

Zadanie maturalne

4 Przeczytaj tekst. Z podanych odpowiedzi A–D wybierz właściwą, zgodną z treścią tekstu.

- 1 The man was convinced he had measles because
 - A he had all the symptoms.
 - B he read some of the symptoms.
 - C he was a doctor.
 - D he was also suffering from hay fever.
- 2 After reading the encyclopaedia the man felt
 - A disappointed he didn't have more illnesses.
 - B proud of how useful he might be to medical research.
 - C keen on studying medicine.
 - D surprised he was still alive.
- 3 When the man tried to examine himself,
 - A he couldn't find his pulse at first.
 - B his pulse was beating too slowly.
 - C his heart beat at 147 times per minute.
 - D he felt his heart in different parts of his body.
- 4 Why did the man not get what was on the prescription?
 - A The pharmacy was closed.
 - B The pharmacy didn't sell those things.
 - C The pharmacist couldn't read the doctor's writing.
 - D He went to the supermarket by mistake.
- 5 In this story the author
 - A describes the symptoms of several illnesses.
 - B explains several things to do in order to avoid falling ill.
 - C points out the dangers of an overactive imagination.
 - D encourages the reader to learn about common diseases.

5 **SŁOWNICTWO** Uzupełnij objaśnienia nazwami chorób wyróżnionymi w tekście.

- 1 _____ is a disease in which there is too much sugar in the blood.
- 2 _____ is caused by an allergy to plant pollen. The symptoms are sneezing, a runny nose and swollen eyes.
- 3 _____ is a disease of the brain which can make a person suddenly become unconscious or unable to control their movements.
- 4 _____ is a childhood disease which causes a rash on the skin and a fever. Today most children in developed countries are vaccinated against it when very young.
- 5 _____ affects the brain and makes a person gradually lose their memory and ability to speak

6 W parach odpowiedzcie na pytania.

- 1 What did the doctor prescribe for the writer? Why?
- 2 Imagine you are a doctor. You've got a hypochondriac patient who imagines he/she suffers from various illnesses. What would you recommend? Write your prescription.

THE HYPOCHONDRIAC

Based on an extract from *Three Men in a Boat*
by Jerome K. Jerome

One day, I looked up a medical encyclopaedia and found out I had **hay fever**. I wasn't too upset but then I read about **measles**. Before I had read half the symptoms, I knew I had it.

I sat in shock, and then I turned the page. The next disease was typhoid. I was suffering from that, too. And the next one. I decided to read the book alphabetically.

I quickly learnt that I was in the early stages of **Alzheimer's disease**. That explained my poor memory. I turned to 'B' and read about bipolar disorder. I immediately felt even more depressed. Cancer, **diabetes**, **epilepsy**... I read through all twenty-six letters. I had almost every illness in the book. The only one I didn't seem to have was tennis elbow – perhaps because I don't play tennis.

I sat and thought. What an interesting case I was from a medical point of view! How valuable I should be to a class of students in a hospital!

I wondered how long I had to live. I tried to examine myself. To my horror, I could not feel my pulse. Then, suddenly it started. I timed it. One hundred and forty-seven per minute! Oh no! I tried to feel my heart. I felt everywhere from my waist to my head. Nothing! My heart had stopped beating!

I went to see my doctor.

He said: 'What's the matter with you?'

I said: 'I won't waste your time telling you what is the matter with me. Life is short, and you might die before I had finished. I haven't got tennis elbow. Why, I can't tell you. Everything else, however, I *have* got.' And I told him how I discovered it all.

He examined me. Afterwards, he sat down, wrote a prescription, folded it and gave it to me. I put it in my pocket and left.

I didn't open it. I took it to a pharmacy that was close by. The man read it, and then handed it back. He said he couldn't help me.

I said: 'You are a pharmacist?'

He said: 'I am a pharmacist. If I was a supermarket and hotel, I might be able to help you. Being only a pharmacist, I can't.'

I read the prescription: '1 pound steak, plenty of water. 1 ten-mile walk every morning. 1 bed at 11 every night. And don't fill up your head with things you don't understand.'

I followed the directions, with the happy result that my life was saved, and is still going on.

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Language and Culture

The story above is based on a chapter in *Three Men in a Boat*, a humorous book about three friends and a dog on a boating holiday on the river Thames. The book, by Jerome K. Jerome (1859 – 1927), was so popular that the number of boats on the Thames increased sharply after its publication.