

Reading

1 Read the text.

Is it all in your head?

How many tablets do you take? We all take tablets for headaches and other illnesses. But are they really necessary? The big drug companies make the drugs and tablets that we buy to fight our health problems. But could it be possible that many of these drugs and tablets are only good for the bank balances of the drug companies and that there are better ways for us to get over our health problems? According to some experts we should use the power of our minds.

Since the 1950s there have been experiments using placebos. Placebos are tablets which do not have an effect on the body, so they shouldn't be able to make us better. In the experiments some patients in the group receive real drugs for a health problem, while others receive the placebo. No one knows who has the real drug or who has the placebo. In a significant number of these experiments the patients who haven't received the real drug get better! People think this is perhaps because they are thinking positively and believe they will get better – so they do!

So, can we 'think' ourselves better? Perhaps the big drugs companies should start worrying!

2 Choose the best answers.

- The text suggests that drug companies
 - sell drugs that are too expensive.
 - make a lot of money.
 - sell drugs that are bad for us.
- It's possible that
 - we could live longer without drugs.
 - we need different sorts of drugs.
 - we could manage without drugs.
- Placebos
 - are experiments done since the 1950s.
 - should not be able to cure health problems.
 - are tablets for headaches.

- In the experiments,
 - patients know it's possible they haven't received the real drug.
 - patients know they have been lied to.
 - patients know if they don't receive the real drug.
- According to the article
 - some people get better if their doctor believes they will.
 - some people get better because they stop taking drugs.
 - some people can get better if they believe they will.

Mark /10

Vocabulary

3 Choose the correct answers.

- I don't believe you! You're pulling my **foot** / **leg**!
- I didn't want to go to the cinema but he twisted my **hand** / **arm**.
- He's head over **feet** / **heels** in love with her.
- He spoke to Alex and got it off his **chest** / **heels**.
- I didn't mean to embarrass Sarah – I really put my **toe** / **foot** in it.

Mark /5

4 Complete the sentences with the correct answers.

- I pulled a _____ while I was playing tennis this afternoon.
A finger B leg C muscle
- She went home because she had a _____ ache.
A skin B stomach C waist
- He fell over on the hill and twisted his _____.
A ankle B hand C leg
- I can't really talk today. I've got a bad _____.
A shoulder B throat C head
- I've never broken a _____ in my body.
A muscle B vein C bone

Mark /5

Grammar

5 Complete the sentences with the correct words from the box.

since ago yet for since already just

- I've wanted a laptop _____ years.
- He's been on a diet _____ Christmas.
- We've been driving _____ ten o'clock this morning.
- We met them two years _____ when we were on holiday in New York.
- He's _____ phoned. He'll be here in fifteen minutes.
- I haven't replied _____ but I'll do it at the weekend.
- Can you change the channel, please? I've _____ seen that film.

Mark /7

6 Complete the sentences with the past simple or present perfect form of the verbs in the box.

leave deliver watch hear travel be try

- _____ you _____ the latest football results?
- How long _____ you _____ a surgeon?
- We _____ the new Indian restaurant a couple of times and it's really good.
- _____ you _____ anything on TV last night?
- I _____ a lot in Europe but not in other continents.
- Our neighbour _____ his car at the end of our drive and I can't get my car out.
- They _____ the post late every day last week.


Mark /7

7 Choose the correct answers.

- I've **cooked** / **been cooking** a lasagne for you. I hope it's OK.
- She's **replied** / **been replying** to ten e-mails this evening.
- Sorry I'm late. I've **worked** / **been working** on the car.
- Have you **done** / **been doing** the shopping yet?
- I've **researched** / **been researching** this subject for six months.
- We've **learned** / **been learning** about French history for several days now. It's very interesting.

Mark /6

Listening

8  3.04 Listen to the radio interview. Are the sentences true or false?

- Dan O'Brien is only famous in the UK. _____
- One of his relatives is from Ireland. _____
- He had several health problems when he was younger. _____
- He takes his medicines with him when he goes away. _____
- He's not sure how good acupuncture is. _____

Mark /10

Writing

9 Imagine your friend has moved to another country. Write a letter to him/her in which you:

- say you are sorry for not writing sooner
- give him/her news about yourself
- give him/her news about your friends and/or family
- ask questions about your friend

Mark /10

Total /60