1. Read and translate the text:

The profession of a laboratory assistant

A laboratory assistant is a trained healthcare practitioner qualified to help scientists and technologists during research and laboratory tests.  Laboratory assistants do not cure diseases and do not even make diagnoses. They only help with the results of analyses to determine the presence of a disease. We all had to take tests at least once in our life. Without them, doctors will not be able to deliver an accurate diagnosis, put in a hospital and prescribe the right adequate treatment. Whether blood from a finger or vein, a nasal or throat swab, urine or feces, pieces of tissue or fluid from cavities, all these materials enter the laboratory, where they are carefully examined for abnormalities, infection, or examination of other characteristics.

A laboratory assistant performs administrative and clinical tasks under a physician's direct supervision.  Each large polyclinic has its own laboratory, where the sampling of the tests and their research are carried out. The main analyses in the polyclinic are general or biochemical clinical studies of blood and urine, tests of feces, investigations of sputum and gastric juice. All these studies are aimed at timely detection of the problem, differential diagnosis of the disease and the appointment of correct treatment to the patient.

Thanks to lab assistants’ work, directly treating doctors can accurately say which antibiotic should be treated with pyelonephritis, what dose of insulin should be given to patients with diabetes, what infection of the genitourinary system is concerned with, benign or malignant neoplasm in the patient, and much more.

2. Answer the questions:

1. What is blood taken from?

2. What are the main analyses in the polyclinic?

3. What is the aim of analyses?

4. What diseases does the laboratory assistant treat?

5. Why does a doctor use lab tests?