# Answers to Questions in the Workbook, Chapter 26, Caring for People Who Are Terminally Ill

**Activity A SHORT ANSWER**

Possible answers include Alzheimer disease, certain cancers, certain heart conditions, chronic respiratory disorders, certain kidney disorders, and certain liver disorders.

**Activity B TRUE OR FALSE**

1. T

2. T

3. F. EXPLORE your own feelings and emotions regarding death and dying.

4. F. A person who is dying may want to talk to you. Listen to whatever the patient or resident wants to say, but remember NOT to be judgmental.

**Activity C MATCHING**

1. c

2. d

3. a

4. b

5. e

**Activity D TRUE OR FALSE**

1. F. As a nursing assistant, it is NOT your duty to convince a terminally ill person that advances in medical technology can be of no help.

2. T

3. F. When a family member of a terminally ill person directs their anger at you, you should NOT take it personally.

4. F. You should try NOT to ignore a terminally ill patient who wants to talk to you about death.

5. T

**Activity E SHORT ANSWER**

1. If Mr. Ahn expresses a desire to make a will, this information needs to be relayed immediately to the nurse so that arrangements can be made for him to talk with a lawyer.

2. A person who is a benefactor of a will must not sign the will as a witness. In this situation, it would be appropriate to suggest someone else to act as a witness.

**Activity F FILL IN THE BLANKS**

1. Supportive care entails offering treatments that will not prolong life but will make a person more comfortable.

2. Hospice agencies and facilities are organizations founded with the mission of offering the terminally ill person the best quality of life possible and ensuring their comfort and dignity as death approaches.

3. Palliative care focuses on relieving uncomfortable symptoms, not on curing the problem that is causing the symptoms.

4. Life-sustaining treatment tends to prolong life through respiratory ventilation, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and the placement of a feeding tube or intravenous (IV) line.

**Activity G IDENTIFY THE STATEMENTS**

1. SC

2. LST

3. LST

4. SC

5. SC

6. SC

7. SC

8. LST

**Activity H SHORT ANSWER**

Exploring your own feelings about death (with the help of a professional, if necessary) can help to prepare you for the loss of a patient or resident. It might be advisable to talk to a more senior member of the staff, such as a nurse or another nursing assistant, about your feelings with regard to Mrs. McKensie’s impending death. You could also talk to a religious leader or a counselor or therapist. It is also important to recognize that caregivers go through the same grieving process as the person who is dying, and this is completely normal.

**Activity I** **CROSSWORD**  
  
