

PART 1

Inside the Hot Virus Laboratory

...going to read an article about viruses. Choose from the list (A-H) the one which best ... each part (1-6) of the article. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to ... is an example at the beginning (0).

0 E

In grey countryside in the heart of England there stands a high security fortress. It is no ordinary fortress however. It is a laboratory, and the security is dedicated not to stopping things from getting in, but stopping things from getting out. We are about to enter Britain's Hot Virus Laboratory where the most deadly viruses known to man are kept.

1

The virus is the simplest form of life and can only exist inside cells. These can be plant, animal or human cells. Once inside these cells, they begin to multiply, often with deadly results. Where they come from is often a mystery as well. At this laboratory, the staff are dedicated to discovering this. Some viruses, they believe, can come from insects, animals and even water.

2

Some viruses can kill in as little as two weeks, and if they are very infectious can be spread from one part of the world to another by people travelling on planes. Sometimes the viruses just vanish for a while, but the team at the laboratory believe that often the virus is simply looking for ways of improving its chances of survival, and is waiting for another chance to attack human or animal cells.

3

Dr Graham Lloyd, who works at the laboratory, is trying to discover where these viruses come from. They have been making tests on a variety of possible sources, from rats to spiders, in an effort to find out which one is responsible for passing killer viruses on

to humans. Dr Lloyd and his team are part of the "thin red line" of scientists between us and the next deadly attack by a virus.

4

They work in very high-security conditions - in fact, there is more security in the Hot Virus Laboratory than anywhere in the country. But even so, when Dr Lloyd first went to work at the laboratory in 1976 a fellow worker was infected with a deadly virus by accident. As we go through another high security door, we are faced with steel cabinets in which the viruses live. There are long rubber gloves attached to these cabinets and by putting their arms through these, the scientists can make contact with the viruses.

5

Even though Dr Lloyd is very careful, the long rubber gloves look very delicate when you think that there is a deadly killer at the end of them. What if a hole should appear in a glove? Dr Lloyd says if this happens, then alarms go off, and through a variety of technical methods they have made sure that infected air can never escape from these cabinets.

6

The Hot Virus Laboratory is clearly a place for people who take security very seriously. They only employ people who have a great deal of experience in working with viruses. They do not employ aggressive people, or people who don't get on with others, as they work in pairs in the laboratory so they can check each other. This is to prevent incidents like the case of a scientist in another laboratory who accidentally spill some dangerous liquid on himself. He did not report this and infected five other people before he was stopped. Luckily, they all survived.

Advanced technology prevents viruses from escaping.

A simple virus can multiply in many different types of cell.

Scientists are trying to discover how viruses reach us.

It is important to find the right people to work in the laboratory.

The building is designed to stop viruses from escaping.

Animals are responsible for spreading most viruses.

Viruses can often disappear for periods of time.

Sometimes not even the most advanced security can prevent accidents.