# **Fighting COVID-19 and Other Illnesses Comprehension Check**

For questions 1-5, match each vocabulary term to its definition:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Bacteria | a. The body’s ability to keep out diseases. |
| 2. Disease | b. Tiny single-celled organisms that can cause harm to the body. |
| 3. Immunity | c. An outbreak of sickness that attacks many people at about the same time and spreads worldwide. |
| 4. Pandemic | d. A tiny substance that causes certain infections and cannot reproduce unless inside a living cell. |
| 5. Virus | e. A disorder of the body or mind. |

1. Bacteria –
2. Disease -
3. Immunity –
4. Pandemic –
5. Virus –
6. What is the immune system’s main purpose?
7. What are infections and how do people typically get them?
8. How does the immune system respond when antibodies detect invaders in the body?
9. What are the similarities and differences between antibiotics and vaccines?
10. According to the text, what can you do to help your immune system keep you healthy?

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1. Bacteria – b
2. Disease - e
3. Immunity – a
4. Pandemic – c
5. Virus – d
6. What is the immune system’s main purpose?
   1. The immune system works to protect the body from harmful invaders. The white blood cells produce antibodies that attack invaders and work to keep the body healthy.
7. What are infections and how do people typically get them?
   1. Infections occur when germs enter the body. They can cause redness and swelling and even lead to disease. Infections happen when germs enter through an orifice, or an opening in your body like your nose, mouth, ears, or eyes. Your skin normally protects you from germs, but if germs can enter, infection can occur.
8. How does the immune system respond when antibodies detect invaders in the body?
   1. Antibodies patrol your entire body, constantly searching for intruders. Once they detect something that should not be there, they send a distress signal to alert the white blood cells. White blood cells then rush to the site and begin to produce specific antibodies that hunt down and kill the virus. White blood cells remember the intruders and how to kill them so your body is prepared to fight them off in the future. This is called immunity.
9. What are the similarities and differences between antibiotics and vaccines?
   1. Both antibiotics and vaccines have been developed over many years by scientists and doctors. They are used to help your immune system better fight off illness and help you get healthy again! Antibiotics release chemicals that fight bacteria, not viruses. Vaccines, on the other hand, are used to fight viruses. Vaccines work by exposing your body to some of a weakened or dead version of the virus. This allows your white blood cells to gain immunity and learn how to fight off the virus before it makes you sick.
10. According to the text, what can you do to help your immune system keep you healthy?
    1. According to the text, there are many ways you can help your immune system keep you healthy! Doctors suggest eating a healthy diet and getting daily exercise as major ways to help your body. In addition, you should wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds, cover your sneezes and coughs, and wear a mask and socially distance to help prevent the spread of viruses.