



Social Distancing Comprehension Questions

1. What is social distancing?

2. How far apart should people stay from each other when they are practising social distancing?

3. Why is social distancing important when an infectious disease breaks out?

4. Why is it particularly difficult to stop COVID-19 from spreading?

5. What are the major symptoms of COVID-19?

6. Name three countries that have stopped people travelling in or out due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

7. What action has the UK government taken to try and stop the spread of COVID-19?

8. Give three examples of things that people can do to maintain their wellbeing while in isolation.



9. What is the origin of the word 'quarantine'?

10. Why were the Apollo 11 astronauts kept in quarantine when they returned to Earth?

Extension



Do you think that the measures taken by the UK government to stop the spread of COVID-19 have been sufficient? Why or why not?



How would you encourage young people to stay at home and maintain social distancing?

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Create your own daily timetable for a period of isolation. Make sure to make time for friends and relatives, work, rest and exercise.



Social Distancing Comprehension - Answers

1. What is social distancing?

Social distancing means staying away from other people to avoid catching or passing on infectious diseases.

2. How far apart should people stay from each other when they are practising social distancing?
Two metres.

3. Why is social distancing important when an infectious disease breaks out?

It slows down the spread of disease and stops health services becoming overwhelmed by the number of people who are unwell.

4. Why is it particularly difficult to stop COVID-19 from spreading?

Because it is transmitted through the air, and because it is new to humans so we have no immunity or vaccine.

5. What are the major symptoms of COVID-19?

Cough, fever and shortness of breath.

6. Name three countries that have stopped people travelling in or out due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Australia, Canada and Germany.

7. What action has the UK government taken to try and stop the spread of COVID-19?

They have closed schools, universities and pubs and put an official lockdown in place so that people do not go out unless it is essential.

8. Give three examples of things that people can do to maintain their wellbeing while in isolation.

Examples include keeping in contact with friends, relatives and colleagues online; keeping up with regular exercise; planning out a daily routine; and limiting screen time to reduce anxiety.

9. What is the origin of the word 'quarantine'?

It comes from the Venetian word for 'forty days', the amount of time that travellers had to wait outside the city before being allowed to enter.

10. Why were the Apollo 11 astronauts kept in quarantine when they returned to Earth?

It was thought that they might bring back unknown diseases from the Moon and infect people on Earth.

Extension

Do you think that the measures taken by the UK government to stop the spread of COVID-19 have been sufficient? Why or why not?

Answers may consider the benefits of a lockdown to enforce social distancing but may also question whether the government's response was quick or thorough enough to begin with.

How would you encourage young people to stay at home and maintain social distancing?

Any answers which discuss the different ways to promote the benefits of social distancing to a young audience should be considered.

Create your own daily timetable for a period of isolation. Make sure to make time for friends and relatives, work, rest and exercise.

Student's own response.