

AT THE CHEMIST'S

Useful words



What you say

- Is there a chemist's / pharmacy nearby?
- When does the chemist's open/close?
- I need something for a cold/**constipation**/diarrhoea/**hay fever**/ a headache.
- Have you got anything for an insect bite?
- I've got a bit of **sunburn**. What would you recommend?
- I've got a bit of an **upset stomach**. Is there anything you could recommend?
- Where are the plasters, please?
- Do you have any thermometers?

What you hear

- The contact lens solution is just over there.
- Do you have a prescription?
- I'm sorry but we haven't got any cotton buds at the moment.
- You'll need a prescription for this.
- This medicine should help **clear it up**.
- This works well on **rashes**.
- You'll need to talk to a doctor about that.
- Have you got a **prescription** for this?

Dialogue: At the chemist's

Jane is at the chemist's. C=Chemist J=Jane
 C: Can I help you?
 J: Yes, I was looking for some antiseptic (1) _____ .
 C: You'll find some in the next aisle – the one parallel to this one.
 J: OK. Great. Another thing, have you got anything for an upset (2) _____ ?
 C: Yes, these work quite well. (*The chemist shows Jane a packet of pills.*)
 J: OK. I'll take a (3) _____ of those then. And have you got any cough (4) _____ ?
 C: Yes, you'll find that next to the (5) _____ – just over there.
 J: OK. Thanks very much. And finally, I was just wondering if it's possible to get any (6) _____ . I've got a bit of a **chest infection**.
 C: Not without a prescription. You'll have to (7) _____ to your GP about that.
 J: OK. Thanks for your help.

GLOSSARY

- constipation** ¹¹ if you have "constipation", you have a condition that prevents you temporarily from going to the toilet
- hay fever** ¹¹ an allergy to pollen (a fine powder produced by plants/flowers)
- sunburn** ¹¹ a red mark on your body where you are burnt because you have been in the sun for too long
- an upset stomach** ¹¹ a pain in your stomach, often because you have eaten something bad
- to clear something up** ^{exp} to cure something; to make an illness/rash, etc go away
- a rash** ¹¹ an area of red marks on your skin where your skin is irritated or hurting
- a prescription** ¹¹ a note from the doctor with information about the medicine you need
- an aisle** ¹¹ a space between rows of shelves that you can walk along in a shop
- cough medicine** ¹¹ medicine to help you cure a cough (an irritation in your throat)
- a chest infection** ¹¹ an infection in the front and upper part of your body
- a GP** ^{abbr} a general practitioner. A doctor who treats all types of illnesses (not a specialist)

