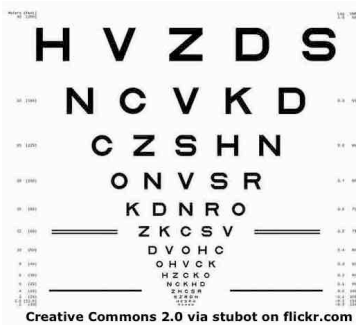


New eye drops improve vision without glasses

9th May, 2022



Help is at hand for people whose vision is worsening. An American pharmaceutical company called Allergan has developed eye drops that can treat an eye condition called presbyopia. This is when people's close-

up vision starts getting blurred. It usually starts when people get into their 40s. It affects over a billion people around the globe. About 16 per cent of these cannot afford eyeglasses or access to eye surgery. The new eye drops are called Vuity. Allergan called them "an innovative new prescription eye drop". It said Vuity is "the first and only FDA-approved eye drop to treat age-related Blurry Near Vision (presbyopia) in adults". It added they "may help patients with presbyopia see up close".

Presbyopia means it is difficult to see things clearly up close. Sufferers need glasses or have to make the text on phone and computer screens bigger. On its website, Allergan stated that its eye drops could help people see three lines on an eye chart that would normally be blurred. It wrote: "In clinical studies where patients received one drop of Vuity in each eye once daily, this was measured by the proportion of patients achieving a 3-line gain or more reading a near-vision eye chart." The drops work by reducing the eye's pupil size. This helps people to focus on text and objects that are near them. A user who tested the eye drops said they helped him see smaller letters in focus.

Sources: sciencealert.com / healio.com / vuity.com

Writing

There should be a limit on how long we look at screens. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

help / vision / pharmaceutical / eye drops / close-up / globe / surgery / prescription / glasses / text / eye chart / studies / blurred / patients / pupil / focus on text

True / False

- 1) An American company called Allergan developed some eye drops. T / F
- 2) People usually start getting blurred vision in their 50s. T / F
- 3) Around 16% of people with blurred vision cannot afford glasses. T / F
- 4) The eye drops are the first to get approval from the FDA. T / F
- 5) People with presbyopia have trouble seeing things far away. T / F
- 6) The eye drops help people to see all the lines on an eye chart. T / F
- 7) Making the pupil smaller helps people to see things in the distance. T / F
- 8) Someone who used the drops could see smaller text better. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. at hand | a. narrowing |
| 2. treat | b. distinctly |
| 3. blurred | c. ordinarily |
| 4. innovative | d. cure |
| 5. clearly | e. characters |
| 6. normally | f. original |
| 7. reducing | g. centre |
| 8. proportion | h. near |
| 9. focus | i. fraction |
| 10. letters | j. vague |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Is reading bad for our eyes?
- c) What do you do that is bad for your eyes?
- d) What do you know about how vision works?
- e) Will technology mean everyone will have perfect eyesight?
- f) Have you ever had any problems with your eyes?
- g) How do you do when you take an eye test?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the eye-drops company?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Help is | a. focus on text |
| 2. drops that can treat an eye condition | b. related Blurry Near Vision |
| 3. people's close-up vision starts | c. need glasses |
| 4. these cannot afford | d. on an eye chart |
| 5. treat age- | e. called presbyopia |
| 6. Sufferers | f. reducing the eye's pupil size |
| 7. see three lines | g. getting blurred |
| 8. clinical | h. eyeglasses |
| 9. The drops work by | i. studies |
| 10. This helps people to | j. at hand |

Discussion – Student B

- What's your eyesight like?
- How important is perfect vision?
- What do you think of the new eye drops?
- What can we do to look after our eyes?
- How much do you worry about your eyesight?
- Do you spend too much time looking at screens?
- Would you prefer to wear glasses or contact lenses?
- Would you have surgery to improve your eyesight?

Spelling

- An American phrcileamtaauc company
- vision starts getting dlerrub
- access to eye usgryre
- an nioavntvei new prescription eye drop
- the first and only FDA-ppdveaor eye drop
- they may help patetsin
- eesfrusf need glasses
- In iclinalc studies
- measured by the nrtopoirop
- vgihaecni a 3-line gain
- a near-isvion eye chart
- reducing the eye's luipp size

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Reading in Poor Light

You think reading in poor light is the worst thing for our eyes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): too much screen time, sunlight or ageing.

Role B – Too Much Screen Time

You think too much screen time is the worst thing for our eyes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): reading in poor light, sunlight or ageing.

Role C – Sunlight

You think sunlight is the worst thing for our eyes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): too much screen time, reading in poor light or ageing.

Role D – Ageing

You think ageing is the worst thing for our eyes. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these (and why): too much screen time, sunlight or reading in poor light.

Speaking – Bad for the Eyes

Rank these with your partner. Put the worst things for the eyes at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| • Reading in poor light | • Ageing |
| • Digital screens | • Contact lenses |
| • Sun | • Dust |
| • Pollution | • Smoking |

Answers – True False

1 F	2 F	3 T	4 T	5 F	6 F	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.