



Fill in the blanks with the letter of the correct signpost.

<b>A.</b> it is now time to turn our attention to	<b>E.</b> to verify this, I would like to refer to	<b>I.</b> let me clarify the term
<b>B.</b> after dementia and Alzheimer's, the last disorder is	<b>F.</b> the first disorder I'll inform you about	<b>J.</b> in this presentation, I'd like to mention
<b>C.</b> now that we are done with dementia and Alzheimer's	<b>G.</b> my aim is to give you information	<b>K.</b> let me show you some figures
<b>D.</b> let me tell you an interesting fact	<b>H.</b> first, I'd like to give information about	<b>L.</b> what does this mean?

If you suffer from regular forgetfulness or memory slips, you are not alone. Our mental speed seems to decline as we get older and especially when we are under stress. Apart from common memory lapses that many of us experience though, there are also some serious medical conditions that involve long-term memory loss. Today, ladies and gentlemen, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ about three of these disorders: Dementia, Alzheimer's and Post-traumatic memory loss.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ is dementia. The term 'dementia' describes a group of symptoms caused by the impact of diseases on the brain. Symptoms typically include problems with memory, speech and perception. Short-term memory is usually affected. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ This means that the person with dementia may forget the names of family or friends - or how to perform simple everyday tasks. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ about people with dementia. Although these may forget even their children's names or the way to their homes, they generally retain their long-term memory, clearly remembering events from the past.

After dealing with dementia, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of memory loss, affecting around 500,000 people in the UK. (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that prove how serious the situation is. As you can see here, Alzheimer's affects one in 20 people over the age of 65 - and one in five over the age of 80. This is a significant number. During the course of Alzheimer's, the chemistry of the brain changes and cells, nerves and transmitters are attacked. Eventually the brain shrinks as gaps develop.

(7) \_\_\_\_\_, I will discuss the last one in my list, which actually is not a disease but affects the brain and memory to a great extent: Post-traumatic memory loss. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ before I go into the details. The term "post-traumatic memory loss" refers to the kind of memory loss that occurs after a traumatic experience. It can, for example, happen after a bad accident. Especially, soldiers fighting at war are prone to this disorder. The medical explanation is that when stress is severe, it can cause physical changes to the brain cells leading to long-term memory loss. (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the studies done on Vietnam veterans. Several studies show that Vietnam war soldiers experienced shrinkage of the memory centre in their brains. This happens when the brain is flooded with a brain chemical called glutamate which reduces the brain cells...

## **ANSWER KEY**

1. G
2. F
3. L
4. D
5. A
6. K
7. C
8. I
9. E