

Going to the Pharmacy

In this lesson, you will learn useful vocabulary and phrases to use at the pharmacy. A pharmacy is sometimes called a drugstore. Don't be afraid to ask a pharmacist lots of questions about medication and medical problems.



Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. How is a pharmacist different from a doctor?
2. What can you get at a pharmacy?
3. What paperwork or card do you need to bring to a pharmacy?

B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| ___ 1. prescription | a) feeling like you have to vomit |
| ___ 2. nauseous | b) a kind of medicinal cream used on the skin |
| ___ 3. pregnant | c) to be more than |
| ___ 4. precaution | d) a mother giving milk to her baby |
| ___ 5. dizzy | e) suggested |
| ___ 6. nursing | f) sleepy |
| ___ 7. exceed | g) expecting a baby |
| ___ 8. recommended | h) the amount of medicine to take |
| ___ 9. dosage | i) feeling like everything is turning/spinning |
| ___ 10. ointment | j) being careful so something bad doesn't happen |
| ___ 11. drowsy | k) a doctor's instructions about the medication or treatment needed |

Dialogue Reading

Read the dialogue with your partner a few times. Take turns being each character. Practice your intonation and pronunciation. Circle any new words or phrases that you need to practice.

Customer: **I'd like to have this prescription filled, please.**

Pharmacist: Have you taken this medicine before?

Customer: No, I haven't.

Pharmacist: **You have to take one pill three times a day for seven days.**

Customer: **Are there any side effects?**

Pharmacist: Yes. **You may feel drowsy.**

Customer: What about precautions?

Pharmacist: **Don't drive when you take this medicine.**

Customer: **When will the prescription be ready?**

Pharmacist: **You can pick it up at three o'clock.**

Customer: Okay. Thank you. See you later.

Practice

Work with your partner. Role-play the dialogue on page 2, substituting the different expressions below. Then switch roles.

1. **I'd like to have this prescription filled, please.**

- Could you please fill this prescription for me?
- I need to get a prescription filled.

2. **You have to take one pill three times a day for seven days.**

- You've got to take one tablet with each meal.
- You should take two teaspoons before bedtime.
- You need to apply the ointment daily.

3. **Are there any side effects?**

- Will there be any side effects?
- Will I feel any side effects?

4. **You may feel drowsy.**

- You may feel sleepy.
- You may get a headache.
- You might feel dizzy.
- You could feel a little nauseous.

5. **Don't drive when you take this medicine.**

- You shouldn't drink alcohol when you take this medicine.
- Don't take this if you are pregnant or nursing a baby.
- Don't exceed the recommended dosage.

6. **When will the prescription be ready?**

- When can I pick it up?
- When will it be filled?

7. **You can pick it up at three o'clock.**

- It will be ready this afternoon.
- You can get it later today.

Listening Practice

Listen to the recording of the dialogue from page 2. Fill in the missing words as you listen. Listen again. Now look back at page 2 and check your work. Did you fill in the correct words? Did you spell everything correctly?

Customer: I'd like to have this _____ filled, please.

Pharmacist: Have you taken this _____ before?

Customer: No, I haven't.

Pharmacist: You have to take one _____ three times a day for seven days.

Customer: Are there any side _____ ?

Pharmacist: Yes. You may feel _____ .

Customer: What about _____ ?

Pharmacist: Don't drive when you take this _____ .

Customer: When will the prescription be ready?

Pharmacist: You can _____ at three o'clock.

Customer: Okay. Thank you. See you later.

Review

Task 1

LISTEN & ANSWER

Listen to the conversation and answer the questions.
Your teacher will tell you if you have to write or say the answers.

1. Why is the customer talking to the pharmacist?

2. How often does the customer have to take the medication?

3. What side effect does the pharmacist warn of?

4. What activity is the customer not supposed to do while on this medication?

5. When will the prescription be ready?

Review cont.

Task 2

MEDICATION LABEL

Read the label on the bottle of prescription drugs and answer the questions.

Manhattan Pharmacy
558 1st Ave., New York, NY
(541) 889-0088

Rx 123456 Dr. Evan Black

Eleanor Jones

Take 1 capsule 3x per day with food.

Do not take on an empty stomach.
May cause drowsiness and upset stomach.
Drive with caution.

AMOXICILLIN 500 MG CAPSULE QTY: 15

May refill 1x before 2016/11/30
Use before 2020/09/05

NDC 12345-123-12
Filled: 2016/10/24

Notes:

- **Rx** means *prescription*
- **x** means *time/times* (how often)
- **per** means *each*
- **Qty** means *quantity* (how many)
- **NDC** means *National Drug Code*

1. Who is the patient?

2. Who is the doctor?

3. What type of medication was prescribed?

4. How often must the patient take the medicine?

5. What side effects may occur?

6. What activity does the patient need to be careful doing while on this medication?

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, a customer speaks to a pharmacist about getting a prescription filled. Students learn vocabulary and expressions to use at a pharmacy.

LEVEL: Low Int

TIME: 1.5 hours

TAGS: dialogues, pharmacy, drugstore, going to the pharmacy, prescription, medicine

Pre-Reading

A. WARM-UP QUESTIONS

Discuss as a class or in small groups. Answers will vary.

B. VOCABULARY PREVIEW

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. k | 3. g | 5. i | 7. c | 9. h | 11. f |
| 2. a | 4. j | 6. d | 8. e | 10. b | |

Dialogue Reading

Give your students time to read the dialogue in pairs.

Practice

Have your students read the dialogue again and practice subbing in some of the different expressions.

Listening Practice

Have students complete the dialogue by listening to the recording or by having two students read the completed dialogue from page 2.

Write Your Own Dialogue

Encourage your students to use vocabulary from the model.

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Review (Assessment Tasks)

The following tasks can be used for assessment purposes and/or review practice. You can save all of the tasks until the end or assess your students throughout the lesson.

TASK 1

Play the audio from this lesson. Then assign the questions. You can decide if you want your students to say or write the answers.

1. The customer wants to get a prescription filled.
2. The customer has to take one pill three times a day for seven days.
3. The pharmacist warns the customer that he may feel drowsy.
4. The customer is not supposed to drive while taking this medicine.
5. The prescription will be ready at three o'clock.

TASK 2

Test your students' ability to understand a label on a bottle of prescription drugs.

1. The patient is Eleanor Jones.
2. The doctor is Dr. Evan Black.
3. Amoxicillin is the prescribed drug.
4. The patient must take the medicine three times per day.
5. Possible side effects are drowsiness and upset stomach.
6. The patient needs to be careful driving.
(She must also eat when she takes the capsules.)

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word *Practice*. Most other English-speaking countries spell it this way: *Practise* (when used as a verb; *Practice* when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.

