

16th December
OET Reading – Vocabulary

Starter:

Read the questions below and consider your answer.

You may be asked to answer verbally:

1. In your opinion, how much time should **elapse** before a patient is able to walk again after surgery on their leg?
2. Do you agree that the most effective care is often carried out **in liaison with** health care professionals from various fields? Why (not)?
3. If a patient has a wound, how can you check if a foreign body is still **in situ**?

Look at the text below and try to understand the meaning of the highlighted words by using the context:

In medicine, it's crucial to recognize that seemingly minor symptoms can often be **the tip of the iceberg**, indicative of underlying conditions that demand attention. A **blotchy** rash, for instance, might appear innocuous at first glance but could be **attributable** to a more serious dermatological issue.

Such circumstances underscore the importance of a thorough examination and a keen awareness of **circumstantial** factors. Even a **one-off** occurrence should not **fly under the radar**, as it could be the harbinger of a more significant medical concern. **Proponents** of proactive healthcare advocate for vigilance, **irrespective of** the apparent severity of symptoms.

A **rationale** for this approach lies in the understanding that **causal** relationships between symptoms and underlying conditions may not always be immediately apparent. Hence, healthcare providers must **join the ranks** of those who **advocate** for comprehensive assessments and diagnostic investigations, even when symptoms seem to appear by **stealth**.

Furthermore, the **sentiment** of patients and their families should not be underestimated in guiding medical decisions. **Mandates** for patient-centred care emphasise the importance of listening to and respecting patient concerns, even if the rationale for their worries may not be immediately apparent.

In the realm of medical research, attention to detail is paramount, as even minor ailments can develop **tenfold** if they are left untreated. Researchers explore **derivatives** of known phenomena and examine circumstantial evidence to uncover new avenues for exploration.

In conclusion, in the complex landscape of medicine, it's imperative to **avert** complacency and maintain a vigilant stance, acknowledging that even subtle symptoms can be indicative of significant underlying issues. By embracing this approach, healthcare professionals can uphold the highest standards of care and advocate for the well-being of their patients.

Now match the highlighted words from the text to the definitions below:

- a) An official order or command. **Mandate**
- b) To publicly support or promote a particular cause, policy, or idea. **To advocate**
- c) Related to or dependent upon circumstances; inferred from or suggesting indirect evidence rather than directly observed facts. **Circumstantial**
- d) To prevent or avoid something undesirable or harmful from happening. **To avert**
- e) The quality or characteristic of being secretive or inconspicuous. **Stealth**
- f) Multiplied by ten; increasing or occurring at a rate or magnitude that is ten times greater than before. **Tenfold**
- g) The underlying reason or justification for a decision, action, or belief. **Rationale**
- h) A view, opinion, or attitude, often influenced by emotions or personal beliefs. **Sentiment**
- i) Relating to or involving a cause-and-effect relationship. **Causal**
- j) Occurring only once; not part of a regular or recurring series. **One-off**
- k) To go unnoticed or evade detection, typically by acting discreetly or avoiding attention. **Fly under the radar**
- l) Marked by irregular patches or spots of discoloration, often referring to the skin. **Blotchy**
- m) Regardless of; without consideration for or being unaffected by a particular factor or circumstance. **Irrespective of**
- n) Individuals or groups who actively support or advocate for a particular idea, policy, or course of action. **Proponents**
- o) Related to a particular cause, source, or contributing factor. **Attributable**
- p) A small, visible part of a larger problem or issue that is hidden or not yet fully known or understood. **The tip of the iceberg**
- q) Products or substances that are derived or obtained from another source or compound, often through chemical or biological processes. **Derivatives**
- r) To become a member of a particular group, organization, or profession, often implying acceptance or inclusion. **Join the ranks**