

Illness and injury

The phrasal verbs in these exercises all describe different things that can go wrong with the body and the process of recovering from illness and injury.

- 1** These people are describing an illness or an injury. Find the two phrasal verbs in each paragraph and write their infinitive form.

1

We went to a restaurant for dinner last night and I must have eaten something that disagreed with me. I was awake half the night, throwing up!

disagree with

throw up

2

My body aches and I have a fever. I think I'm coming down with something. I don't know where I picked it up ... probably the office.

3

I was jogging in the park one cold, icy morning when I slipped and fell. I must have hit my head because I passed out. I came round in an ambulance!

4

Last year I put my back out when I was lifting a heavy box. It's a lot better than it was, but sometimes it starts playing up again.

2 Match the phrasal verbs from exercise 1 with these definitions.

- 1 to get an illness from somewhere or something *pick up*
- 2 to become conscious again after not being conscious for a while
- 3 (of a particular food or drink) to make you feel ill
- 4 to vomit
- 5 to start to develop an illness
- 6 (of a part of the body) to not work properly or to hurt
- 7 to become unconscious for a short time
- 8 to hurt your back or a joint in your body by causing a bone to move from its normal position
.....

3 Complete the sentences using phrasal verbs from exercise 1. Use the correct form of the verb.

- 1 I felt very sick, so I ran to the toilet to *throw up*
- 2 Anna was complaining of a headache this morning. I hope she's not
..... flu or something.
- 3 I don't eat eggs as they me. They give me stomach pains.
- 4 My grandad has had problems with his leg, and he says it's again.
- 5 I don't remember anything about the accident. I just remember
..... in the hospital with my family all around me.
- 6 I had my back and I was in so much pain.
- 7 Young children are always bugs from other children at school.
- 8 The room was so hot. My legs suddenly felt very weak, and I thought I was going to
.....

4 Match the phrasal verbs (1–6) with the definitions (a–f).

1 sleep off*d*.....

2 keep down

3 clear up

4 kick in

5 pull through

6 shake off

a to manage to get rid of an illness

b (of medicine) to start to have an effect

c (of an illness) to disappear

d to recover from the effects of something by sleeping

e to survive a serious illness or operation

f to be able to keep food in your stomach and not vomit after you have eaten or drunk something

5 Complete the sentences with phrasal verbs from exercise 4. Use the correct form of the verb.

- 1 I had a headache so I went to bed, hoping I could *sleep* it *off*
- 2 I used this cream for the problem and the rash soon
- 3 We didn't know whether she would live or not, but she
- 4 I've had a sore throat for two weeks and I can't seem to it
- 5 Yesterday, she vomited every time she ate something, but now she can
her food
- 6 The pain disappeared as the tablets started to

Illness and injury – Answer key

Exercise 1

- 1 disagree with, throw up
- 2 come down with, pick up
- 3 pass out, come round
- 4 put out, play up

Exercise 2

- 1 pick up
- 2 come round
- 3 disagree with
- 4 throw up
- 5 come down with
- 6 play up
- 7 pass out
- 8 put out

Exercise 3

- 1 throw up
- 2 coming down with
- 3 disagree with
- 4 playing up
- 5 coming round
- 6 put [my back] out
- 7 picking up
- 8 pass out

Exercise 4

- 1 d
- 2 f
- 3 c
- 4 b
- 5 e
- 6 a

Exercise 5

- 1 sleep [it] off
- 2 cleared up
- 3 pulled through
- 4 shake [it] off
- 5 keep [her food] down
- 6 kick in