OET Listening practice test 2

42 questions, about 40 minutes. Play the free audio online once per extract at oetace.com/listening/test?id=L02. Practise in the OET format, then check the answer key.

Part A

Extract 1: Consultation: persistent tiredness

You hear a GP talking to a patient called Ms Jessica Moran. For questions 1-12, complete the notes with a word or short phrase.

Patient: Ms Jessica Moran

Presenting complaint

- tiredness for approx. ___(1)___
- ___(2)___ when climbing stairs at work
- ___(3)___ when lying in bed, approx. twice a week

Social history

- current occupation: ___(4)___ (rotating day and night shifts)

Menstrual history (GP: menorrhagia)

- regular, worsening over past year; on heaviest days changes pad every ___(5)___
- time of leakage despite super-absorbency pads: ___(6)___

Diet

- currently ___(7)___ (approx. 3 years)
- drinks ___(8)___ with most meals

Family history

- mother takes ___(9)___ for underactive thyroid

Plan

- FBC (to check ___(10)___), iron studies incl. ferritin, TFTs, coeliac screen
- advised not to have this drink within ___(11)___ of eating
- patient to keep a ___(12)___
- review in 1 week

Extract 2: Assessment: acute low back pain

You hear a physiotherapist talking to a patient called Mr Darren Fletcher. For questions 13-24, complete the notes with a word or short phrase.

Patient: Mr Darren Fletcher

Background and onset

- occupation: ___(13)___ (now also business owner)
- injured 3 days ago while carrying a ___(14)___ down steps

Symptoms

- pain radiates to left ___(15)___ and posterior thigh, not below knee
- intermittent ___(16)___ in back of thigh

Red flag screen (all negative)

- no ___(17)___ in saddle area
- bladder and bowel function normal; no fever, night sweats or weight loss

History

- one previous episode ___(18)___ ago, resolved with physio
- ___(19)___ in right knee (not troublesome)

Pain management and sleep

- paracetamol ineffective; now taking ___(20)___ 400 mg tds with food

- ___(21)___ gives relief (ice unhelpful)
- usually woken ___(22)___ per night

Goals

- return to work; coach son's ___(23)___ team (season starts in 3 weeks)

Plan

- stay active with short walks; avoid bed rest
- request ___(24)___ for 2 weeks
- review Thursday

Part B

Extract 1

You hear two nurses discussing a patient who has refused a blood test.

25. What does the second nurse want to do first?

A ask the IV team to take the sample using ultrasound guidance
B ask the patient himself what is making him refuse the test
C record the refusal and inform the registrar about it straight away

Extract 2

You hear a dietitian speaking to a ward team about texture-modified diets.

26. What is the dietitian mainly asking staff to do?

A remove bread rolls from the trays of all patients on modified diets
B report any incorrect trays to catering while the software is updated
C compare each meal tray with the patient's diet card before serving it

Extract 3

You hear a hospital manager announcing a planned IT system shutdown.

27. What are staff told about the paper records used during the shutdown?

A They must be sent to Medical Records as soon as the system is restored.
B Their contents have to be entered electronically by the end of the next shift.
C They can be disposed of once their contents have been entered electronically.

Extract 4

You hear a GP and a practice nurse discussing a problem with the vaccine fridge.

28. What does the GP say should happen to the vaccines for now?

A They should go into another fridge while the logger data is downloaded.
B They should stay in the same fridge but be kept apart and not used for now.
C They can be used at today's clinic as long as the fridge stays in range.

Extract 5

You hear a paediatric nurse talking to a parent about fever medicine.

29. What does the nurse tell the parent about Aarav's paracetamol?

A He has been given a smaller amount per dose than his weight requires.
B He has been given his doses more often than is recommended for him.
C He should keep having it while he feels warm, even if he is drinking.

Extract 6

You hear a senior doctor giving feedback to a junior doctor about a discharge summary.

