat problems. Reluctantly agree to a general anaesthetic. Ask how you soon afterwards you'll be able to resume normal activities (e.g. bathing, washing hair).

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OET MED Speaking 12

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1	MEDICINE
<p>SETTING Suburban Clinic</p> <p>DOCTOR Your patient suffers from otosclerosis and is due to have surgery on his/her middle ear. He/she is anxious about post-operative side-effects.</p>	<p>TASK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet the patient and find out how he/she feels about the surgery. Express sympathy and reassure him/her that anti-emetics will be given to avoid post-operative nausea. Explain why some patients experience a sore throat (the endotracheal tube used during surgery). Explain why general anaesthesia is required (the intricacy of the middle ear, to prevent patient movement). Reassure him/her that any post-operative sore throat lasts only 24-48 hours. Describe why intubation is necessary (for unconscious patients to breathe properly). Stress that the ear canal must stay dry for 10 days post-surgery. Explain that bathing and hair washing will be possible after 48 hours (with a cotton plug in the outer ear). Stress that some activities must be avoided for 2 weeks (heavy lifting, flying, etc).

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NURSE

OET Sample role-play

ROLEPLAYER CARD NO. 1

NURSING

SETTING	Hospital
PATIENT	You are 55 years old. You have End-stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and your health is steadily deteriorating. You are an inpatient in a Renal Ward and feeling lonely and depressed. You are reluctant to talk about your situation as you are scared. You require dialysis three times a week and are on a kidney transplant waiting list.
TASK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With reluctance, slowly explain your fears about your condition. • Tell the nurse you hate having dialysis and feel that a donor will never be found in time. • Demand to be nominated as Not for Resuscitation (NFR) if you have a cardiac arrest. • Reluctantly agree to see a counsellor. • Tell the nurse that you want to be able to die with dignity with your family present.

OET Sample role-play

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1

NURSING

SETTING	Hospital
NURSE	Your patient is 55 years old. He/she has End-stage Renal Disease (ESRD). You see his/her health is steadily deteriorating. The patient is an inpatient on your Renal Ward and you notice he/she appears lonely and depressed. He/she requires dialysis three times per week and is a candidate for a renal transplant.
TASK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the patient to tell you how he/she is feeling. • Encourage the patient to talk about his/her fears about the condition. • Inform the patient that without dialysis he/she would suffer more. • Reassure the patient that there is always hope a donor will be found in time. • Suggest that a counsellor be consulted to support the patient's decision to be listed as Not for Resuscitation (NFR). • Provide reassurance that, if he/she wants to put his/her request in writing, it is hospital policy for staff to respect that, and having the family present is important.

NORMAL	SERIOUS
<p>Basic phrases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can understand that must ^{be} hard I can understand your concern 'That's quite understandable' I see that must be hard for you That must be difficult for you I'm sorry to hear that <p>Combinations & fillers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ah, I'm sorry to hear that; that must be difficult for you Well, That must be difficult for; I can understand that Oh, I see that must be hard for you; I'm sorry to hear that Etc. 	<p>Basic phrases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can understand I can only imagine what you must be feeling I realise this must be a very difficult for you Please accept my condolences (if someone died already) <p>Intensifier:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> So so Very very Really really

The patient must COMPLAIN a lot

OET PPP MED Speaking 12

ROLEPLAYER CARD NO. 1 **MEDICINE**

SETTING Suburban Clinic

PATIENT

You've recently been diagnosed with otosclerosis (abnormal bone growth) in your right ear and you're soon going to have corrective surgery. You feel anxious about possible post-operative side-effects because after a previous operation you experienced severe vomiting and a very sore throat.

TASK

- When asked, express anxiety about post-operative side-effects and describe your previous negative experiences.
- Insist that you prefer a local rather than a general anaesthetic in order to avoid a painful throat.
- Ask why you need a breathing tube (intubation) during the procedure, as it can cause throat problems.
- Reluctantly agree to a general anaesthetic. Ask how you soon afterwards you'll be able to resume normal activities (e.g. bathing, washing hair).

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OET MED Speaking 12

CANDIDATE CARD NO. 1 **MEDICINE**

SETTING Suburban Clinic

DOCTOR

Your patient suffers from otosclerosis and is due to have surgery on his/her middle ear. He/she is anxious about post-operative side-effects.

TASK

- Greet the patient and find out how he/she feels about the surgery.
- Express sympathy and reassure him/her that anti-emetics will be given to avoid post-operative nausea. Explain why some patients experience a sore throat (the endotracheal tube used during surgery).
- Explain why general anaesthesia is required (the intricacy of the middle ear, to prevent patient movement). Reassure him/her that any post-operative sore throat lasts only 24-48 hours.
- Describe why intubation is necessary (for unconscious patients to breathe properly).
- Stress that the ear canal must stay dry for 10 days post-surgery. Explain that bathing and hair washing will be possible after 48 hours (with a cotton plug in the outer ear). Stress that some activities must be avoided for 2 weeks (heavy lifting, flying, etc).

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