

# OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST

## WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

**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 registered nurse working at Newtown Community Hospital. Your patient, Ms Mary Bell, is being discharged today.

**Patient:** Mary Bell (Ms)  
**Age:** 66 Years  
**Marital status:** Single  
**Family:** Nil  
**First admitted:** 24 June 2018, Newtown Community Hospital  
**Discharge:** 15 July 2018  
**Diagnosis:** Unstable diabetes mellitus  
Small infected (left) foot ulcer  
**Medical history:** Non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus – 15 years  
**Medications:** Glibenclamide (Glimel) 5mg daily  
Metformin (Diabex) 850mg t.d.s.  
Amoxycillin/clavulanate (Augmentin Duo Forte) 875/125mg orally, b.d.

**Social/family background:** Retired at 65 from managerial position 2017  
Lives alone in own four-bedroom home  
Income: small pension – much lower than pre-retirement income  
Reports no relatives or close friends  
Reports no outside interests  
Since retirement alcohol intake has increased and dietary quality has decreased  
Periodic problems with self-administration of hypoglycaemic medication

**Nursing management and progress:**  
Medical hypoglycaemic agent (glibenclamide) to continue  
Antibiotic therapy (Augmentin Duo Forte) for review at completion of current course  
Ulcer daily saline dressing, monitor wound margins, observe for signs of complications, review healing progress, etc.



**Discharge plan:**

- Monitor medication compliance, blood sugar levels, alcohol intake, diet
- Encourage moderate exercise programme
- Suggest establishment of income-producing activity
- Encourage establishment of social activities
- Prepare a letter to the community nurse, emphasising the need for an overall life-style plan, and suggesting involvement of community social worker service

### Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter of discharge to Ms Jane Rudik, the community nurse at Newtown Community Health Centre, informing her about the patient's condition and her medical and social needs. Address your letter to Ms Jane Rudik, Community Nurse, Newtown Community Health Centre, Newtown.

**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.**



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### SAMPLE RESPONSE: LETTER OF DISCHARGE

Ms Jane Rudik  
Community Nurse  
Newtown Community Health Centre  
Newtown

15 July 2018

Dear Ms Rudik,

Re: Ms Mary Bell. 66 years of age.

Thank you for continuing the care of Ms Bell after her discharge from Newtown Community Hospital today. She was admitted due to unstable diabetes mellitus and a minor infected ulcer on her left foot.

Ms Bell is a Type 2 diabetic of 15 years. Her occasional problems with self-administering medication, combined with poor dietary habits and a recent increase in alcohol consumption is the likely cause of her admission on 24 June 2018.

Currently, Ms Bell takes Metformin 850mg t.d.s., Glimel 5mg daily and Augmentin Duo Forte 875/125mg orally, b.d., the latter needing review upon completion of her current course.

Having recently retired in 2017, Ms Bell survives on a small pension. Therefore, encouragement to begin supplementing this with an additional form of income would be beneficial. In addition, she requires your ongoing support for lifestyle changes including dietary adjustment and a decrease of her alcohol intake. Monitoring of her medication compliance and blood sugar levels, as well as encouragement for social activities and an exercise programme are highly recommended. A community social worker could prove invaluable during this time.

Your monitoring of her wound and ongoing management of her condition is greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

Nurse

