

Inferring Meaning - Adverbs and Adjectives to Understand Attitude and Opinion

Exercise 1

Underline the adjectives and adverbs

1. An effective study plan was essential for me during my time at medical school.
2. The standard of care in this hospital is absolutely brilliant
3. Being well prepared is the key to passing OET.
4. The medical conference was fairly interesting
5. The nursing team in ITU are highly skilled.
6. The waiting time in A and E was absolutely unacceptable.



Exercise 2

Are these adverbs and adjectives positive (+)negative (-) or neutral (0) ?

Adverbs

1. Working **hard**
2. **Highly** recommended
3. **Highly** infectious
4. **Absolutely** brilliant
5. **Absolutely** awful
6. **Fairly** interesting

Adjectives

1. **Hardworking**
2. Highly **recommended**
3. Highly **infectious**
4. **Infectious** laughter
5. Absolutely **brilliant**
6. Absolutely **awful**
7. Fairly **interesting**



Exercise 3

Inferring meaning - “Reading between the lines”

Choose the most suitable inferred meaning from the options below:

1. "The conference was fairly interesting"

- a) The writer's opinion of the conference is very positive
- b) The writer feels that the conference was interesting
- c) The writer feels that the conference was interesting but it could have been more so.

2. "Being well prepared is the key to success in OET"

- a) Planning ahead can be of benefit if you want to do well in OET
- b) The most important factor in doing well in OET is good preparation
- c) Preparation has little impact on the outcome for OET candidates

3. Unexpectedly, the patient's blood pressure was significantly higher than the previous one.

- a) The patient's blood pressure was expected to be high
- b) The patient's blood pressure was surprisingly high
- c) The patient's blood pressure showed a surprising increase in comparison with the last one



Answers:

Exercise 1

1. An effective (adj) study plan was essential (adj) for me during my time at medical school.
2. The standard of care in this hospital is absolutely (adv) brilliant (adj).
3. Being well (adj) prepared (adj) is the key to passing OET.
4. The medical conference was fairly (adv) interesting (adj).
5. The nursing team in ITU are highly (adv) skilled (adj).
6. The waiting time in A and E was absolutely (adv) unacceptable (adj).

Exercise 2

Adjectives

- **Hardworking** (+)
- Highly **recommended** (+)
- Highly **infectious** (-)
- **Infectious** laughter (+)
- Absolutely **brilliant** (+)
- Absolutely **awful** (-)
- Fairly **interesting** (+)

Exercise 3

- 1) c
- 2) b
- 3) c



Well done for investing time in improving your reading comprehension skills!

I hope you've enjoyed completing this short worksheet to build on your ability to infer meaning - "reading between the lines". This is a skill that will help your scores in Reading Part C.

If you feel you need help developing your skills further, I'm here to help!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have:

<https://ashcroftmedicalenglish.com/contact>