

Auch eine Ärztin muss essen

Monday of festival week, the day you fall ill, seen from the other side of the desk: forty patients for Katrin Vogel, the town doctor, no lunch, three calls from her mother, and a daughter who is waiting. The new neighbour at number 7, Mühlgasse 7, 12345 Lindenfurt, comes at four.

ANSWER KEY

LISTENING & UNDERSTANDING

L1) WHO SAYS IT?: 1a, 2c, 3c

L2) WHAT DO THESE PEOPLE NEED?: 1b, 2a, 3a, 4a

L3) CHECK THE FAMILY AND THE DAY: 1a, 2b, 3a, 4a

L4) THE DOCTOR'S DAY: 1: 3142

Translation

Monday of festival week, half past seven in the morning. The waiting room of the Lindenfurt practice is already full.

Monday, the thirteenth of April. Katrin Vogel is at the practice early. The waiting room is already full.

■ Good morning, Doctor. Forty patients today.

○ Forty? Then it will be late. The first patient, please.

An old man with a walking stick comes in very slowly and sits down with a happy sigh.

▲ Good morning, Doctor. Here I am again.

○ Mr Otto! You come twice a week. How are you?

▲ Not well. My back hurts. My leg too. And my head.

○ Your head too? All right, I will check. Please breathe deeply.

▲ I am always alone at home. My children live far away. I am bored.

○ Your readings are good. But you need company.

○ Why not go to Greta's café in the mornings? You can talk to people there.

▲ A coffee and people? I like that.

He goes off, smiling. The receptionist shakes her head.

○ Above all he needs someone to talk to today, Ms Berger.

More patients: a cough, a cut finger, a baby who will not stop crying. At eleven, a student comes in with a heavy rucksack.

● Good afternoon. I have a headache every day.

○ How much do you sleep?

● Only four hours. I have an exam on Friday. That is why I study at night.

- ☐ That is very little sleep. Your head needs rest.
- ☐ Take breaks. And get enough sleep. Studying works better then.

One o'clock. The waiting room is still full. The receptionist puts her head round the door.

- Doctor, it is one. You have not eaten anything yet!
- ☐ I know, Ms Berger. In a moment. The next patient is waiting.
- Your mother is on the phone. For the third time already. What should I say?

The doctor sighs, smiles and picks up the phone.

- ☐ Katrin, you have to eat something! Ms Berger tells me everything.
- ☐ And my new neighbour comes at four. The neighbour is ill.
- ☐ I know, Mum. I have the appointment.
- ☐ And when are you coming today? Lotte is waiting.
- ☐ At seven. To your place.
- ☐ You often say that. And then it is nine.

Afternoon: more patients, more tea, still no lunch. At four the new neighbour from number 7 comes in, with a sore throat and a story about a trumpet. At half past seven the last patient goes home.

Eight o'clock, in Hilde's living room at number 7. Lotte sits at the table with her yellow sketchbook. A plate of pancakes is waiting.

△ Mum! Eight already! You wanted to come at seven.

○ I am sorry. Forty patients today.

△ Everyone sees you. And I only see you in the evening.

□ Sit down, Katrin. Here are pancakes. Even a doctor needs to eat.

○ Mum! I am not a little child any more.

□ You are still my child. And hungry too.

△ Why are you a doctor, actually, Mum?

○ As a child I was often here. Grandma came home tired from school.

○ I wanted to help her. That is why I was always the doctor when we played.

○ Grandma was my patient. The doll was our female nurse.

□ And your prescription was always: tea and bed.

○ Today I like helping people. That is why I am a doctor.

△ The festival is on Saturday. The eighteenth of April. I am singing!
Are you coming?

○ Saturday? I work until six then.

△ But Mum! I want to see you at the festival.

Katrin looks at her daughter, then at her mother. For once, Hilde says nothing.

○ All right. I will take Saturday off. We will all come. Dad and your brother too.

□ And me? Of course I am coming too. I have to see everything.

□ And now eat. The pancakes are getting cold.

Everyone eats. Katrin takes another pancake. It is already her third.