Passage 2

The history of mortality reduction is spoken of in terms of three phases. In the first phase, from the mid-18th century to the mid-19th century improved agricultural techniques played a large role. These techniques resulted in increased food supply, better nutrition, and economic growth. Emerging public health measures also played a role at this stage. The second phase ran from the end of the 19th century into the 20th. Public health became more important. People were given advice about personal health practices based on a growing understanding of causes of disease. Because of high mortality rates in cities, urban centers started to deliver clean water and remove waste. With the improved water supply, sewage, and general personal hygiene, there was a dramatic reduction in water-and food-borne diseases such as typhoid, cholera, dysentery, and tuberculosis. The third phase, from 1930s to now, is the time of big medicine. It started with vaccination and antibiotics, and has moved on to a variety of expensive and intensive treatments and procedures.

126. Mortality reduction started

- a. to reflect the advantages of agricultural techniques
- b. in the middle of the 19th century
- c. to downgrade agricultural techniques
- d. in about the 2nd half of 18th century

127. Economic growth partly resulted from

- a. researches to improve public health
- b. improvements in agricultural methods
- c. better nutrition of all groups of people
- d. an increase in different kinds of food

128. Counseling people to promote good health

- a. mainly started in the early 19th century
- b. continued in the 20th century as well
- c. caused the eradication of infectious diseases
- d. helped them to understand the mortality rate

129. During the 2nd phase,

- a. diseases caused by food were eradicated
- b. people's awareness about diseases increased
- c. people learned to eliminate the causes of disease
- d. mortality rate in cities remained higher than that in villages

130. In the early years of the 21st century,

- a. preventive measures found a new status
- b. life expectancy equally increased everywhere
- c. rural and urban areas had equal health services
- d. better nutrition had no role in mortality reduction

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