LANGUAGE WORK : Tense revision exercise - KEY

I Matching verb forms

Match a sentence in A with a sentence in B, according to the tense used. Note down the name of the tense in each case. (Some sentences are in the negative or question form.)

A

- 1) Many diseases are becoming increasingly difficult to treat. B3 present progressive
- 2) Is malaria curable? B4 simple present
- 3) Penicillin didn't become widely available till the 1940s. B5 simple past
- 4) Antibiotics have transformed our ability to fight infection. B1 present perfect
- 5) Will people die unnecessarily in the next century? B2 future

В

- 1) We haven't found any proof of antibiotics in animal feed causing problems for humans.
- 2) Without efficient antibiotics doctors won't be able to treat common diseases.
- 3) Are pharmaceutical companies trying to find new antibiotics?
- 4) Every year more than 5 million people die from antibiotic-resistant infections.
- 5) Some time ago journalists reported the first case of vancomycin-resistance.

II Using verb forms

Now decide which of the five tenses above would be the most appropriate in the following sentences (one of them is in the passive voice):

- 1) We have more drugs to fight disease than ever before.
- 2) According to some experts, in recent years, antibiotics have become our worst

enemies.

- 3) Some people carry staph harmlessly in their noses.
- 4) A new antibiotic, linezolid, was launched three years ago.
- 5) According to experts, we will never get rid of MRSA.
- 6) At the moment MRSA infection levels in the UK are getting worse.
- The MRSA bacterium has become resistant to penicillin and the stronger antibiotic, methicillin.
- A Commons report in 2000 found disturbing evidence concerning basic hygiene procedures in British hospitals.
- 9) It will take about five years to introduce any new treatment options.
- 10) Last year the Government launched some reforms to try to stem the spread of MRSA.