

### Communicative worksheet

#### *Talking about illness*

**1** Ask students to look at the picture of the doctor's waiting room. Ask:

*Where are the patients? How do they feel?  
How does the doctor feel?*

Revise and brainstorm medical problems and elicit the kinds of advice that the doctor might give.

**2** Divide the class into pairs and hand out the Student cards. Ask students to work in pairs to read out and complete the expressions.

#### Answers

*Student A:* 1 sick 2 headache 3 water  
4 throat 5 tissues 6 medicine

*Student B:* 1 well 2 back ache 3 pills  
4 temperature 5 feel 6 nose

**3** Ask pairs to prepare expressions that they could use in their first conversation.

With a strong class, ask students to improvise the conversation in pairs.

With a weaker class, ask students to work in pairs to prepare and write a conversation before acting out. You could give them the following prompt to start the conversation:

*Please come in. How do you feel ...?*

Ask fast finishers to prepare and act out further conversations with different illnesses. It is suggested that students act out three conversations before switching doctor/patient roles.

**4** Ask some pairs to act out their improvised or prepared conversation for the class. To create a task for the class, write the following questions on the board and ask students to listen and find the answers:

- 1 What is the patient's problem?*
- 2 What advice does the doctor give?*

#### *Alternative activity*

Make this a mingle. Half the class are doctors. Half the class are patients. The patients choose to be one of the people in the waiting room and visit three different doctors for advice.

Ask doctors to sit, and patients to walk round the class and have conversations with at least three different doctors. In feedback, find out which doctors they visited, and what advice they were given.

#### **5 Personalise**

Ask students to describe how they are feeling today. Ask the rest of the class to give them medical advice.

#### **6 Writing**

Ask students to imagine they are a doctor and to write up the medical notes of all the patients that they have spoken to.