# Unit 4

# THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

### Vocabulary

respiratory oddechowy take sth for granted przyjąć coś za pewnik get short of breath mieć zadyszkę be overwhelmed być przytłoczonym subconsciousły podświadomie survival przeżycie; utrzymanie się przy życiu

### A. Warm-up

We tend to take breathing for granted until we get short of breath one day. And when we cannot restore proper breathing fast, we are overwhelmed by fear as if we subconsciously realized that inhaling air is essential to our survival.

Working in pairs or threes try to answer the questions given below.

- 1. Why is respiration of vital importance for our organism?
- 2. What structural elements does the respiratory system consist of?
- 3. What other systems does the respiratory system cooperate with, why and how?

Compare and discuss your answers to sum up the information gathered.

# **B. Reading and Vocabulary Practice**

#### Task 1

Study the respiratory system anatomy related text. Complete the text with the words given in the box and then answer the questions below the text.

takes \* passes \* performs \* communicates (3) \* includes \* lines terminate \* open (2) \* equipped \* divided (3) \* covered separated \* situated \* located \* prevent \* formed \* surrounded

The respiratory system can be ...... into the upper respiratory tract and the lower respiratory tract. The former ...... the nose, the mouth, the pharynx and the larynx while the latter the trachea, the bronchial tree and the lungs. The nasal cavity..... with the external environment via the external nares and with the pharynx via the internal nares. There are four airfilled cavities called sinuses which ..... into the nasal cavity which is ...... from the oral cavity by the palate. The pharynx is ...... into three segments - the nasopharynx, the oropharynx and the larvngopharvnx. The nasopharynx ...... with the organ of hearing via the auditory tubes which ...... into it while the oropharynx communicates with the oral cavity. As the pharynx ..... also with the oesophagus, it is ...... with a flap of tissue called the epiglottis which closes to ....... food from entering the next structure of the respiratory tract, the larynx which is ...... by cartilages, muscles and ligaments. It is here that the vocal cords are ...... From the larynx, air passes into the trachea. The mucous membrane of the trachea with its goblet cells and cilia .......... a filtering and cleansing action with respect to particles inhaled with the air. The trachea ...... air to the lungs. Air ....... into the right and left primary bronchi and then into secondary and tertiary bronchi, branching into smaller and smaller passages, the bronchi which ...... in very small air sacs called alveoli within the lungs. The alveoli are ...... by a dense network of capillaries, ultimate branches of the pulmonary artery.

### Vocabulary

palate podniebienie a flap of tissue plat tkanki epiglottis nagłośnia communicate with połączyć się z vocal cords faldy glosowe naris nozdrze nares nozdrza larvnx krtań trachea tchawica goblet cell komórka kubkowa cilia rzeski alveolus pecherzyk bronchus oskrzele visceral pleura opłucna trzewna parietal pleura opłucna ścienna surfactant czynnik powierzchniowo czynny

The lungs are a paired structure ............ in the thorax, on either side of the heart, above the diaphragm. The right lung is ............. into three lobes – upper, middle and lower – while the left lung into two lobes – upper and lower. The surface of the lungs is .......... by the visceral pleura while the parietal pleura ...... the walls of the thoracic cavity. The space between the two is called the pleural cavity.

Answer the following questions concerning the anatomy of the respiratory tract.

- 1. How is the respiratory system divided?
- 2. What are the main components of the two subdivisions?
- 3. What other structures does the nasal cavity communicate with?
- 4. How is the pharynx built and how does it relate to the neighbouring structures?
- 5. What is the function of the epiglottis?
- 6. What specialized structure does the larynx contain?
- 7. What is the trachea equipped with and what functions does it perform?
- 8. What are the bronchi and where are they located?
- 9. Where do the respiratory and the circulatory system come into direct contact?
- 10. Where are the lungs located and how are they built?

## C. More Vocabulary Work

Study the respiratory system physiology related text.

### Task 2

Complete the text with the vocabulary given below and answer the questions below.

### PART ONE

supply • volume (2) • tension • muscles • walls • flow • gases • removal • stimulus • pressure (2) • action • diaphragm • movement

The respiratory system is concerned with the ...... of the body with oxygen and the ...... of carbon dioxide from the body. The process of inspiration and expiration is dependent on the ...... of respiratory muscles of the thorax and the diaphragm which increase and decrease the thoracic ...... Pressure differences between the atmosphere and the ...... inside the lungs make air ...... in and out. Air flows into the lungs when the diaphragm and intercostals muscles contract in response to a ....... sent from the brain and the ..... of the thoracic cavity increases which makes ...... in the thoracic cavity lower than atmospheric ........... The phase of inspiration is followed by the phase of expiration. As the ...... and the intercostal ..... relax, a decrease in thoracic volume increases the intrapulmonary pressure and air flows out. The ...... of the surfactant produced by cells present in the ...... of the alveoli reduces surface ........ and keeps the alveoli inflated and prevents them from collapsing.

- 1. What are the two gases exchanged in the process of respiration?
- 2. What is the process of inspiration and expiration propelled by?

