

# OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST

WRITING SUB-TEST: MEDICINE

TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES  
WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

Read the case notes below and complete the writing task which follows.

## Notes:

You are a doctor at Stillwater Private Practice. You are examining a 70-year-old woman who believes she has worsening arthritis.

### Patient details

**Name:** Mrs Carol Potter

**DOB:** 30.12.1947

**Address:** 21 Gumtree Road  
Stillwater

**Medical history:** 2008 Osteoarthritis (OA) – mostly of hands & knees  
2015 Hypertension (HT) – well controlled  
2016 Skin cancer removed  
2016 Insomnia – 2 years, intermittent  
Urinary tract infections (UTIs) – intermittent

**Medications:** Ramipril 5mg daily  
Panadol Osteo (extended release paracetamol) 2 tablets t.d.s.  
Temazepam 10mg nocte p.r.n.

**Family history:** Mother – breast cancer

**Social background:** Administrative assistant (retired)

**Presenting complaint:** ↑ Pain in L knee with walking for last 12 months. Now quite severe – not relieved by regular Panadol Osteo. Pain can even occur at rest after a long walk.

### Treatment record

23.02.18

**Subjective:** No joint swelling/redness  
No recent injury to knee  
R knee – some pain on walking, not nearly as bad as L knee

**On examination:** Evidence of ↓ ROM of L knee due to pain  
No swelling  
Tender to pressure along joint

**Treatment:** Referral for X-ray of L knee, blood tests  
Review appointment to discuss results tomorrow  
Prescribe pain relief – naproxen 250mg b.d.

24.02.18

- Test results:**
- X-ray: Evidence of severe OA in L knee – osteophytes and loss of joint space  
Patella appears normal  
No evidence of fractures
  - Blood: FBE, UEC (normal)
- Assessment:** Likely worsening OA
- Treatment:** Arrange physiotherapy  
↑Analgesia  
Referral for surgical consultation – ? knee joint replacement

### Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter of referral to Dr Waters, a surgeon at Stillwater Private Hospital, for a surgical consultation. Address the letter to Dr Leigh Waters, Surgeon, Stillwater Private Hospital, 54 Main Street, Stillwater.

**In your answer:**

- **Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences**
- **Do not use note form**
- **Use letter format**

**The body of the letter should be approximately 180–200 words.**