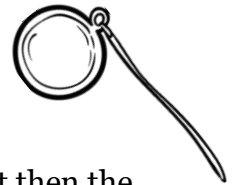


## Ship's Surgeon Quiz

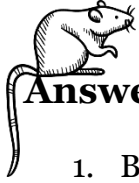
You are the ship's surgeon on the *SS Great Britain*. Some of the passengers and crew are suffering from horrible illnesses, and it's your job to take care of them. Can you figure out what is wrong with them?

1. It is the first day of the voyage and passengers from all different classes are being sick! What do you think is causing it?  
A – Food poisoning. The queasy passengers have probably all eaten some bad meat.  
B – Seasickness. They are likely to feel better when they find their sea legs.  
C – Gastric fever. This infection of the gut can cause vomiting.
2. A male passenger has lost a lot of weight. He also has a cough and is finding it difficult to breathe. Today he started coughing up blood. What is happening to him?  
A – He has tuberculosis (known more often as consumption in the 19<sup>th</sup> century)  
B – He has pneumonia.  
C – He has lost weight too quickly and it is making him ill.
3. A young boy has a red rash on his face, a fever and a runny nose. What illness does he have?  
A – A cold  
B – Cholera  
C – Measles
4. A woman was feeling tired and feverish, with lots of red spots. But then the spots became full of pus. What is happening to her?  
A – She had a case of measles that is now healing.  
B – She has smallpox.  
C – She has chickenpox.
5. Several crew members have developed a high temperature, stomach pain, and a rash of pink spots on their bodies. All the affected crew members have been using the same toilet. What illness do they have?  
A – The flu  
B – Mumps  
C – Typhoid fever



See how you've done on the next page!





## Answers:

1. B.  
Seasickness was common at the beginning of voyages when passengers were not used to the rocking of the ship. Since passengers from all classes are affected, it is less likely to be food poisoning because different classes ate different food.
2. A.  
Tuberculosis is a contagious disease that destroys the lungs. It was the most commonly reported cause of death on the *SS Great Britain*.
3. C.  
While a runny nose on its own might mean a cold, the red rash means he is more likely to have measles. There was no vaccine for measles in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, so you better keep him away from other passengers to make sure they don't catch it.
4. B.  
Luckily, there was a vaccine for smallpox available in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Make sure the other passengers get vaccinated, so the disease doesn't spread.
5. C.  
Typhoid fever is caused by eating food or drinking water containing the typhoid bacteria, or by touching a toilet that an infected person has used.

## How did you do?

0 or 1: You're not ready to be a ship's surgeon just yet. Read "Common illnesses on the *SS Great Britain*" and have another go

2 or 3: Good effort, a bit more training and you'll make a good surgeon

4 or 5: Congratulations, the lucky passengers and crew are in safe hands.

