The Faster Line

B2 Upper-intermediate · Daily life · about 2 min of audio

Play the audio: https://englishdictations.com/dictation/b2/the-faster-line/

Name _____ Date _____

Part 1 — Fill the gaps while you listen

1. A _____ switched to a shorter pharmacy line, then watched the queue she left move faster.
2. One _____ needed a dosage check, while another customer paid for a single packet.
3. Although her new line looked quicker, its longer _____ meant she waited longer.
4. With one shared queue, the next available _____ calls whoever has waited longest.
5. A shared queue cannot make an individual _____ shorter, but it changes who gets served next.
6. People can see the line moving, instead of _____ which counter might stall.
7. Since nobody can gain by _____ to a faster looking line, the order feels fairer.
8. Yet that advantage depends on counters handling similar requests, rather than requiring different _____.
9. Otherwise, a single queue may remain fair in theory while delaying customers who need simple _____.
10. Its real _____ is not necessarily a shorter wait, but a clearer and more trusted order.

Part 2 — Write every sentence you hear

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Answer key

Part 1 — the missing words

1. customer 2. prescription 3. consultations 4. pharmacist 5. consultation 6. guessing 7. switching
8. specialists 9. transactions 10. improvement

Part 2 — the full transcript

1. A customer switched to a shorter pharmacy line, then watched the queue she left move faster.
2. One prescription needed a dosage check, while another customer paid for a single packet.
3. Although her new line looked quicker, its longer consultations meant she waited longer.
4. With one shared queue, the next available pharmacist calls whoever has waited longest.
5. A shared queue cannot make an individual consultation shorter, but it changes who gets served next.
6. People can see the line moving, instead of guessing which counter might stall.
7. Since nobody can gain by switching to a faster looking line, the order feels fairer.
8. Yet that advantage depends on counters handling similar requests, rather than requiring different specialists.
9. Otherwise, a single queue may remain fair in theory while delaying customers who need simple transactions.
10. Its real improvement is not necessarily a shorter wait, but a clearer and more trusted order.

More free dictations at every level, A1 to C1, with a new one every day:
https://englishdictations.com