



Generic and Brand Name Medication: listening and vocabulary answer key

A

1. joints
2. (to) trouble
3. generic name
4. brand name
5. enteric coating
6. non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

B

1. A new medication her doctor has prescribed but she is unsure about.
2. A non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug.
3. It stops a drug being dissolved by stomach juices before it can work properly.
4. Her friend has a similar condition but takes a different drug.
5. To see her doctor as she may need a different drug or a different dose.

Link to video [English for Pharmacy: Generic versus Brand Drug Advice](#)

C

1e 2h 3a 4f 5g 6c 7b 8d

Transcript

Patient: I wonder if you can help me. I'm a bit unsure about something the doctor gave me.

Pharmacist: Sure. Can you tell me a bit more about the medication the doctor gave you?

Patient: I brought it with me. I've got arthritis and the pain has been troubling me a lot. I find it hard to get my joints moving. The doctor suggested these tablets. Um, they're called naproxen.

Pharmacist: Yes, I see, naproxen. You might hear people call them NSAIDS or non-steroidals. The doctor prescribed them to try to reduce the swelling around your joints.

Patient: OK, that makes sense. But, why are they called non-steroidals?

Pharmacist: It's because they aren't steroids. Steroid drugs also reduce inflammation, but they have some side effects which some people can't tolerate. This type of medication reduces swelling, but without the same side effects.

Patient: Right. OK. What about the enteric bit? What does that mean?

Pharmacist: Enteric coating on a tablet is a type of protective covering to stop a drug being dissolved by stomach juices before it can work properly.

Patient: So, it's not a different drug then?

Pharmacist: No. It's the drug naproxen with a special covering to stop it dissolving before it starts working properly.

Patient: I understand what you're saying, but I'm still a bit worried because my friend has the same thing as me. She's had arthritis in her knee for years and has a different tablet. She says I should have tried the same tablets as hers because they're stronger than mine.

Pharmacist: I can see that it may seem that she has a different tablet from yours, but it's actually the same drug with a different name. Medication can have several names, their generic name and their brand names. The generic name is the proper name for the drug. In this case, naproxen is the generic name. If a drug is made by several manufacturers, it can have different brand names. Your friend has the same drug, naproxen, but it's called Eazyday in this case.

Patient: I see. You say it's exactly the same thing?

Pharmacist: Well, it's the same drug, but your friend may take a different dose of the medication.

Patient: So it might be stronger.



Pharmacist: *It's possible that your friend might take a higher dose. I'm afraid I can't say for sure without seeing her prescription.*

Patient: *Maybe I should just take more of my tablets.*

Pharmacist: *No. It wouldn't be a good idea to do that. If the tablets don't help with the pain, you should go and see your doctor to get the prescription checked.*

Patient: *Oh. Do you think so?*

Pharmacist: *Yes, I do. It's very important that your doctor knows whether the medication she prescribed for you is working properly. If it isn't controlling the pain, you may need to take more of the tablets or perhaps even something different.*