

Doctors Without Borders: Worldwide Medical Relief

A team of nurses in Angola fights to save lives during the worst African famine in decades. Another nurse motorcycles deep into the Congolese bush, searching for signs of outbreak of a rare medical condition.

(1) A group of physical therapists in Columbia works to *neutralize* the effects of injuries from street violence.

(2) Welcome to Doctors Without Borders, an international organization of medical professionals dedicated to *assuaging* suffering in emergency situations. The group was founded in 1971 by French doctors who believed that all people, wherever they may live, have the right to medical care.

When a crisis occurs, such as a war, an earthquake, or an epidemic, an experienced team arrives at the site with specially designed, prepackaged medical kits. (3) The kits contain supplies needed to *ameliorate* the specific problem at hand. The goal is to deliver care to sick or wounded patients, whatever the circumstances.

(4) Doctors Without Borders also helps people *preserve* their health. (5) The organization has raised awareness about sanitation issues, such as the need to *conserve* clean water. (6) At other times, the group helps *enrich* the diets of people who lack necessary nutrients. Some projects even include mental-health care.

(7) Psychological treatment helps trauma victims *redeem* their mental well-being.

Doctors Without Borders does not stop with medical assistance. Its workers are also dedicated to speaking out against some of the causes of the suffering

that they see. They protest violations of human-rights laws for people in poor or developing countries. They speak to governments, newspapers, and organizations such as the United Nations, raising awareness of the problems their patients face.

(8) After many years of work, Doctors Without Borders has *constructed* an international network. It has offices in eighteen countries and provides assistance in more than eighty lands. Each year, more than 2,500 staff members provide medical aid to victims of war and disasters, as well as to refugees. (9) To *enhance* its efforts, the organization employs 15,000 locally hired staff. (10) *Compensation* for these employees comes from money provided by foundations, businesses, governments, and nonprofit agencies.

Through its many good works, Doctors Without Borders helps bring medicine, treatment, and preventative care to people in need all around the world. In 1999, the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Its workers have shown that compassion for the needy can make a difference worldwide.



Each sentence below refers to a numbered sentence in the passage. Write the letter of the choice that gives the sentence a meaning that is closest to the original sentence.

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|----------|---|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| _____ 1. | A group of physical therapists in Columbia works to _____ the effects of injuries from street violence. | a. bring back | b. strongly maintain | c. pay for | d. make harmless |
| _____ 2. | Doctors Without Borders is dedicated to _____ suffering in emergency situations. | a. relieving | b. building | c. speaking about | d. protecting |
| _____ 3. | The kits contain supplies needed to _____ the specific problem at hand. | a. restore | b. help | c. waste | d. portray |
| _____ 4. | Doctors Without Borders also helps people _____ their health. | a. make rich | b. vastly improve | c. maintain | d. rest |

- _____ 5. The organization has raised awareness about the need to _____ clean water.
a. improve b. protect c. drink d. waste
- _____ 6. At other times, the group helps _____ the diets of people who lack necessary nutrients.
a. make tastier b. make better c. enlarge d. restore
- _____ 7. Psychological treatment helps trauma victims _____ their mental well-being.
a. restore b. build c. make rich d. treat
- _____ 8. Doctors Without Borders has _____ an international network.
a. made valuable b. torn down c. built d. improved
- _____ 9. To _____ its efforts, the organization employs 15,000 locally hired staff.
a. make up for b. pay for c. improve d. ruin
- _____ 10. _____ for these employees comes from money provided by foundations, businesses, governments, and nonprofit agencies.
a. Payment b. Prizes c. Relief d. Organization

Indicate whether the statements below are TRUE or FALSE according to the passage.

- _____ 1. Doctors Without Borders works only in African countries.
- _____ 2. The employees who work for Doctors Without Borders are all French.
- _____ 3. A major goal of Doctors Without Borders is speaking out against the causes of the suffering that they see.

WRITE THE DERIVATIVE

Complete the sentence by writing the correct form of the word shown in parentheses. You may not need to change the form that is given.

- _____ 1. Health benefits were a part of his _____ package. (*compensate*)
- _____ 2. In order to be _____, this rebate needs to be sent in by December 31. (*redeem*)
- _____ 3. Every summer, Grandma _____ peaches by cooking them with sugar and storing them in jars. (*preservation*)
- _____ 4. The mayor worked toward the _____ of security measures in all public buildings. (*enhance*)
- _____ 5. The teacher asked students to _____ poems using words formed from the letters in their names. (*constructive*)
- _____ 6. This medication works toward the _____ of stomach acid. (*neutralize*)
- _____ 7. The predictions of warm weather _____ the farmers' worries about frost. (*assuage*)
- _____ 8. Relief workers helped to _____ the suffering of those wounded in the earthquake. (*amelioration*)
- _____ 9. Turning off lights and electronic devices when not in use helps with the _____ of energy. (*conserve*)
- _____ 10. Traveling to foreign countries is an _____ experience. (*enrichment*)