Feeling Unwell? At the Pharmacy

Level: A2 · Symptoms · giving advice · showing sympathy

1 Warm-up

1 When did you last feel ill? What happened?

2 What do you do when you have a cold?

3 Do you go to work when you feel ill? Why or why not?

2 Symptoms

Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

Word box

a headache · a temperature · a sore throat · a runny nose · a cough · sneezing · tired · dizzy

1 My head hurts. I've got _____.

2 I need a lot of tissues. I've got _____.

3 It hurts when I swallow. I've got _____.

4 My body is very hot: 38.5°C. I've got _____.

5 I can't stop _____. Atchoo!

6 I feel _____ when I stand up too fast.

7 I've got _____, especially at night.

8 I slept ten hours but I still feel _____.

3 Useful phrases

Put the phrases in the right column: Describing symptoms · Giving advice · Showing sympathy.

Phrases

I don't feel very well. · Why don't you stay in bed? · I'm sorry to hear that. · I've had a cough for three days. · You should drink lots of water. · Oh no, poor you! · Have you tried honey and lemon? · I feel terrible. · I hope you feel better soon.

Describing symptoms	Giving advice	Showing sympathy

4 At the pharmacy

Read and practise with a partner.

Dialogue

Pharmacist: Good morning. How can I help?

Customer: Hi. I've got a sore throat and a runny nose.

Pharmacist: I'm sorry to hear that. How long have you had it?

Customer: Since Monday. And I've got a cough at night.

Pharmacist: Have you got a temperature?

Customer: No, I don't think so.

Pharmacist: OK. You should try these throat lozenges, and drink lots of warm water. If you feel worse, see a doctor.

Customer: Thank you. How much are they?

Pharmacist: Four dollars fifty. I hope you feel better soon!

5 Role-play

Student A: choose an illness (a cold, a stomach ache, a bad headache) and tell the pharmacist your symptoms. Student B: you're the pharmacist. Ask two questions, show sympathy and give two pieces of advice. Then change roles.

This worksheet is for language practice. It isn't medical advice: if you're worried about your health, talk to a doctor.

Answer key

Feeling Unwell? At the Pharmacy

2 Symptoms

1 a headache
2 a runny nose
3 a sore throat
4 a temperature
5 sneezing
6 dizzy
7 a cough
8 tired

3 Useful phrases

- Describing symptoms: I don't feel very well. · I've had a cough for three days. · I feel terrible.
- Giving advice: Why don't you stay in bed? · You should drink lots of water. · Have you tried honey and lemon?
- Showing sympathy: I'm sorry to hear that. · Oh no, poor you! · I hope you feel better soon.

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