### Vocabulary

inspiratory reserve volume objętość zapasowa wdechowa expiratory reserve volume objętość zapasowa wydechowa residual volume objętość zalegająca respiratory/vital capacity pojemność życiowa

- 3. What changes take place in the thoracic cavity during the process?
- 4. What is the action of the surfactant?

### PART TWO

tissues • capillaries • lungs • movement • artery • alveoli (2) • cells • veins • walls • expiration • organism • concentration • diffusion • oxygen • carbon dioxide

- Where and how does the exchange of carbon dioxide and oxygen occur?
- 2. How and which way is oxygen distributed throughout the body?
- 3. What does diffusion consist in and why is of vital importance?

#### PART THREE

respiratory • functional • inspiratory • age • built • maximal • vital • total • expiratory • residual • tidal • capacity • volume • after (2) • in • from •

Spirometry allows us to measure the four respiratory volumes distinguished: the tidal volume, the inspiratory reserve ........., the expiratory reserve volume and the residual volume. The ......... volume is the volume of air inspired and expired in one normal .......... cycle. The ......... reserve volume is the ....... amount of air that can be inhaled after the end of ......... inspiration. The ........ reserve volume is the maximal amount of air that can be forced ...... the lungs ....... normal expiration while the ........ volume is the amount of air remaining .... the lungs ...... maximal expiration. A sum of two or more volumes is referred to as a respiratory ........... Four respiratory capacities are distinguished: the ........ capacity, the inspiratory capacity, ....... residual capacity and ........ lung capacity. Lung volumes and capacities vary depending on ......, sex, body ...... and physical conditioning.

- 1. What information can spirometry provide?
- 2. What are the differences between the four types of respiratory volumes distinguished?
- 3. What is a respiratory capacity?
- 4. What are the four respiratory capacities distinguished?
- 5. What do respiratory volumes and capacities depend on?

### Task 3

Recap the contents of the passage (all the three parts).

- 4. The thoracic cavity and the organs of respiration it contains are well protected against physical injury.
- 5. The supply of oxygen may be compromised by the existence of some chronic conditions or predispositions.
- 6. Breathing difficulties need not cause particular concern.
- 7. Symptoms and signs of respiratory distress manifest themselves only in the rate of breathing.
- 8. Regular oxygen supply is vitally important to life.
- 9. Inadequate oxygen supply does not produce any changes in behaviour or communication.
- 10. Restoration of breathing comes first in all rescue actions.

### Task 6

Answer the following questions concerning the respiratory system emergencies.

- 1. What factors might bring about an exacerbation in respiratory difficulties?
- 2. What are the main causes of airway obstruction? What may cause airway obstruction in a conscious and an unconscious casualty?
- 3. Can you think of a number of injuries that might impair proper respiration?
- 4. Can you mention a few examples of medical conditions that are a constant threat to efficient supply of oxygen?
- 5. What is usually the most reliable indicator of the patient's severity of respiratory distress?
- 6. What are common signs and symptoms associated with respiratory distress?
- 7. What steps should be taken to help the casualty in a respiratory distress?
- 8. What are treatment priorities in case of respiratory distress?

- 9. How may impaired oxygenation affect the casualty?
- 10. What does CPR stand for?

# E. Vocabulary in Action

### Task 7

Ask the right question to obtain the given information.
1
I woke because I couldn't catch my breath. My heart was beating like mad. I was really frightened.
2
My husband is short of breath. He can hardly say a word. His hands are very cold and sort of bluish.
3
His chest is moving up and down very fast. He's also very pale.
4
Yes. The victim seems to have hit the steering wheel.
5
He can only breathe through the mouth. I'm afraid there's something in his nose.
6
No. I've never had any problems with breathing.
7
No. I'm afraid he's not breathing as far as I can tell.
8
I was going upstairs when I suddenly felt I was chocking. I felt very weak. I leaned on the railing. It passed but my wife insisted on calling an ambulance.

9	9. The casualty's rate of breathing is very slow, his RR is below 12 breaths per minute.
My daughter experienced her first asthmatic attack when she was five. This morning she started to wheeze and her breathing has	Paramedics report
progressively become worse.	10. A 12-year-old girl is grasping her neck. Her face is flushed. She is unable to breathe and utter even one word.
1 resition at his kitchen table. He is	She is suspected of
the state and can speak only in one word	Task 9
His extremities are pale and his face is flushed.	Complete the sentences with the English equivalents of the Polish
Task 8	words and phrases.
Replace colloquial expressions with medical terms.	1. There is evidence of
1. The patient's rate of breathing is very fast.	(uraz klatki piersiowej)
Severe is present.	2. The victim may have (złamane żebra)
2. The patient's hands are slightly bluish in colour.	3. The victim's respiration is and
A mild degree has	(utrudnione i płytkie)
t-an observed	4 of hands and feet is present.
3. The patient can't breathe with ease unless he sleeps on a few	(zaburzenia czucia)
nillows	5. There are no
There is a history of	6. The victim is but (zdezorientowany; przytomny z kontaktem)
4. The patient has recently been short of breath a few times.	7. There is no (widoczna sinica)
There is a recent history of	
5. I cannot communicate with the patient.	8. The patient reports and prior to the respiratory distress. (tepy ból i uczucie ucisku
The patient is	w klatce piersiowej)
6. The patient does not seem to know where he is and what has	9. The casualty during a severe attack of asthma may suffer from
hannened	(zaburzenia w oddychaniu)
The patient is	and
7. The victim complains of dull chest pain.	10. The victim experienced (ostry napad
The victim reports	astmy oskrzelowej). She had
8. The victim's chest is evidently rising.	(częstość oddechowa 44 oddechy na minutę)
Chest is increased.	

