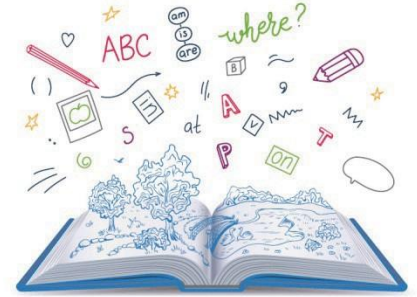


English

Stage 4



2024

Name

Class

Date

The Race Against Time: A Medical Breakthrough

Dr. Amelia Singh, a brilliant but **autodidact (self-taught)** scientist, poured over her research, determined to find an **antidote** (counteractant) to the mysterious X7 virus. The virus spread rapidly, causing a multitude of ailments, and existing treatments were proving ineffective. Working tirelessly, Amelia designed a revolutionary formula delivered through a specially designed **automobile** with an **autopilot function** for remote and efficient deployment.

One crucial component missing from her formula was a powerful **antioxidant**. These molecules combat **free radicals**, harmful byproducts linked to cellular damage and believed to accelerate the X7 virus' effects. As dawn approached, Amelia noticed a strange interaction between a prototype formula and a rare flower under the **antiglare** lamp on her desk. The flower, usually vibrant, remained unscathed!

Eureka! This flower, with its unique properties, might hold the key. She quickly added an extract to the formula, creating a potent concoction. But before testing, she needed to ensure it was sterile. Grabbing an **antiseptic** wipe, she meticulously cleaned the vial containing the formula.

Comprehension Questions:

Vocabulary:

1. What kind of scientist was Dr. Amelia Singh, and how did she acquire her knowledge? (Autodidact - self-taught)
2. What was Dr. Singh trying to create to fight the X7 virus? (Antidote - something that counteracts a poison or harmful substance)
3. What is the purpose of an antioxidant in Dr. Singh's formula? (Antioxidant - a molecule that combats free radicals, harmful byproducts linked to cellular damage)
4. What is the opposite of "thesis" in the context of the passage? (Antithesis - the opposite of an idea or statement)
5. What did Dr. Singh use to clean the vial containing the formula before testing? (Antiseptic - a substance that kills or inhibits the growth of microorganisms)
6. What is the difference between an antiseptic wipe and an antibacterial wipe? (Antiseptic wipes are broader, killing or inhibiting a wider range of microorganisms like germs. Antibacterial wipes specifically target bacteria.) **[Note: This wasn't directly mentioned but can be inferred]**

Comprehension:

7. Describe the situation Dr. Singh is facing. (She's racing against time to find a cure for the X7 virus)
8. How did Dr. Singh discover a potential solution for her formula? (She observed a rare flower's resistance under an antiglare lamp and added an extract to the formula)
9. Why was it important for Dr. Singh to clean the vial with an antiseptic wipe? (To prevent contamination from microorganisms before testing)
10. What is the potential significance of Dr. Singh's discovery (assuming it's successful)? (It could be a breakthrough in treating the X7 virus)

The Nervous Understudy (Excerpt)

(Sound of hammering and sawing fills the air. Costumes and props are scattered everywhere. CHLOE, a young girl with bright red hair and trembling hands, paces nervously back and forth. She clutches a worn script to her chest.)

(NARRATOR): Chloe's heart pounded like a drum solo backstage.

(A tall figure, MS. LEE, the director, walks by with a clipboard. Chloe stops pacing and squares her shoulders, trying to appear confident.)

Comprehension Questions:

1. Where does the scene take place? (Backstage)
2. Who is the main character? (Chloe)
3. Find and highlight the stage directions in the excerpt.