

Reading

Read about Paul's accident. It is a long story. Read it quickly. Don't worry about words you don't know.

Paul's Accident

Paul plays a football match with his friends every Friday night. Last Friday, he went to the park for his usual game.

During the match, Paul fell. He landed badly and twisted his left knee and couldn't stand up. Paul was in pain. He held his knee with his hands and moaned. His friends called a taxi to take Paul straight to the hospital and they went into the Accident and Emergency Department.

The A&E Department was very crowded and busy. Marcus helped Paul to walk up to the nurse at the reception desk.

"What happened? What is wrong with your leg?" she asked Paul.

"It's my knee. I was playing football and I fell on it. It really hurts and I think it's broken", he answered.

"OK please fill out this form," she said and she handed him a form for treatment in the A&E Department. The form asked Paul to give his personal details, asked if he had medical insurance or a medical card, if he had any allergies, if he had any serious illnesses or operations recently, and the name and telephone number of his spouse or family. He gave her the form, paid her, and then sat down.

The waiting room was full of people: there was a child with an earache, a drunk man with a bleeding eye, and a man with a back injury. When ambulances arrived the paramedics rushed people on stretchers into Casualty for emergency treatment. They waited for three hours before a doctor saw Paul.

Paul told the doctor what happened, and the doctor examined his knee.

"It could be broken", he told Paul; "You have to get an X-ray. Take this painkiller while you wait", he said and he handed him a large yellow pill and a glass of water. Paul and his friend Marcus waited another hour for an x-ray. Paul sat still with his knee on a metal plate and the radiographer took the x-ray. When the radiographer gave Paul the x-ray, he took it back to the doctor.

"I see", the doctor said as he examined the x-ray, "Your kneecap is broken and your knee is dislocated." He grabbed Paul's knee firmly and said, "This will hurt". Then he twisted it. Paul screamed in pain, but his knee was back in place. The doctor put a bandage around his knee and then put a cast on it. "Don't walk or put any weight on your leg for the next three weeks, "said the doctor, "then come back to Casualty and I'll take the cast off. Here are some more painkillers – take one every four hours, and don't take more than four a day. The pain will go by the day after tomorrow. Go home now and make sure you rest your knee. You can use these crutches."

It was 2 a.m. and Casualty was as busy as a city centre pub. Marcus called a taxi and they went home.

Now read the story again more slowly, and mark the words you don't understand.

What do you think the words mean?

Check the words in your dictionary, or ask your classmates or teacher.

Exercises

1. How did Paul injure his knee?

2. Where was Paul when he injured his knee?

3. What details did Paul write on the form in the casualty department?

4. What treatment did Paul receive in the hospital?

5. What advice did the doctor give Paul?

The doctor told Paul to _____

6. Find 27 past tense verbs in this text and check the pronunciation with your partner.

1. <i>went</i>	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.
9.	10.	11.	12.
13.	14.	15.	16.
17.	18.	19.	20.
21.	22.	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.	