30. What is the senior doctor's main criticism of the discharge summary?

A It is too long for a GP who may spend only two minutes reading it.
B It does not explain why the patient's ramipril had to be stopped.
C It does not make the actions required of the GP prominent enough.

Part C

Interview: antibiotic stewardship in general practice

You hear a radio interview with Dr Niamh Gallagher, a public-health researcher, about antibiotic prescribing in general practice.

31. What was the main finding of Dr Gallagher's study about patient expectations?

A Patients wanted antibiotics more often than their GPs realised.
B GPs overestimated how many patients wanted antibiotics.
C Patients were usually unsure what was causing their infection.

32. According to Dr Gallagher, patients are most likely to push for antibiotics when they

A are told their illness is viral but are given no further explanation.
B are unsure whether their illness is caused by a virus or by bacteria.
C need to recover quickly so that they can get back to work.

33. What is Dr Gallagher's view of delayed prescribing?

A It reduces dispensing but leaves patients less satisfied than an immediate script.
B It is preferable to an immediate script for patients at higher risk of complications.
C It has real drawbacks but works well when the patient is suitable for it.

34. In the intervention practices, what had the greatest effect on prescribing?

A information leaflets for patients to read in the waiting room
B GPs commenting on their findings while examining patients
C GPs taking extra time to explain why antibiotics were not needed

35. Why does Dr Gallagher have doubts about a single national prescribing target?

A It would rely on prescribing data that practices may not record consistently.
B It would penalise practices whose patients genuinely need more antibiotics.
C It would overlook the substantial share of prescribing that happens in hospitals.

36. What does Dr Gallagher recommend as an alternative to targets?

A regular confidential reports comparing each practice with others that have a similar patient mix
B regular published reports comparing each practice with others that have a similar patient mix
C regular confidential reports comparing each practice with the average across all practices

Presentation: fatigue and napping on night shift

You hear a presentation by Dr Marcus Bell, a nurse researcher, about fatigue among nurses who work night shifts.

37. Why does Dr Bell tell the story about his drive home?

A to explain how his own experience first led him into fatigue research
B to show that tired staff are often unaware of how impaired they are
C to suggest that discussions of fatigue focus too narrowly on the ward

38. What surprised the researchers most in their survey?

A how many nurses had fallen asleep during a shift
B how few nurses had told anyone about falling asleep
C how little managers knew about the causes of fatigue

39. What point does Dr Bell make about planned naps on night shift?

A Grogginess after a nap mostly depends on when in the shift it is taken.
B The time allowed for waking up fully is the part most often missed.
C Nurses tend to keep their naps too short to gain the full benefit.

40. According to Dr Bell, what is managers' main objection to napping policies?

A the cost of covering nurses while they sleep
B how sleeping staff might be perceived by the public

C a lack of suitable spaces for staff to rest

41. How does Dr Bell feel about nurses who try to 'push through' fatigue?

A He understands the motive but doubts it can make up for the time of night.
B He thinks caffeine helps with this but that willpower alone achieves little.
C He regards it as a habit he once shared but now finds hard to excuse.

42. What does Dr Bell recommend hospitals do first?

A build protected nap times into the roster of one ward
B collect data on fatigue-related errors before changing rosters
C set up a fatigue reporting system before introducing naps

Answer key

Check after you finish. For the evidence and an explanation of each answer, submit the same test free online.

1. four months
2. out of breath / breathlessness
3. palpitations / heart racing / fluttering
4. forklift driver
5. two hours
6. at night / overnight
7. vegetarian
8. black tea
9. levothyroxine
10. haemoglobin
11. an hour
12. period diary
13. removalist
14. washing machine
15. buttock
16. tingling / pins and needles
17. numbness
18. five years
19. osteoarthritis
20. ibuprofen
21. heat pack
22. three times
23. cricket
24. light duties
25. B
26. C
27. B
28. B
29. A
30. C
31. B
32. A
33. C
34. B
35. B
36. A
37. C
38. B
39. B
40. B
41. A
42. A