

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a paramedic? Join Wendy as she talks to some paramedics about the work they do.

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises to check your understanding. Remember you can read the transcript at any time.

Preparation: matching

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1..... pretend | a. a heart attack, sudden stopping of the heart |
| 2..... cardiac arrest | b. not real |
| 3..... portable | c. a lung condition which causes difficulty breathing |
| 4..... rewarding | d. car accidents |
| 5..... asthma | e. (in medicine) severe injuries |
| 6..... trauma | f. difficult to carry or handle because of weight or size |
| 7..... road traffic collisions | g. easy to carry |
| 8..... cumbersome | h. giving personal satisfaction |

1. Check your understanding: multiple choice

Circle the best word to complete these sentences.

- The National Health Service is paid for by **taxes** / patients / charities .
- Ambulance crews save lives thanks to **their skills and equipment** / their speed and training / their strategic position in the city .
- To be a paramedic, you have to study for **two years** / three years / five years .
- The trainee paramedics practise **on patients with less serious problems** / in real-life emergency situations / in pretend emergency situations .
- Emily's examples of medical emergencies are **burns, broken bones, or accidents at home or work** / serious illnesses, head injuries or allergies / breathing or heart problems, or car-crash injuries .
- After passing their exams, the paramedics can **start the practical training** / observe real-life emergencies / work in an ambulance .
- Carl says the most difficult jobs are **cardiac arrests** / trauma cases / those involving children .
- Carl's 'heart start machine' is **good because it's very portable** / the very latest technology / is not used very often, luckily .

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

receives	provides	spends	makes
give	pass	reports	get to

1. Wendy _____ the day with paramedics in Brighton.
2. When someone _____ a serious accident or emergency, the ambulance crews get there as fast as they can.
3. The Ambulance Service _____ thousands of emergency calls.
4. The National Health Service _____ free health care.
5. The paramedics' training _____ the difference between life and death.
6. Most paramedics study for three years to _____ the required exams.
7. The tutors watch and _____ feedback from the control room.
8. Carl normally works on his own and can _____ a patient first in the car.

Discussion

Would you like to be a paramedic? Why?/Why not?

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learnt in this lesson.