

NAME: _____

Coronaviruses were discovered in the 1960s. They are a group of viruses that cause diseases in mammals and birds. In humans, coronaviruses cause respiratory tract infections that are typically mild, such as the common cold.

The name "coronavirus" is derived from the Latin *corona*, meaning crown or halo. The name refers to the characteristic appearance of the infective form of the virus, which is reminiscent of a crown or a solar corona.

At the end of 2019, a new type of coronavirus started spreading in China. This type of coronavirus is often called *2019-nCoV*, *novel coronavirus*, or *COVID-19*. It is believed that the virus was transmitted from animals to humans. Some of the first cases were diagnosed in people who had visited a market selling live seafood and animals. Unfortunately, when viruses are transmitted from animals to people, it can take scientists a lot of time before they can develop a vaccine or medicines to cure it.

Some of the symptoms of the coronavirus are fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, headache, and trouble breathing. These symptoms are very much like those people have with a cold or the flu. The virus can be more serious in some people, especially if they are sick or have health problems.

While it is early to have a definite picture of the disease because scientists are still collecting the data, some patterns have already emerged. Some early reports reveal that children seem to be getting coronavirus at much lower rates than adults. Even if they get infected, the symptoms are milder. However, most people who get severely infected are those with a weak immune system, like the elderly. Coronavirus may be life-threatening for these people. They may develop more serious respiratory tract illnesses that may be fatal.

The virus appears to spread mainly from person to person. The transmission occurs when someone comes into contact with an infected person. For example, a cough, sneeze or handshake could cause transmission. The spread may also be caused by coming into contact with something an infected person has touched and then touching your mouth, nose or eyes.

There is no specific vaccine or medication to cure the disease, but generally, symptoms will go away on their own. However, experts recommend seeking medical care early if symptoms feel worse than a standard cold. Doctors can relieve symptoms by prescribing pain or fever medication. As far as antibiotics are concerned, they are useless to treat coronavirus.

People who think they may have been exposed to the virus should contact their healthcare provider immediately. A set of preventive measures are usually followed in case someone gets infected. This includes keeping infected people in quarantine for a certain period, generally fourteen days.

To protect yourself from the virus, here are six recommendations to follow:

- Avoid contact with people who are already infected.
- Wash your hands well and regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth if you haven't washed your hands.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that people touch a lot.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

1. Write a summary of the text in English, including the most important points, using your own words. (Approximately 50 words; 1 point). Answers will vary.

2. Indicate whether the following statements are true or false (T/F) according to the text. Copy that part (and ONLY that part) of the text which justifies your answer. (1 point; 0.25 each)

- Coronaviruses were discovered in 2019. **FALSE.** "Coronaviruses were discovered in the 1960s."
- The source of the coronavirus probably comes from animals. **TRUE.** "It is believed that the virus was transmitted from animals to humans."
- Children get infected more than adults. **FALSE.** "children seem to be getting coronavirus at much lower rates than adults."
- Doctors prescribe antibiotics to treat the coronavirus. **FALSE.** "As far as antibiotics are concerned, they are useless to treat coronavirus."

3. Find words or phrases in text A that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here: (1 point; 0.25 each)

- a. benign, moderate: **mild** b. old people: **elderly** c. without help: **on their own** d. ease, reduce: **relieve**

4. Block 1. Pronunciation: (2 points; 0.5 each)

- Find at least six words in the text for each pronunciation of final -s: 2 for /s/, 2 for /z/ and 2 for /ɪz/. **/s/: scientists, reports, virus; /z/: mammals, birds, symptoms; /ɪz/: viruses, diseases, cases.**
- Find at least three words from the text with the sound /aɪ/ as in *mild* and another three with /i:/ as in *diseases*. **/aɪ/: virus, derived, type, China; /i:/: believed, people, seafood, vaccine.**
- Find at least three words in the text with the stress on the first syllable, as in *humans*, and another three on the last, as in *disease*. **1st syllable: viruses, mammals, typically, medicines. Last syllable: derived, refers, reports, reveal.**
- Find at least six words in the text for each pronunciation of final -ed: 2 for /d/, two for /t/, and 2 for /ɪd/. **/d/: discovered, derived, called; /t/: touched, washed; /ɪd/: started, transmitted, infected.**

5. Complete the second sentence of each pair so that it has the same meaning as the first one. You must use the word or expression in italics. (2 points; 0.5 points each)

- A doctor is someone who heals people.
A doctor is someone whose ... profession/job is to heal people.
- As I didn't know you were in trouble, I didn't help you.
If I ... had known (that) you were in trouble, I would have helped you.
- Weighing up the pros and cons of everything is very useful.

It is ... very useful to weigh up the pros and cons of everything.

d. Some people believe that a Chinese laboratory designed the virus.

The virus ... is believed to have been designed by a Chinese laboratory.

6. WRITE A COMPOSITION ANSWERING THESE QUESTIONS: *Would you like to work as a doctor? Why? Why not? (Approximately 120 words) (3 points) Answers will vary.*