

► Part One: Reading comprehension

Directions: Read the following passages carefully. Each one is followed by several questions about it. Choose the one best answer, (a), (b), (c), (d) to each question.

▶ Passage 1

Alternative medicine is, by definition, an alternative to something else: modern, Western medicine. But the term 'alternative' can be misleading, even off-putting for some people. Few practitioners of homeopathy, acupuncture, herbalist and the like regard their therapies as complete substitutes for modern medicine, Rather, they consider their disciplines as supplementary to orthodox medicine. The problem is that many doctors refuse even to recognize 'natural' or alternative medicine. This requires a radically different view of health, illness and cure. But whatever doctors may think, the demand for alternative form of medical therapy is stronger than ever before, as the limitations of modern medical science become more widely understood.

Alternative therapies are often dismissed by orthodox medicine because they are sometimes administered by people with no formal medical training. But, in comparison with many traditional therapies, Western medicine as we know it today is a very recent phenomenon. Until only 150 years ago, herbal medicine and simple inorganic compounds were the most effective treatments available.

Despite the medical establishment's intolerant attitude, alternative therapies are being accepted by more and more doctors, and the World Health Organization has agreed to promote the integration of proven, valuable, 'alternative' knowledge and skills, in Western medicine.

1- According to the passage, conventional doctors reject alternative therapy since

- a. patients have not been satisfied with it
- b. its practitioners are sometimes not an academically qualified
- c. it is rather off-putting and sometimes misleading
- d. it has failed to be beneficial

2- According to the text, the term 'alternative' is

- a. increasingly established
- b. rather ambiguous
- c. appropriately defined
- d. quite comprehensive

3- Few practitioners of alternative medicine think their therapies should

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- a. be substituted for modern medicine
- b. be repeated by the medical establishments
- c. be a complement to modern medicine
- d. be refused by modern health care systems

4- Western medicine

- a. has approved many traditional therapy practices
- b. is comparatively a recent occurrence
- c. has its practitioners change their attitudes
- d. was derived from alternative medicine

5- The World Health Organization

- a. is biased against alternative medicine
- b. has an intolerant attitude towards alternative medicine
- c. is going to train more alternative therapists
- d. approves of valid alternative medicine practices