EXAMPLE CASE STUDIES

Case 1 = Pleural Effusion
2 month history of SOB; loss of lung – fluid in pleural space: this compresses the lung
Chest expansion: reduced
Percussion: stony dull
Breath sounds: absent/decreased
Added sounds: none
Vocal resonance: absent/decreased
Vocal resonance: stethoscope on area- ask patient to say ‘99’

Case 2 = Pneumonia
1 week history of SOB; right consolidation of pneumonia (can see some air); airways filled with lots of mucus
Chest expansion: reduced
Percussion: dull
Breath sounds: bronchial
Added sounds: crackles
Vocal resonance: increased

Case 3 = Left Pneumothorax
Black = PTX - look to see if trachea is deviated
Lots of air in pleural space → hyperresonant
Chest expansion: reduced
Percussion: hyperresonant
Breath sounds: absent/decreased
Added sounds: usually none
Vocal resonance: decreased