

Complete the text using words from the box. There are THREE words you will not need.

The Importance of Vaccines

Vaccines are substances designed to help the body defend itself against diseases and illnesses, primarily caused by **(1)** _____ and viruses. They work by introducing a dead or **(2)** _____ form of a virus into the body, triggering the **(3)** _____ system to produce antibodies. These antibodies remain **(4)** _____ for a long time, enabling the body to become immune and effectively fight off future infections. Vaccines can be **(5)** _____ in various forms, such as injections, oral doses, or **(6)** _____. While some vaccines provide lifelong immunity, others, like the flu vaccine, need to be given **(7)** _____ due to the changing nature of the virus.

Immunity can also be passed from mother to child, but this protection is **(8)** _____, which is why infants receive several vaccines in their early years. Certain diseases are region-specific, so travelers to tropical areas may **(9)** _____ vaccines for illnesses like yellow fever, malaria, or hepatitis.

Vaccines have played a **(10)** _____ role in eradicating deadly diseases such as smallpox, which was eliminated globally by the late 1970s through **(11)** _____ vaccination. The development of vaccines began in the late 18th century with Edward Jenner's work on cowpox and continued with Louis Pasteur's rabies vaccine. In the 20th century, polio was also **(12)** _____ out.

Despite their **(13)** _____ in most industrialized countries, millions of children in **(14)** _____ nations still die from preventable diseases due to **(15)** _____ of access to vaccines. Organizations like the World Health Organization are working to improve vaccine distribution. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the **(16)** _____ of vaccines, with rapid development and global efforts to administer them.

active
administered
annually
antibodies
availability
bacteria
crucial
developing
eliminated
immune
importance
inhalation
lack
reception
require
temporary
weakened
widespread
wiped

KEY

Vaccines are substances designed to help the body defend itself against diseases and illnesses, primarily caused by **(1) bacteria** and viruses. They work by introducing a dead or **(2) weakened** form of a virus into the body, triggering the **(3) immune** system to produce antibodies. These antibodies remain **(4) active** for a long time, enabling the body to become immune and effectively fight off future infections. Vaccines can be **(5) administered** in various forms, such as injections, oral doses, or **(6) inhalation**. While some vaccines provide lifelong immunity, others, like the flu vaccine, need to be given **(7) annually** due to the changing nature of the virus.

Immunity can also be passed from mother to child, but this protection is **(8) temporary**, which is why infants receive several vaccines in their early years. Certain diseases are region-specific, so travelers to tropical areas may **(9) require** vaccines for illnesses like yellow fever, malaria, or hepatitis.

Vaccines have played a **(10) crucial** role in eradicating deadly diseases such as smallpox, which was eliminated globally by the late 1970s through **(11) widespread** vaccination. The development of vaccines began in the late 18th century with Edward Jenner's work on cowpox and continued with Louis Pasteur's rabies vaccine. In the 20th century, polio was also **(12) wiped** out.

Despite their **(13) availability** in most industrialized countries, millions of children in **(14) developing** nations still die from preventable diseases due to **(15) lack** of access to vaccines. Organizations like the World Health Organization are working to improve vaccine distribution. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the **(16) importance** of vaccines, with rapid development and global efforts to administer them.