Killer Germs - Questions for Chapter 4

Tuberculosis is aptly called consumption as over time it will *consume* the bodies of its victims. The details of what it does to the human body speak for themselves. And yet, we have not beaten this disease.

1. The history of man’s attempts to combat tuberculosis illustrates how inventive, desperate, mystical, just plain wacky, and …eventually, scientific those endeavors have been (ping pong balls in the chest cavity – REALLY -?!?@)#\*$?).

Briefly list and describe 5 of these varied, but hopeful, approaches to cures.

1. Why do you think sanatoriums for TB patients had such a good track record?
2. Why is the TB vaccine (BCG) controversial? List 3 reasons why the US neither uses it nor recommends it.
3. What is DOT and how and why is it used?
4. Research where the world stands on its battle with TB as of today.

a. What is the difference between Latent vs Active TB?

b. Where is TB most prevalent?

c. Have we realized the goals set by the US Dept of Health and

the CDC, and WHO?

d. Why are multiple antibiotic drugs being used instead of one

at a time?