

Name _____
Date _____

Calm on the Job

Emergency room doctor Mark Turner works in Durham, North Carolina. A reporter is asking Mark questions about how he does his job.

Reporter: How long have you been a doctor?

Turner: Eight years.

Reporter: How did you get started?

Turner: I went to medical school for four years. Then, I practiced with another, more experienced doctor named Clarissa Parker. Clarissa taught me how to see patients and how to understand their problems. She also taught me how to give people shots!

Reporter: How do you stay calm on the job?

Turner: I use my training. I think back to the time I spent learning with Clarissa. I remember how calm she was, even when things got chaotic. With so much going on at once, you never know what will happen next in the emergency room.

Reporter: Are there any new tools that doctors use?

Turner: We use a stethoscope that allows us to listen to a person's heartbeat. We also use special thread to close deep cuts. The thread disappears after two weeks. This means we do not have to remove the thread after the cut has healed. It is already gone!

Reporter: Do you heal pets and other animals?

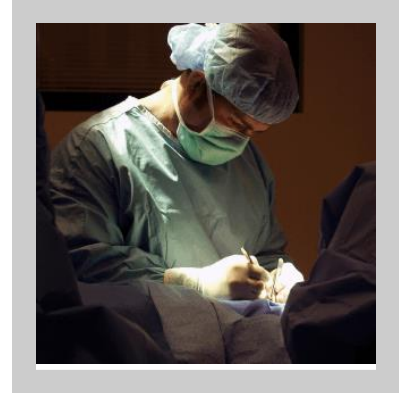
Turner: No, I do not. A veterinarian is a doctor that heals animals. I only heal people.

Reporter: Do you ever get nervous?

Turner: There is no time to be nervous. I have to think about what I have to do to help my patients. If they are in pain, I want to make them feel better as soon as possible.

Reporter: What do you like best about being a doctor?

Turner: Helping people!



- 1) What is this passage mostly about?
 - A. what a doctor does
 - B. how a doctor is trained
 - C. what tools a doctor uses
 - D. how a doctor relaxes

- 2) Who did Mark Turner practice with after he went to medical school?
 - A. Marissa Barber
 - B. Claire Barber
 - C. Melissa Parker
 - D. Clarissa Parker

- 3) As used in the middle of the passage, the word **chaotic** most nearly means
 - A. happy
 - B. boring
 - C. confusing
 - D. serious

- 4) Why does Mark Turner say he does not get nervous?
 - A. He uses special thread.
 - B. He enjoys his job too much.
 - C. He knows how to give a shot.
 - D. He is too busy doing his job.

- 5) What does Mark Turner like most about being a doctor?
 - A. seeing patients
 - B. giving shots
 - C. helping people
 - D. using special equipment

Answers and Explanations

1) A

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

At the beginning of the passage, the author writes, “In this passage, a reporter asks Mark Turner about his job as an emergency room doctor.” Throughout the passage, Turner answers questions about what a doctor does. He mentions that he “went to medical school,” does things like use his tools and training, and enjoys “helping people.” This lets us know that this passage is mostly about what a doctor does. Therefore choice **(A)** is correct

At the beginning of the passage, Turner says “I went to medical school for four years. Then, I practiced with another, more experienced doctor named Clarissa Parker.” Both of these things have to do with how he was trained to be a doctor. Because this is the only time he mentions his training in the passage, however, and he spends much more time describing what a doctor does, we can tell that this passage is not mostly about how a doctor is trained. This means **(B)** is incorrect.

Turner mentions a stethoscope and special thread that doctors sometimes use. Because this is only a minor detail, we can tell that this passage is not mostly about what tools a doctor uses. Therefore **(C)** is incorrect.

The passage discusses how a doctor keeps calm under stress, not how a doctor relaxes, or takes a break. Therefore choice **(D)** is incorrect.

2) D

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

Toward the beginning of the passage, Turner says, “Then, I practiced with another, more experienced doctor named Clarissa Parker.” This lets us know that Mark Turner practiced with Clarissa Parker after he went to medical school. Therefore **(D)** is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, or **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

3) C

Core Standard: **Craft and Structure**

chaotic (*adjective*): in a state of complete confusion and disorder.

In the middle of the passage, the author writes, “I remember how calm she was, even when things got chaotic.” We can use context clues—hints from known words or phrases around the unknown word or phrase—to help us figure out what chaotic most nearly means. In the next sentence, the author writes, “With so much going on at once, you never know what will happen next in the emergency room.” We can tell that the word chaotic (in the previous sentence) refers to “so much going on at once” here, because these two sentences are next to each other. When a lot of stuff is happening at once, things are usually out of order or confusing. This lets us know that the word chaotic must mean something like disorderly or confusing. Using this information, we can tell that the word chaotic most nearly means confusing. Therefore **(C)** is correct. The passage does not provide evidence to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

4) D

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

The reporter asks Turner, “Do you ever get nervous?” Turner responds, “There is no time to be nervous,” before explaining all of the things he has to do for his job that keep him from being nervous. When someone does not have time for something, we can tell that they are too busy. Using this information, we can tell that Mark Turner says he does not get nervous, because he is too busy doing his job. This lets us know that **(D)** is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, or **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

5) C

Core Standard: **Key Ideas and Details**

At the end of the passage, the reporter asks Turner, “What do you like best about being a doctor?” Turner responds “Helping people!” This lets us know that helping people is what Mark Turner likes most about being a doctor. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

The passage does not provide information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)**, or **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.

6) C

Core Standard: **Integration of Knowledge**

At the beginning of the passage, the author writes, “In this passage, a reporter asks Mark Turner about his job as an emergency room doctor.” Mark Turner then answers questions about his job. Turner gives us a lot of information about emergency room doctors through his answers. For instance, he mentions that he “went to medical school,” does things like give people shots and listen to their heartbeats, and enjoys “helping people.” He provides information about how to become an emergency room doctor, his duties as a doctor, and the best part of the job. This lets us know that the author most likely wrote this passage to give readers information about doctors. Therefore **(C)** is correct.

In the passage, Mark Turner mentions, “I only heal people,” but he never explains how he heals them. This lets us know that the author did not most likely write this passage to teach readers how to heal people, which means **(A)** is incorrect.