



Chinese coronavirus 2019

Lesson plan – Upper-Intermediate



WARM-UP

Which of the following words and phrases can you see on the pictures above? In which way are they related to Chinese coronavirus 2019?

the WHO pandemic acute respiratory disease contagious
global concern virus strain isolation ward spread of virus confirmed case
cure epidemic develop pneumonia



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VOCABULARY

1. Match the words and phrases with their meanings:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. an outbreak of disease | a) origin of something |
| 2. novel | b) the beginning of illness spreading |
| 3. end up in hospital | c) serious situations or illnesses |
| 4. severe cases | d) the number of deaths resulting from a particular cause |
| 5. source | e) transfer |
| 6. fight off a virus | f) brand new |
| 7. transmit | g) therapy aimed at overcoming an illness |
| 8. treatment | h) get to the medical institution because of health problems |
| 9. death toll | i) deal with some illness |

2. Answer the questions:

- A. What are the most common reasons for people ending up in a hospital?
- B. What's the difference between a mild cold and severe flu?
- C. When it could be difficult for the immune system to fight off a virus?
- D. What are the ways in which diseases can be transmitted?
- E. What's the death rate from the flu?
- F. What common cold or flu treatment do you normally take?



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VIDEO

Following the first **reports of cases** of acute respiratory syndrome in the Chinese Wuhan municipality at the end of December 2019, Chinese authorities have **identified** a novel coronavirus as the main **causative agent**. The outbreak has rapidly **evolved** affecting other parts of China and outside the country.

1. You're about to watch a video about the novel coronavirus. First read the information above and complete the gaps. How do you think, what the words in bold mean?

- What happened?
- Where?
- When?

2. Match the halves of the sentences. Then watch the video and check your answers:

- | | |
|--|--|
| a) This is an outbreak of ... | 1. ...disease that started in Wuhan. |
| b) People have gone to ... | 2. ... are ending up in hospitals with this. |
| c) It's believed that the source ... | 3. ... antibiotics won't work. |
| d) It's older people who ... | 4. ...was actually a seafood market. |
| e) Those who have died tend actually ... | 5. ... to have underlying conditions. |
| f) Their immune system ... | 6. ... is not very robust. |
| g) Because this is a virus, ... | 7. ...develop the viral pneumonia. |



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3. Watch the [video](#) again and answer the questions:

- A. What are the symptoms of coronavirus?
- B. What is considered a source of this virus?
- C. What category of people are in the most danger?
- D. What are the underlying conditions of those who have died?
- E. How is this virus transmitted?
- F. What treatment is available?
- G. How serious is this outbreak compared to others in the past?

SPEAKING

1. Look through the list of actions which the USA have taken in order to prevent the spreading of virus. Complete the sentences with the words below:

bar quarantine subject impose funnel

1. The Trump administration _____ temporary travel restrictions that _____ entry into the United States by any foreign national who has traveled to China in the past 14 days.
2. Any United States citizen returning home who has been in the Hubei province of China within the past 14 days _____ for up to 14 days.
3. Those who have been to other parts of China within the past 14 days will _____ to “proactive entry screening” and up to 14 days of monitoring and self-quarantine.
4. The United States _____ all flights from China to just a few airports, including Kennedy Airport, Chicago’s O’Hare and San Francisco International Airport.



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2. Which of them do you find the most/the least effective? Which measures did your country take? What else could be done?

3. Discuss:

- What's your opinion of the information from this lesson? How serious is the situation?
- “Coronavirus: Fear of a pandemic, or a pandemic of fear?” – What do you think?
- During epidemic and other global issue there appears a huge amount of fabricated information. How can people apply critical thinking to filter information?
- In case of public health emergency caused by virus spread, what should be the reaction of:
 - Government?
 - Citizens?
 - Travellers
 - Healthcare institutions?
- Despite the troubling context, people are making memes of the virus. How ethical do you find such jokes?
- What could be the economic consequences of the coronavirus?