

# A Trip to the Emergency Room

Who works in the emergency room?

## Comprehension

### Genre

A **Nonfiction Article** gives information about real people, things, or events.

### Summarize

### Sequence

Sequence is the order in which things happen.



**O**h, no! You have a **broken** bone. Where do you go? To the hospital emergency room, of course. The emergency room can be a busy place. Ambulances and people arrive there during the day and night. People are brought there if they have a **serious** medical problem.

Doctors and nurses work in the emergency room. Their job is to help people who are sick or hurt. Other people work there, too. They help keep the hospital running properly. Let's meet some of the people who work in a hospital emergency room.



## Admissions Worker

The first person you see in the emergency room is an admissions worker. The hospital needs to keep track of the patients coming into the emergency room. The admissions person checks you in. The adult who is with you will fill out hospital forms. The forms ask for your **personal** information and why you came to the hospital.



## Nurses and Aides



Next, a nurse will help you. A nurse's job is to find out about your injury and ask you questions about your health. The nurse will take your temperature and blood pressure and record this information on a chart. The nurse **informs** other people in the hospital about your problem.

Then you will meet an orderly, or nurse's aide. That person will help you get around in the hospital. She will take you to the correct department if you need to get tests done. She may use a wheelchair to take you from one area to another.



Last, it's time for the doctor to examine you. The doctor checks your injury. He also looks at your chart. He arranges for you to get an X-ray if you need one. The doctor knows how to fix your broken bone. He will probably put on a cast so the bone will **heal**. The doctor also decides whether you need to stay in the hospital or if you can go home right away.

So, don't worry if you need to go to the emergency room. Now you know about the people who work there and how they will help you feel better.

## Think and Compare



1. Name the people you see in the hospital emergency room in the order you meet them. Use the words *first*, *next*, and *last*.
2. Why does the hospital need an admissions worker?
3. Have you ever gone to the hospital or the emergency room? If yes, tell about it. If no, tell about a time you went to the doctor.
4. How are paramedics similar to doctors? How are they different?



## Test Strategy

### Author and Me

The answer is not there on the page. Connect the clues to figure it out.

# A Visit to the Dentist

**Y**ou need your teeth to eat. To take good care of them, eat healthful foods, and remember to brush and floss every day. It's also important to visit the dentist every six months.

Here's what happens at a dental checkup. First, the dentist takes X-rays. These pictures of your teeth show if you have any cavities. They also show the health of your teeth and gums. Next, the dentist or an assistant cleans your teeth and makes them shine.

Last, the dentist looks carefully inside your mouth. He or she uses a little mirror to see the teeth in the back of your mouth. The dentist is pleased when your teeth and gums are healthy! In six months it will be time to come back for another checkup.



**Directions: Answer the questions.**

**1. What can you learn from your dentist?**

- A how to read X-rays
- B how to become a dentist
- C the best way to chew your food
- D how to take good care of your teeth

**Tip**

Connect the clues.

**2. Why do dentists look inside your mouth?**

- A to see if you eat healthful foods
- B to check the X-rays
- C to look for problems
- D to see if your teeth are clean

**3. How is this article written?**

- A It tells events in order.
- B It describes what something looks like.
- C It compares two things.
- D It shows you how to make something.

**4. Why might a dentist give you a new toothbrush?**

**5. Why do you think it is important to go to a dentist every six months?  
Use details from the selection in your answer.**

# Write to a Prompt

Write about a worker who has helped you.

Your story should be between one and four paragraphs long.

## Help at the Library

I went to the library last summer.

There were so many books! I asked the librarian for help.

First, Ms. Valdez asked me what I liked to read. I said I liked both made-up stories and true stories. Next, Ms. Valdez helped me find two good books. One was fiction, about a talking cat. The other book was nonfiction. It was about a paramedic.

Last, I took the books home. They were both fun to read. Now I always ask Ms. Valdez for help at the library. She really knows how to find the right books for me.



I put the events in order to organize my writing.

# Your Writing Prompt

Think of a time when a worker helped you. Tell how you felt about the person and how he or she helped you. Tell what happened first, next, and last. Your story should be two or three paragraphs long.



## Writer's Checklist

- Think about your purpose for writing.
- Plan your writing before beginning.
- Make sure your story has a clear sequence.
- Use your best spelling, grammar, and punctuation.