

Station Number

AFFIX CANDIDATE
LABEL HERE

CANDIDATE No:.....

Instructions for Candidates

Scenario

Jason Kelly is a 24-year-old student. You have been asked to see him in Accident and Emergency because he had been behaving strangely whilst out drinking with friends. His friends mentioned that he has had a few “weird turns” in the last couple of weeks.

Instructions

Interview him, and take a history of temporal lobe epilepsy.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAND YOUR IDENTITY LABEL TO THE
EXAMINER**

Station Number

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History Taking: Temporal Lobe Epilepsy

CANDIDATE No:.....

Instructions for Patients

Answer questions based on the following scenario.

Do not volunteer information unless asked.

This station tests the candidate's ability to take a history from a patient. In this case, the patient is presenting with symptoms of temporal lobe epilepsy.

You are Jason Kelly, a 24-year-old student.

Key Attributes

- You are a little reluctant to be seen by a psychiatrist since you thought that your friends were just being over-protective of you. However, you are willing to be interviewed as you do have some concerns about events in the last few weeks.

Key Dialogue

History of Seizures

- You have had four episodes when friends have commented that you looked vague and weren't paying attention. You don't really have any memory of these. You just thought that you had "drifted off". These lasted 10-30 seconds
- All you remember is feeling a little weird...a bit anxious and nauseated. You also remember a funny taste, a bit like a burning smell.
- You have also had two times that your flat mates have described to you: you have appeared vague, and then started clearing your throat. You have been picking at your clothes and making "running" movements with your legs.
- These episodes have lasted around 2 minutes.
- You don't remember them, but do remember 'coming round' and feeling tired and a little confused. You have often gone to your bed early after these episodes.
- You have had no episodes of jerking movements, tongue-biting, or incontinence.
- Your concentration and memory have been poor in the last few weeks.
- You have also experienced a number of strange experiences, which you can't explain:
 - Once, everything seemed really big "like the room was the TARDIS from Dr Who". Your hands seemed enormous and you couldn't judge distances. You felt a bit dizzy. This lasted about 30 seconds.
 - You have been having déjà vu more recently, and find it unpleasant.

Past history

- You had a few febrile seizures when you were a baby.
- At school, you used to have petit-mals and took some medication for a few years. However, these stopped before you left school, and you haven't needed any medication since.
- You have never been properly diagnosed with epilepsy.

Family History

- Your mother has manic depression. She was unwell a few times when growing up, and has been in hospital a few times. However, in the last 10 years she has been fairly well. You know that she takes two types of medication.

Other information

- Your mood has been okay, but you have felt a little "up-and-down" recently

Relevant personal information

- You have a driving licence and a car, which you use regularly
- You smoke about 10-15 cigarettes a day
- You have smoked cannabis a few times in the past, but you didn't like it – you felt a bit "spaced out" and paranoid
- You drink alcohol on 3-4 nights a week, typically consuming 2-3 pints of beer. Occasionally you will drink more, perhaps 5-6 pints.
- You share a flat with three other students. You all get on okay.

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History Taking: Temporal Lobe Epilepsy

CANDIDATE No:.....

Instructions for Examiners

***REMEMBER TO ASK THE STUDENT FOR THEIR IDENTITY LABEL AND
AFFIX IT TO THE TOP OF THE MARK SHEET.***

This station tests the candidate's ability to take a relevant history of temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE). The candidate is expected to establish the nature of the seizures as well as enquire about relevant psychiatric symptoms.

Due to the potential overlap between TLE and other psychiatric/ behavioural disorders, relevant screening questions regarding mood and psychotic experiences should be asked.

Station Number

Examiner's Name:

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CANDIDATE No:.....

History Taking: Temporal Lobe Epilepsy

Marking Sheet

Please circle the appropriate mark for each criterion. The standard expected is that of a psychiatric Senior House Officer.

Criterion	Performed competently	Performed, but not fully competent	Not performed		
Approach to the patient – Rapport, empathy, and style	2	1	0		
Elicits history of recent seizures:		1	0		
• Four episodes of probable absence seizures	1				
• Absence seizures lasting around 30 seconds	1				
• Two complex partial seizures	1				
• Complex partial seizures last 2 minutes	1				
History of aura (anxiety, nausea, funny taste)	2	1	0		
Post-seizure state (non-confused after absences, confused & tired after complex partial)	2	1	0		
Déjà vu experiences	2	1	0		
Macropsia	1	1	0		
Febrile seizures as a child, and absences at school	1	1	0		
Family history of bipolar disorder	1	½	0		
Recent mood disturbances	1	½	0		
Overall Approach to Task	4	3	2	1	0

Score (Max 20)

Overall Grading of station

Clear Pass

Borderline

Clear Fail