

Talk a Lot

Hospital – Which hospital would you close?

Student A

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about four hospitals. Which hospital would you give £5m extra funding to, and which one would you close? Why?

	St. Cuthbert's Green	King's Royal Infirmary
Location / Date Opened	Rural area / 1961	
Specialism		Teaching medical students
# Beds / # Staff / # Patient Visits per Year	80 / 224 / 52,430	
Avg. Waiting Time for Operations		7 months
Customer Satisfaction Level	*****	
Avg. Waiting Time at A & E	No A & E department	
Avg. Ambulance Response Time		8 mins

	City University Hospital	Penbrook and District
Location / Date Opened		Suburbs / 1978
Specialism	World-famous hand unit	
# Beds / # Staff / # Patient Visits per Year		850 / 2,561 / 285,150
Avg. Waiting Time for Operations	5 months	
Customer Satisfaction Level		*****
Avg. Waiting Time at A & E		55 mins
Avg. Ambulance Response Time	11 mins	

Student B

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about four hospitals. Which hospital would you give £5m extra funding to, and which one would you close? Why?

	St. Cuthbert's Green	King's Royal Infirmary
Location / Date Opened		An average-sized city / 2000
Specialism	Health Care of the Elderly	
# Beds / # Staff / # Patient Visits per Year		824 / 2,135 / 240,890
Avg. Waiting Time for Operations	9 months	
Customer Satisfaction Level		*****
Avg. Waiting Time at A & E		3 hours 40 mins
Avg. Ambulance Response Time	17 mins	

	City University Hospital	Penbrook and District
Location / Date Opened	A major city / 1884	
Specialism		Maternity care
# Beds / # Staff / # Patient Visits per Year	1,460 / 4,690 / 687,129	
Avg. Waiting Time for Operations		11 months
Customer Satisfaction Level	*****	
Avg. Waiting Time at A & E	2 hours 15 mins	
Avg. Ambulance Response Time		9 mins

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Information Exchange

Answers

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Task: "Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about four hospitals. Which hospital would you give £5m extra funding to, and which one would you close? Why?"

	St. Cuthbert's Green	King's Royal Infirmary
Location / Date Opened	Rural area / 1961	An average-sized city / 2000
Specialism	Health Care of the Elderly	Teaching medical students
# Beds / # Staff / # Patient Visits per Year	80 / 224 / 52,430	824 / 2,135 / 240,890
Avg. Waiting Time for Operations	9 months	7 months
Customer Satisfaction Level	*****	*****
Avg. Waiting Time at A & E	No A & E department	3 hours 40 mins
Avg. Ambulance Response Time	17 mins	8 mins

	City University Hospital	Penbrook and District
Location / Date Opened	A major city / 1884	Suburbs / 1978
Specialism	World-famous hand unit	Maternity care
# Beds / # Staff / # Patient Visits per Year	1,460 / 4,690 / 687,129	850 / 2,561 / 285,150
Avg. Waiting Time for Operations	5 months	11 months
Customer Satisfaction Level	*****	*****
Avg. Waiting Time at A & E	2 hours 15 mins	55 mins
Avg. Ambulance Response Time	11 mins	9 mins

"Which hospital would you give £5m extra funding to, and which one would you close? Why?" Answers will vary. For this activity students could imagine that they held a cabinet position in government, and had to decide the fates of two of these hospitals. Ensure that they produce good reasons for their choices – why they would give funding to one particular hospital, but not the others, and why they would close one particular hospital, but not the others. For example: "I would give £5m extra funding to King's Royal Infirmary, because I want them to continue their important work teaching medical students." And... "I would close St. Cuthbert's Green, because you have to wait a long time to have an operation, and the ambulance response time is too long." Or... "Because it has the fewest staff..." Or... "I wouldn't close King's Royal Infirmary because it's a fairly new hospital." [etc.]

Sample Questions

Where is _____ located?
When did _____ open?
What is _____'s specialism?
How many beds does _____ have?
How many staff does _____ have?
How many people work at _____?
How many patients are treated at _____ per year?

What is the average waiting time for operations at _____?
What is the customer satisfaction level at _____?
What is the average waiting time at A & E at _____?
What is the average ambulance response time at _____?

Sample Answers

In _____.
It opened in _____.
_____ 's specialism is _____.
It has _____ beds.
It has _____ staff.
_____ people work at _____.
_____ patients are treated at _____ per year.
_____.
_____ out of five stars.
_____.
_____.

Examples

What is King's Royal Infirmary's specialism?
How many staff does Penbrook and District have?

King's Royal Infirmary's specialism is teaching medical students.
It has 2,561 staff.

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What is the customer satisfaction level at St. Cuthbert's Green?	Four out of five stars.
What is the average waiting time at A & E at City University Hospital?	Two hours fifteen minutes.
[etc.]	

Extension: you could try to encourage some comparative/superlative questions and sentences too, for example:

Which hospital has the shortest waiting time at A & E?	Penbrook and District has...
Which is the oldest hospital?	City University Hospital is...
Which hospital has the highest customer satisfaction level?	Penbrook and District has...
[etc.]	

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