

LANGUAGE TASK: COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS: READING; INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE; LINGUISTIC SKILLS: ACTIVE VOCABULARY EXTENSION; ATTITUDE: USING DICTIONARIES to IMPROVE AND EXTEND YOUR ENGLISH + MAKE IT MORE ACCURATE (VOET: health and safety issues)

Text type: LEAFLET with a MEDICINE (informative and prescriptive) Ibuprofen and Codeine

A. STEP ONE: Use a dictionary (and possibly the internet, provided you have computer and web access; otherwise, in some cases your teacher will help you). Match the following words, collocations, phrases and cultural items with their definition on the right. Then complete the grid below. Later study them carefully and remember them.

Aim: Active use of a monolingual dictionary (either a paper edition or an online one) + extension of vocabulary and intercultural competence.

Recommended:

- 1 Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 5 (Idoce 5) + www.ldoceonline.com
- 2 Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture

1. A stroke	a. The arms and legs
2. Boils	b. A hole in an organ causing an inner bleeding
3. Withdrawal symptoms	c. Pain in the back
4. Moderate use	d. A chain of chemist's shops found in most towns in Britain, which sell beauty and health products (from the shelf, behind the counter or by prescription)
5. Period pain	e. Painful
6. Of childbearing age	f. An organ that affects the way your body grows
7. Inflammatory	g. A mental or physical illness
8. Heartburn	h. A sore, often swollen area on your skin or in your body
9. To relieve pain	i. Two organs that make urine
10. A film coated medicine	j. Unpleasant feeling that you want to rub
11. Restlessness	k. Medicines containing herbs
12. Sore (as an adjective)	l. Pain in the chest and the stomach area
13. An ulcer	m. A yellowish fluid substance in your nose or mouth
14. Take a medicine continuously	n. A pill that is covered in a thin layer
15. A thyroid	o. When an artery in the brain bursts
16. Herbal remedies	p. Menstrual pain
17. A pharmacist	q. Not too much use
18. A disorder	r. Which will infect an area or organ in

	your body
19. Backache	s. A non-stop taking of medicines
20. Perforation	t. A chemist (in a chemist's shop)
21. Phlegm (pronunciation!)	u. Irritable, nervous
22. The limbs	v. To make the pain easier to bear
23. The kidneys	w. Sick feelings when stopping an addictive substance
24. Abdominal pain	x. An age in which you can become pregnant
25. Itchy skin	y. A painful feeling caused by an upset stomach

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B. STEP TWO: The actual task.

You are in England with your parents. Your mother has been suffering from severe headaches for days. She has tried taking aspirin, but that didn't work.

You decide to go to Boots and a shop assistant advises you to go to the 'Medicines' counter on the first floor, where you will be helped by a real chemist (not an ordinary shop assistant).

First you explain the problem and add that she has tried other medication.

They advise you to give her some Ibuprofen and Codeine, which is a Boots own brand for which you don't need a prescription in Britain, but which you can't just buy from the shelf. They warn you about the dangers of this medicine.

Back in the hotel you and your mum read the leaflet.

First do the matching exercise on the previous pages.

Then ring your GP in Belgium. Tell him you need some consultation. Give at least three reasons why you would like this extra advice (e.g. your mum may suffer from one of the conditions mentioned in the leaflet). You are also a bit concerned about the side effects (mention the main ones).

NOTES ON LANGUAGE:

- 1) an own brand product is a product that is sold by a particular store or supermarket. It is a bit cheaper than the original, but has the same quality.
- 2) Your GP is your own doctor. (GP stands for General Practitioner).