

# “Which” Can Describe the Previous Idea

## I.

**Directions:** In the following sentences, is “which” describing **the previous word** or **the previous idea**?

- 1) Chemotherapy helps relieve symptoms caused by cancer, which improves the patient’s quality of life.
- 2) The patient is advised to avoid smoking, which increases the chance of heart problems.
- 3) Another recommendation is avoiding smoking, which helps the lungs recover.
- 4) The patient often experiences severe pain during recovery, which can lead to feelings of depression or hopelessness.
- 5) Sometimes, stool blocks the appendix, which causes the appendix to fill with pus.

## II.

**Directions:** Combine the following sentences using a which-clause that refers back to the previous idea, rather than the previous word. Add commas where necessary.

- 1) The balloon is then inflated. Inflating the balloon causes the blood clot to flatten.

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- 2) The ulcers in the esophagus may bleed. The bleeding leads to chronic anemia.

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- 3) Contrary to popular belief, elephants' legs are not stiff columns; the joints in their massive legs bend quite a bit. The bending of the joints is hard to see due to the large amount of fat around their legs.

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- 4) During a typical delivery, the fetus is in a head-down position, with its face toward the mother's back. However, in a breech delivery, the baby proceeds through the birth canal buttocks-first or feet-first. Being born buttocks-first or feet-first can be dangerous for the baby.

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- 5) In some people, the body overreacts to irritants, such as tobacco smoke, and their airways become inflamed and filled with mucus. The inflammation and mucus affect breathing.

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