Reporting uncertainty responsibly

CEFR B2 | Unit 4: Prevention | Reading

Read the original text. You may underline evidence and reread as needed.

Name _____ Date _____

In a fictional training exercise, a centre surveys 80 attendees about whether they read a handwashing notice. Forty-eight say yes. The notice had been displayed for one week. The survey did not observe behavior and did not measure illness.

A draft newsletter says, "Our new notice has improved hygiene by 60 percent." A reviewer removes this sentence. Sixty percent is the proportion of respondents who reported reading the notice. It is not a measured change in behavior, and there is no before-and-after hygiene measure.

The revised briefing states, "In this survey, 48 of 80 attendees said they had read the notice." It explains that self-reports may be imperfect and that the survey covers only those who responded. The centre may use the result to decide whether the notice is visible enough, but it cannot use it to claim a health outcome.

The reviewer also checks the source of each statement. A general explanation of handwashing should come from an appropriate health authority rather than from this small visibility survey. The exercise concerns how to communicate supplied information responsibly. It does not ask learners to recommend treatment or invent health advice.

Original Ilmiya practice text. Scenarios and research examples are fictional.