

Healthcare Textbook



Healthcare Text

The following passage has been adapted from a healthcare textbook. Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Health Care Case Study

Erin Johns is 74 years old. She is widowed with four children, one of whom lives at home with her in their original family home. Driving is becoming hard for her, and she finds getting to the clinic and picking up her medications more and more challenging. Since she lives in Kelowna it is difficult to get to specialist appointments in Vancouver. Erin describes herself as a non-smoker, but she smoked socially when she was in her early twenties for about five years. She is a retired hairdresser. Erin also has a small hairless Chihuahua named Trixie. Erin spends her time socializing at her local community centre with her friends, and she likes to play Bingo. She goes to the local church and has a good relationship with the other members of the Catholic Women's League. At home, she enjoys watching *Murder She Wrote* and playing "Solitaire and Scrabble with friends" on her iPad. Erin tends to feel down in the dumps when she thinks about how she has to struggle to make ends meet. She also worries about her advancing age, and how she is becoming more forgetful and less energetic.

Adapted from [Health Case Studies: Toward Closing the Healthcare Communication Gap](#)

Questions:

1. Is there any contextual or cultural background knowledge needed to understand this passage?
2. Are there any phrases or idioms that would impede comprehension for an English Language Learner?

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Brainstorm:

Brainstorm some ways that this text could be modified or delivered to support greater inclusivity and accessibility. Write your answers below.

A large, empty rectangular box with a dark blue border, intended for students to write their brainstorming ideas for making the healthcare textbook more inclusive and accessible.

S1 Textbook Analysis Healthcare

Answers:

1. There are several references that might not be clear to all students. These include: the distance from Kelowna to Vancouver; bingo; the Catholic Women's League; Murder She Wrote
2. Idioms in this passage include: "down in the dumps" and "make ends meet." These are important for understanding the case study.

Possible modifications to the text:

1. If a passage assumes cultural background knowledge, provide this information in advance of reading.
2. Create a glossary for vocabulary and include idiomatic expressions.

Possible modifications to delivery:

1. Whenever possible, provide students with a choice of materials.
2. Give students the opportunity to contribute materials that reflect their worldviews and experiences.

When discussing materials, give students a chance to critically reflect on the worldviews pre