# F. Listening Practice & Dialogue Completion

### Task 10

Listen and complete the dialogues between the caller (C) and the dispatcher (D).

Dialogue 1 materials white the English and the sentence and the 9	
C: I need your help. There's a man here or rather on a bench. Apparently he's got problems with He's trying to breathe through his but it looks as if it's not	
D: How old is the man?	
C: He must be well	
D: Can he speak?	
C. No. I've tried to ask him but he doesn't	
D: Can you smell from him?	
C. No. certainly not.	
D: Can you see any external?	
C: No.	
D: Any signs of?	
C: No. D: And who's calling? Can I have your name? And also where a	are
-13	
you exactly?  C: I'm Ben Porter. And we're in this little park the p	ost
office instreet.	

### Dialogue 2



C:	I'm calling about my Something's happened to
	her. I can't her up.
D:	Is she?
	I think so. Her's moving but she's very and she looks sort of You know what I mean.

D: What's your name? How old are you	D:
--------------------------------------	----

C: ,	Jack. I'm	Му	parents	are	 and	so	is
	our neighbour.						

D:	And	what's you	ır address?	ľll	send	somebody	to	help	your
	gran	dmother.							

C:	 	Please,	hurry.

### Task 11

Recap the information to the ambulance crew to be sent to the site of the accident.

### Task 12

Complete the dialogue between the caller (C) and the dispatcher (D) and mark the statements below T (true) or F (false). Correct the false ones.

use speak ask where puffer exact calling

- C: I'm calling from a bus stop. There's a man here. He's gasping for breath and he seems to have a chest pain.
- D: ..... are you ..... from? Give me the ..... address and your name, please.
- C: We're in Exeter Road near the corner of Oak Street, across the street from the ABC Hypermarket. We were both running to catch a bus. That's when it happened.

- D: I see. Can the man ...........? Can you ...... him if he has asthma?
- C: He can't speak. But ... oh ... he's fumbling for something in his pocket.
- D: It may be his ...... If it is, help him to ..... it. The ambulance will be with you in a few minutes.
- 1. The call is from the victim's relative.
- 2. The victim was hit by a car.
- 3. The victim complains of thoracic pain.
- 4. The victim is in near a hypermarket in Oak Street.
- 5. The victim has breathing difficulties.
- 6. It may be a chronic problem for the victim.

Recap the information to the ambulance crew to be sent to the site of the emergency.

### Task 13

Complete the dialogue between the caller (C) and the dispatcher (D) and mark the statements below T (true) or F (false). Correct the false ones.

developed « given » taken » sending » come » in bed » healthy suddenly . fever

- C: My daughter's very ill. She has difficulty breathing. And she's all flushed with fever.
- D: Did it ...... on .....?
- C: She's been ..... since yesterday evening. I thought it was just a common cold but in the night she ..... a very bad cough.
- D: How old is your daughter?
- C: She's only 2 and a half. She's always been a ..... child.

- D: Have you ..... her any medicine?
- C: Just cough syrup a few times and aspirin but they didn't help
- D: I'm ...... an ambulance. What's your name? ...... And your address? ...... What about ...... Have you ..... her temperature?
- C: Yes. It was mild yesterday but now she's burning up. It must be really high.

### True of false?

- 1. The call is about a female patient.
- 2. The patient complains of severe dyspnoea.
- 3. The patient has been ill for two days.
- 4. The patient's mother thought it was nothing serious.
- 5. The patient is 12 years old.
- 6. The medication given to the patient has not improved her condition.

Recap the information to the ambulance crew to be sent to the site of the emergency.

## G. Follow-up

### Task 14

Prepare a mini-presentation on disorders and emergencies involving the respiratory system. Say what information the dispatcher and the ambulance crew should collect from the victim or witness, what they should give particular attention to.

### Task 15

Prepare a list of questions the patient or the patient's relative or the caller/witness should be asked.

### Task 16

Simulate similar situations involving receiving information about an emergency and passing it on to the ambulance crew.

# THE GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM

### A. Warm-up

Eating and drinking is as natural as breathing. When we are denied access to food and drink we feel hungry and thirsty. Without an adequate provision with adequate nutrients in both solid and liquid form the human organism must die.

Working in pairs or threes try to answer the questions given

- 1. What are the functions of the gastrointestinal system?
- 2. What structural elements does the gastrointestinal system consist of?
- 3. What other systems does the gastrointestinal system cooperate with, why and how?

Compare and discuss your answers to sum up the information gathered.