

# 4A *Who should get what?*

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## Type of activity

Reading and speaking. Individual and group work.

## Aim

To practise vocabulary related to health problems.

## Tasks

To match definitions to vocabulary items.

To take part in a pyramid discussion.

## Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Fold the worksheet twice, as indicated.

## Timing

45 minutes

## Procedure

- 1 Introduce the topic by asking the students: *What are the six most common causes of death in the world? Are any of these preventable?* Write students' suggestions on the board.
- 2 Give a copy of the worksheet to each student with sections two and three folded under so that only the text is showing. Ask the students to read the text quickly to check their predictions.
- 3 Ask the students to unfold their worksheets once only, read the definitions and find a word in the text that matches each definition.
- 4 Check the answers with the whole class.
- 5 Ask the students to unfold the last portion of their worksheets. Explain that they are health advisers for the country in which they are studying. Tell them they are going to decide on the three most important areas for government health funding and what percentage of the health budget should be spent on each area.
- 6 Divide the class into pairs and ask each pair to agree on the three most important areas.
- 7 Then combine the pairs into groups of four. Ask the groups to discuss their choices, justifying them where necessary, and agree on the three most important areas.
- 8 Continue combining groups until a class consensus is reached.

## Answers

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| a hereditary | e vaccination |
| b treatment  | f symptom     |
| c cream      | g cure        |
| d pills      |               |

## Notes & comments

The diseases mentioned may have very similar names in the students' first languages, and students will probably have an awareness of the causes and issues involved. The main idea, then, is to generate discussion about prioritising, and students often feel strongly about 'self-inflicted' illness.