

Name:

Chapter 4 (The Inpatient Ward)
A New Family Member

Story A

Hi Lotta,

I've got some great news! My brother's wife, Mari, just had a baby! It's a lovely
1) _____ and they have decided to call him Ken, which
2) _____ "healthy" in Japanese.

My brother was by her side at the 3) _____ and said he was really
moved when the baby was born 4) _____. In my parents' generation, it
was very unusual for the husband to be present at delivery, but many husbands
are these days.

The contractions started in the afternoon. At 11 p.m., the contractions were
coming 5) _____, so Mari went to
the hospital with my brother.

First, she went to a 6) _____ where a nurse checked
her condition, the baby's condition and the progress of the contractions. Then she
went to the 7) _____ and had an NST.

My brother was by her side all the time and massaged her lower back. When the
8) _____ came, Mari used the breathing techniques
she learned at mothers' classes. Recently, many classes are not just for mothers
but also for fathers, so they are often called 9) "_____".



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Story B

As the delivery approached, Mari went into the delivery room with my brother. A medical doctor, a 1) _____ and a nurse worked together to help with her delivery. It was so 2) _____ that Mari wanted to get anesthesia but eventually she managed without it. In Japan, anesthesia at delivery is not always recommended as it could have 3) _____ _____ on the baby.

Finally at dawn, the baby was born. He was 4) _____ cm long and weighed 5) _____ grams. This is almost the average size for Japanese newborns. My brother was allowed to cut the umbilical cord by himself. When Mari gave her baby 6) _____ _____ for the first time, she couldn't stop crying because she was so touched.

Mari stayed in the 7) _____ _____ for a while and then returned to her room. The baby stayed in the nursery for newborns the first night after the delivery. From the next day, the baby and the mother stayed together in the same room. Mari was in a 8) _____-person room, and it was filled with the energetic cries of 9) _____ babies. It sounded as if they were taking turns crying.

If both mother and baby are healthy, they will be 10) _____ after about a week. I'm really looking forward to welcoming the baby to our home. Please 11) _____ _____ _____ at the attached picture. Do you think the baby looks like my brother?

Hana

