

**09 A terrible future could be on the horizon, a future which rips one of the greatest tools of medicine out of the hands of doctors.**

*"I grew up on antibiotics. Every ailment - sore throats, earaches, flus - warranted a trip to the doctor and in most cases some kind of prescription." Carre Otis*

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ailment _____	plot (of a film) _____	breakthrough _____
prescription _____	warrant sth _____	novel method _____
appendix _____	genuine _____	deem sth _____
cancer treatment _____	head somewhere _____	haul _____
organ transplant _____	unabated (pain) _____	tip of the iceberg _____
drug-resistant _____	evoke (feelings) _____	heyday _____
tuberculosis _____	wily foe _____	teem with sth _____
microbe _____	drought _____	permeate sth _____

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### Possible Future

A simple cut to your finger could leave you **(1)**.... Luck will play a bigger role in your future than any doctor could. The most basic operations - getting an appendix removed or a hip replacement - could become deadly. Cancer treatments and organ transplants could kill you. Childbirth could once again become a deadly moment in a woman's life. It's a future without antibiotics.

This might read like the **(2)**... - but there is genuine fear that the world is heading into a post-antibiotic era. The World Health Organization has warned that "many common infections will no longer have a cure and, once again, could kill unabated". The US Centers of Disease Control has pointed to the emergence of "nightmare bacteria". And the chief medical officer for England Prof Dame Sally Davies has evoked parallels with the "apocalypse".

Antibiotics kill bacteria, **(3)**.... Once you start treating them with a new drug, they find ways of surviving. New drugs are needed, which they then find ways to survive.

### Novel Method

**(4)**... could be over after a breakthrough by US scientists. Their novel method for growing bacteria has yielded 25 new antibiotics, with one deemed "very promising". The last new class of antibiotics to make it to clinic was discovered nearly three decades ago.

The study, in the journal *Nature*, has been described as a "game-changer" and experts believe the antibiotic haul is just the "tip of the iceberg". The heyday of antibiotic discovery **(5)**..., but nothing found since 1987 has made it into doctor's hands. Since then microbes have become incredibly resistant. Extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis ignores nearly everything medicine can throw at it.

### Back to soil

The researchers, at the Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, turned to the source of nearly all antibiotics -

soil. This is teeming with microbes, but only 1% can be grown in the laboratory. (6)... One bacterium was placed in each "room" and the whole device was buried in soil.

It allowed the unique chemistry of soil to permeate the room, but kept the bacteria in place for study. The lead scientist, Prof Kim Lewis, said: "So far 25 new antibiotics have been discovered using this method and teixobactin is the latest and most promising one.

- |   |                                             |   |                                        |
|---|---------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------|
| A | plot of a science fiction novel             |   | bacteria                               |
| B | was in the 1950s and 1960s                  | E | The decades-long drought in antibiotic |
| C | fighting for your life                      |   | discovery                              |
| D | The team created a "subterranean hotel" for | F | but the bugs are incredibly wily foes  |

Complete the sentences with: *ailment, prescription, tuberculosis, microbe, warrant, head, unabated, evoke, novel method, deem, haul, permeate*.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ is a serious infectious disease in which swellings appear on the lungs and other parts of the body.
- 2) An \_\_\_\_\_ is an illness that is not very serious.
- 3) Antibiotics are only available on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Further investigation is clearly \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) The music \_\_\_\_\_ memories of her youth.
- 6) The smell of cigar smoke \_\_\_\_\_ the room.
- 7) Can you forecast where the economy is \_\_\_\_\_?
- 8) The wagons were \_\_\_\_\_ by horses.
- 9) A \_\_\_\_\_ is an extremely small living thing that you can only see under a microscope and that may cause disease.
- 10) The rain continued \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11) The evening was \_\_\_\_\_ a great success.

- |                                                                    |                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Wycięto mi wyrostek robaczkowy. ( <i>appendix</i> )             | 6) W rezultacie suszy, zbiory będą słabe. ( <i>drought</i> )              |
| _____                                                              | _____                                                                     |
| 2) Niektóre bakterie są odporne na leki. ( <i>drug-resistant</i> ) | 7) Ostatnie afery są tylko wierzchołkiem góry lodowej. ( <i>iceberg</i> ) |
| _____                                                              | _____                                                                     |
| 3) Nie podobała mi się fabuła tego filmu. ( <i>plot</i> )          | 8) Lata 90 były okresem pełnego rozkwitu muzyki disco. ( <i>heyday</i> )  |
| _____                                                              | _____                                                                     |
| 4) To jest autentyczny obraz Picassa. ( <i>genuine</i> )           |                                                                           |
| _____                                                              |                                                                           |
| 5) Uważaj na niego! (on) jest bardzo przebiegły! ( <i>wily</i> )   |                                                                           |
| _____                                                              |                                                                           |