

STUDY THE SOURCE BELOW:



What is the doctor using to listen to the patient's chest?

Describe the instrument.

What is it called?

How different is it to the ones used today?

What type of evidence are the examples on display?

Now read this:

The stethoscope was invented by Rene Laennec in about AD 1810. The first one he used was made of paper. He then made one out of wood, as you see in the display. After a while he re-designed it by adding flexible rubber tubes which went into both ears. This enabled him to hear sounds more clearly.

Try this with a partner:

Take a sheet of A4 paper and roll it into a tube. Place one end over your ear and listen to your partner's chest or back through the other end. What can you hear? Describe the sounds.

Now try this:

Take a real stethoscope and listen through it. What can you hear now? Are the sounds clearer?