

Deadly Diseases Reading Comprehension

1. What is the scientific name for your body's defence mechanism?

Immune system

2. What are the places in your body called where white blood cells go to fight off infections?

Lymph nodes or glands

3. Look at the section '1. Skin Barrier'. What do humans often do which lets germs in?

Scrape / cut skin or pick their scabs.

4. Look at the section '2. The snot barrier'. What is the scientific name for the sticky snot in our noses?

Mucus

5. What does the chemical histamine do when it's released?

Widens the gaps between the cells in the blood vessel walls to allow white blood cells to fight off germs.

6. Why does watery snot come out?

To get rid of (or 'flush out') bad germs

7. What can happen to you if you eat your snot?

They can enter your gut and cause diarrhoea.

8. Look at the section '3. Bloody warfare'. What happens to your body in places where there are bad germs?

Blood rushes there. It gets hot, red and swollen.

9. What happens to most germs when they get too hot?

They can die.

10. What is the most interesting fact you learnt from reading this text?
