

Pre-Intermediate 1
Unit 8 Reading
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At the Doctor's Clinic

Last week, I wasn't feeling very well. So I thought I should go and see Dr. Watson. He is a well-known doctor in our neighborhood. Since there were already a few people in his waiting room, I sat and waited for my turn. After a while, the nurse opened the inner door and called me in.

well-known = famous

- ❖ neighbor = the person next door
- ❖ neighborhood = a part of the city

since = as, because

turn = the time when somebody in a group of people should or can do something

- *You have to wait for your turn.*

a while = a short time

inner ≠ outer

Dr. Watson looked very professional in his white uniform. He asked me to sit down and began his questions. "Now, what's the matter, son?" I explained I had a little pain in my chest, and that I felt tired all the time.

professional ≠ amateurish

- ❖ begin => began, begun
- ❖ begin = start

chest = breast

After asking me a few other questions, the doctor checked my pulse and listened to my heart. Then he checked my blood pressure and took my temperature. He was quiet and very calm during the examination while I was getting more and more anxious.

pulse = heartbeat

temperature = how hot or cold something is

quiet ≠ talkative, noisy

calm = relaxed ≠ nervous

- ❖ examine (verb) = to look at somebody/something closely to see if there is anything wrong or to find the cause of a problem
The doctor examined her carefully but could find nothing wrong.
- ❖ examination (noun) = a close look at something/somebody, especially to see if there is anything wrong or to find the cause of a problem
A specialist should carry out an examination of the patient.

while = whereas

anxious = worried, nervous, stressed (out)

He finally finished examining me and went back to his desk. "Have you been very busy recently?" he asked. "Yes. I have had a lot of work at the office for the last few months," I replied, "but doctor, I have tried to stay healthy by going mountain climbing every weekend," I added.

finally = at last

busy ≠ free

recently = lately

reply = answer

add = to say another thing

The doctor smiled and said that I was run-down for all the intensive activity. He then advised me to take a couple of days off and rest. "That's all you need to do," he said. I thanked the doctor and left the clinic feeling quite cheerful.

smile ≠ frown

run-down = very tired, exhausted, drained

intensive = related to doing a lot of things in a short period of time

- *intensive activity*
- *an intensive language course*

off = not at work

- We have a week off.

take off = not to go to work for a period of time

- *I took an hour off and went to the bank to ask for a loan.*

cheerful = happy

Full Text:

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Dr. Watson looked very professional in his white uniform. He asked me to sit down and began his questions. "Now, what's the matter, son?" I explained I had a little pain in my chest, and that I felt tired all the time.

After asking me a few other questions, the doctor checked my pulse and listened to my heart. Then he checked my blood pressure and took my temperature. He was quiet and very calm during the examination while I was getting more and more anxious.

He finally finished examining me and went back to his desk. "Have you been very busy recently?" he asked. "Yes. I have had a lot of work at the office for the last few months," I replied, "but doctor, I have tried to stay healthy by going mountain climbing every weekend," I added.

The doctor smiled and said that I was run-down for all the intensive activity. He then advised me to take a couple of days off and rest. "That's all you need to do," he said. I thanked the doctor and left the clinic feeling quite cheerful.

Sample Summary:

Last week, I felt unwell and visited Dr. Watson, a well-known doctor. After waiting, I was called in. Dr. Watson, in his white uniform, asked about my symptoms. I mentioned chest pain and constant tiredness. He checked my pulse, heart, blood pressure, and temperature calmly. After the examination, he asked about my busy schedule and advised me to rest for a few days. I left the clinic feeling cheerful.

Source:

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