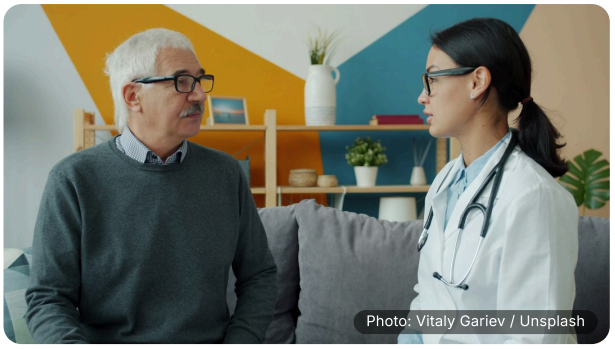
GPs launch winter support in England

LEVEL A2/B1


Photo: Vitaly Gariev / Unsplash

I. WARM-UP

1. What do you do to stay healthy in winter?
2. Have you ever had a check-up with a GP? What happened?
3. Who helps vulnerable people in your community?

II. KEY VOCABULARY

vulnerable
at higher risk of harm or illness and needing extra help

frailty
weakness, often in older people, that makes daily life harder

scheme
an organised plan by a group or government

review
a careful check of something to see if changes are needed

respiratory
about breathing and the lungs

prevent
to stop something bad from happening

admission
the act of going into hospital for care

budget
the amount of money planned for a purpose

III. READING

England's NHS will fund a £40m scheme this winter to help people stay well at home. GP surgeries will offer extra support to 300,000 vulnerable patients, especially those living with frailty and long-term conditions. Family doctors will give health checks, medication reviews and respiratory tests.

This should find problems early and prevent avoidable hospital admissions. Groups of GP practices can use £126 for every eligible patient they support under the scheme. The money comes from existing GP budgets for 2026–27.

The prime minister said the plan focuses on patients with heart disease, frailty and lung conditions such as COPD. Prof Victoria Tzortziou Brown of the Royal College of GPs welcomed the focus on prevention. But she said general practice also needs longer-term, sustainable investment.

Reading text adapted from reporting by **The Guardian***: "GPs to offer 300,000 patients extra support...". Original article linked at theenglishwire.com.*

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How much money will fund the scheme?
2. How many patients will get extra support from GPs?
3. What three services will family doctors offer?
4. How much can practices use per eligible patient?
5. Who welcomed the focus on prevention?

V. DISCUSSION

1. Why do many people get sick in winter? Give one or two reasons.
2. How can check-ups prevent a hospital visit?
3. Would you like more GP services in the community? Why or why not?
4. What simple tips help vulnerable neighbours stay well?

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Some/any/much/many

Use some in positive statements. Use any in negatives and questions. many + plural count noun; much + uncountable noun (in positives use a lot of).

"GPs offer **some support** *this winter."*
"Do practices have **many patients** *with COPD?"*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

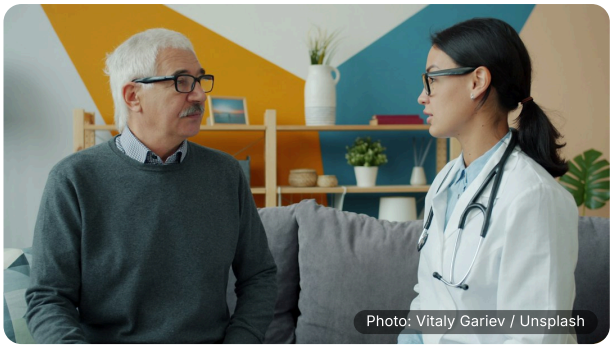
Choose the correct option in each sentence.

1. Are there (any / some) clinics open this weekend? _____
2. GPs don't have (much / many) time with each patient. _____
3. Practices run (many / much) extra flu clinics. _____
4. Did patients get (some / any) letters about the plan? _____
5. Staff provided (any / some) guidance before visits. _____

Teacher's Notes

TEACHERS ONLY

These notes are designed to help you get the most out of this lesson. Please do not share this page with students.


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I. LESSON GUIDE

- Timing: 8–10 minutes warm-up, 8–10 minutes vocabulary, 10 minutes reading, 8–10 minutes comprehension, 8–10 minutes grammar, 10 minutes discussion.
- Pre-teach key items from the text: NHS, GP, vulnerable, frailty, COPD, respiratory. Use quick CCQs to confirm meaning.
- Run a skim-read first (What is the new plan?); then a second read to find numbers (£40m, 300,000, £126). For discussion, note the topic is personal health; allow students to speak generally, not about private medical details.
- Differentiation: Lower-level learners underline the three GP services before questions; stronger learners summarise the scheme in 3 sentences including all numbers.

II. DISCUSSION FACILITATION TIPS

1. Elicit weather, indoor time, and viruses; ask for examples from students' lives.
2. Guide students to link early tests to fewer admissions; prompt with 'find problems early'.
3. Do a quick show of hands, then pair students with different views to exchange reasons.
4. Make a class list of simple actions (flu jab, warm home); prompt for one reason each.

III. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Writing: Write a 70-word message from a GP surgery explaining the new winter support.

Role-play: In pairs, act out a GP check-up: patient asks about winter worries; doctor gives advice.

IV. ANSWER KEY OVERVIEW

Comprehension questions: short factual answers from the text.

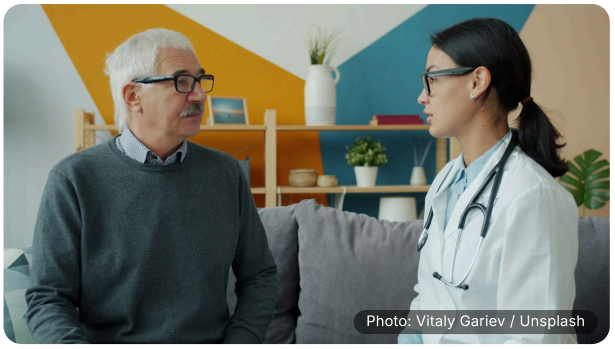
Grammar exercise: Some/any/much/many

Discussion: open-ended. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

Answer Key

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Photo: Vitaly Gariev / Unsplash

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How much money will fund the scheme?
   £40m
2. How many patients will get extra support from GPs?
   300,000 people
3. What three services will family doctors offer?
   Health checks, medication reviews, and respiratory tests
4. How much can practices use per eligible patient?
   £126 per eligible patient
5. Who welcomed the focus on prevention?
   Prof Victoria Tzortziou Brown

V. DISCUSSION

Open answers. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Choose the correct option in each sentence.

1. Are there (any / some) clinics open this weekend? **any**
2. GPs don't have (much / many) time with each patient. **much**
3. Practices run (many / much) extra flu clinics. **many**
4. Did patients get (some / any) letters about the plan? **any**
5. Staff provided (any / some) guidance before visits. **some**

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Key point: Use some in positive statements. Use any in negatives and questions. many + plural count noun; much + uncountable noun (in positives use a lot of). (Examples constructed.)

*"GPs offer **some support** this winter."*

*"Do practices have **many patients** with COPD?"*