

Exercises

4.1. Exercise

A. Match the modifiers on the left with the crossword puzzle definitions on the right.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Typical 2. Efficient 3. Huge 4. Reliable 5. Virtually 6. To a certain extent 7. Thoroughly 8. Roughly 9. Outstanding 10. Widespread 11. Basically 12. Hardly any | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Quite exceptional – you just can't class it with the others b. Almost c. A little more than nothing – but not much d. Could be more, could be less – not much precision here e. Within limits f. Completely, carefully and conscientiously g. Conforms totally to expectations – zero surprise h. The capitalist's dream – maximum work, minimum waste i. All over the place – ubiquitous in fact j. Not just big – a macro-dimension k. You can count on this – it will never let you down l. To start at the beginning or, more accurately, to go right down to the foundations |
|--|---|

B. Insert the above modifiers into one of the phrases below.

1. Farms are most when they comprise a thousand hectares or more.
2. Although it has a population, China has successfully reduced both fertility and mortality.
3., there are four types of language in Europe.
4. Historical records of earthquakes before the middle of the 18th century are not
5. There is still fear that genetically modified viruses might escape from the laboratory.
6. A human being requires 3,000 calories a day.
7. Intra-species fighting can be observed in all vertebrates.
8. Osteoporosis (thinning of the bones) is a example of an age-related disease.
9. Military trainee pilots are very prepared.
10. From a technological point of view, Concorde has been an success.
11. There are tigers left – they'll soon be extinct.
12., I agree with you.

4.2. Maps, medicine and cholera

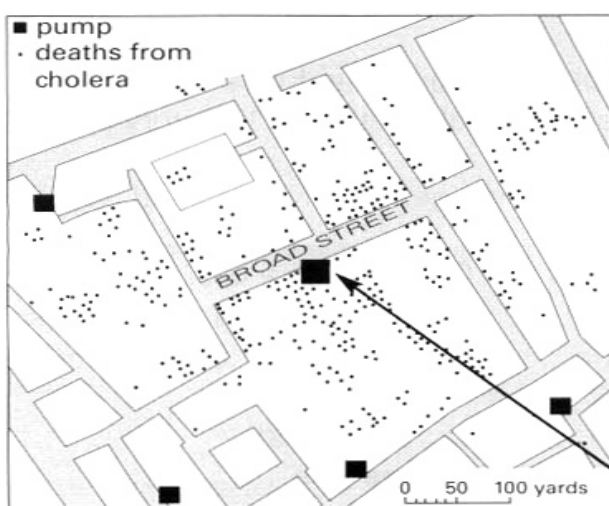
The statistics for third world infant mortality show only too well the close connection that there is between medicine and geography. The text below describes one of the first and most famous examples of spatial geography.

- Replace the words in **bold** with modifiers from the list: ALMOST ▪ MINUTE ▪ LEADING ▪ RELIABLE ▪ REAL ▪ HUGE ▪ EXCEEDINGLY ▪ ENTIRELY ▪ BARELY ▪ ACUTE ▪ HARDLY ▪ CAREFUL ▪ APPROPRIATE ▪ PRACTICALLY.

From the moment that coal became the main raw material for power supplies, the industrial revolution was characterised by the massive expansion of the new towns as hundreds and thousands of unskilled workers left the countryside, drawn by the promise of work in the new industrial centres. Towns sprang up from **virtually** nothing and within a span of 30 or 40 years **tiny** villages had grown to become **major** industrial centres.

LIFE EXPECTANCY AND INFANT MORTALITY COMPARATIVE DATA

	Period	Life expectancy	Infant mortality
France	1990s	78.5	6‰
India	"	60	60
Papua	"	57	60
Yemen	"	49	130
England	1600	42	–
Liverpool	1841	–	259
Manchester	1843	24	–



starter

- The table below gives comparative figures for life expectancy in different places and at different times. Before reading the text try to suggest potential explanations for the English figures.

However, in the 19th century, Britain was neither socially, politically, technologically nor scientifically prepared for such a **massive** change. It must be remembered that the new populations flooded into the towns at a time when there was **practically** no public transport. The direct outcome of this was that workers were obliged to dwell near their work places resulting in **extremely** high population densities around the mines and factories. To make matters worse, centralised government and the notion of town planning **hardly** yet existed in Europe which meant that there were no laws setting minimum standards for housing, space and sanitation. The new overcrowded slums¹ were built without any **proper** means of disposing of the vast volume of sewage and waste, as the relevant technology had not yet

The famous map by Dr John Snow shows the connection between the London cholera infection and a single polluted water **pump** in Broad street.

1 Slum: poor, dirty, overcrowded urban area.

been developed. **Efficient** steam pumping engines capable of evacuating the sewage only came into use in the 1840s and the metallurgists lacked the **relevant** know-how which would have permitted the mass production of iron pipes with joints that could withstand the high pressures.

Urban society has also a **crucial** need for great quantities of drinking water, but here again, little had changed since the Romans. It was thus inevitable that the traditional underground wells should become contaminated. But, once more, there was a deficit in knowledge. In those days, medicine was **scarcely** more than a folk art. Doctors had little understanding of disease and were **utterly** ignorant of how infections were transmitted. In 1854, there was an outbreak of cholera in London. John Snow, a London doctor, carried out a **thorough** spatial analysis and, by plotting the cases on a map, was able to demonstrate how the epidemic in central London was linked to the Broad street water pump. Only then, was it understood that cholera must be a water borne disease. The solution was extremely simple; the handle was removed from the pump and the epidemic died out.