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**Level 5 – 17th December, 2020**

## Healthcare clowns help patients laugh and recover

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201217-healthcare-clowns-5.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201217-healthcare-clowns-5.html>

An English adage says, "laughter is the best medicine". Today, humour is needed more than ever. Medical staff are understanding this and using humour in their care. Clown doctors and healthcare clowns are becoming common in hospitals around the globe. There is even a European organisation that sets standards. It was established in 2011. It says: "Healthcare clowns bring moments of happiness and distraction to children who are ill or who have special needs....Clowns also bring smiles to vulnerable adults, including seniors and people with dementia who are in hospital care."

Healthcare clowns are especially popular in Israel, which is a world leader in the field. The first university to offer a Bachelor's degree in medical clowning was in Israel, in 2007. A Jerusalem healthcare clown wanted to use her inner clown to help patients after a COVID-19 ward opened. She knew the clown inside her would have therapeutic benefits for her patients. It reduces their anxiety and improves their wellbeing. She said: "Obviously, the doctors, they take care of the body. And we come in and take care of the soul. And it integrates together - the doctors understand this."

Sources: <https://www.euronews.com/2020/12/14/clown-doctors-prove-that-laughter-is-the-best-medicine-but-they-need-support>  
<http://www.efhco.eu/healthcare-clowning>  
<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium.MAGAZINE-meet-one-of-the-first-medical-clowns-in-an-israeli-covid-ward-1.9321659>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201217-healthcare-clowns-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. laughter is the                   | a. common            |
| 2. humour is needed more             | b. care              |
| 3. clowns are becoming               | c. of happiness      |
| 4. a European organisation that sets | d. dementia          |
| 5. clowns bring moments              | e. standards         |
| 6. Clowns also bring smiles to       | f. than ever         |
| 7. people with                       | g. vulnerable adults |
| 8. in hospital                       | h. best medicine     |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Healthcare clowns are especially | a. in the field     |
| 2. a world leader                   | b. clown            |
| 3. offer a Bachelor's               | c. this             |
| 4. use her inner                    | d. for her patients |
| 5. after a COVID-19 ward            | e. wellbeing        |
| 6. have therapeutic benefits        | f. popular          |
| 7. improves their                   | g. opened           |
| 8. the doctors understand           | h. degree           |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201217-healthcare-clowns-5.html>

An English adage says, "laughter is (1) \_\_\_\_\_". Today, humour is needed (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Medical staff are understanding this and using humour in their care. Clown doctors and healthcare clowns are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ hospitals around the globe. There is even a European organisation that sets standards. It (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 2011. It says: "Healthcare clowns bring moments of happiness and distraction to children who are ill or who (5) \_\_\_\_\_....Clowns also bring smiles to vulnerable adults, including seniors and people with (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in hospital care."

Healthcare clowns (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in Israel, which is a world leader in the field. The first (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a Bachelor's degree in medical clowning was in Israel, in 2007. A Jerusalem healthcare clown wanted to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ clown to help patients after a COVID-19 ward opened. She knew the clown inside her would have (10) \_\_\_\_\_ her patients. It reduces their anxiety and improves their wellbeing. She said: "Obviously, the doctors, they (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the body. And we come in and take care of the soul. (12) \_\_\_\_\_ together - the doctors understand this."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201217-healthcare-clowns-5.html>

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# CLOWNS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201217-healthcare-clowns-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about clowns in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

