

**B9ED103CCT**

# **Communicative English**

*SLM Based on Distance & Regular Mode Synchronized Syllabus*

For

**Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.)**  
**(First Semester)**

**Directorate of Distance Education**

**Maulana Azad National Urdu University**

**Hyderabad-32, Telangana-Bharat**

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**Communicative English**  
For B.Ed 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

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## Directorate of Distance Education

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Gachibowli, Hyderabad-32 (TS), Bharat



(SLM Based on Distance & Regular Mode Synchronized Syllabus)

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## Message

The basic mandate of the Act whereby Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) was established by the Parliament of our beloved country is the promotion of higher education through Urdu language. This is the point that distinguishes MANUU from all other central universities and gives it a unique feature, an honour which is not granted to any other institutions of higher learning. The very objective of promotion of knowledge through Urdu is meant to facilitate the accessibility of contemporary knowledge and disciplines to Urdu knowing community. For a long time, Urdu has remained devoid of scientific and scholarly materials. A cursory glance over a library or shelves of a book seller substantiates the fact that Urdu language is diminished to only a few “literary” genres. Further, the Urdu reader/community is unaware of the today’s most important areas of knowledge whether it is related to his own health and life or related to the financial and commercial systems, whether it is related to machines and gadgets around him or the issues related to his environment or vicinity. The unavailability of content related to the above domains of knowledge has created an atmosphere of apathy towards attaining knowledge that exhibits the lack of intellectual abilities in Urdu community. These are the challenges that Urdu University is confronted with. The scenario of Self Learning Materials (SLM) is also not very different. The unavailability of course books in Urdu at school level comes under discussion at the commencement of every academic year. Since the medium of instruction of Urdu University is only Urdu and it offers almost all the courses of important disciplines, the preparation of books of all these subjects in Urdu is the most important responsibility of the University. DDE has embarked upon the preparation of its own Self Learning Materials (SLM) on massive scales. As a result of the hard work of the concerned faculties and full cooperation of the writers, the process of publications of books has begun well. I believe that after completing the job of publishing Self Learning Materials (SLM) in a minimum possible time, the concerned faculties will initiate publishing knowledge enhancing materials in lucid Urdu language so that we may fulfill the mandate of this University.

With best wishes.

**Prof. S.M. Rahmatullah**

*Vice Chancellor, I/C.*

MANUU, Hyderabad

## Message

You all are well aware that Maulana Azad National Urdu University began to function from 1998 with the Directorate of Distance Education and Translation Division. Regular mode of education commenced from 2004 and various departments were established which were followed by the appointments of faculty. Self learning material was prepared through writing and translation with full support of competent authority.

For the past few years UGC-DEB kept emphasizing on synchronizing the syllabi of distance and regular mode to enhance the level of distance learning students. Accordingly, at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, the syllabi of distance and regular mode are synchronized by following the norms of UGC-DEB and Self Learning Materials are being prepared afresh for UG and PG courses containing 6 blocks - 24 units and 4 blocks - 16 units respectively.

Distance education system is considered highly effective and beneficial around the globe. The large number of people enrolled in it stands a witness to the same. Realizing the literacy ratio of Urdu speaking population, Maulana Azad National Urdu University implemented Distance education from its beginning. In this way, the university reached out to Urdu speaking population through distance learning method prior to regular. Initially, the study materials of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University and Indira Gandhi National Open University were borrowed. The intention was to prepare our own study materials rapidly and not to be dependent on other universities but the intent and effort could not go hand in hand. Consequently, it took plenty of time to prepare our own Self Learning Material. Eventually, the task of preparing Self Learning Material commenced systematically at war foot. We had to face numerous hindrances but never gave up. As a result, university started to publish its own study material at high speed.

Directorate of Distance Education runs fifteen courses consisting of UG, PG, B.Ed, Diploma, and certificate courses. In a short span of time, courses based on technical skills will be started. A huge network of nine regional centers (Bengaluru, Bhopal, Darbhanga, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Patna, Ranchi, and Srinagar) and five sub-regional centers (Hyderabad, Lucknow, Jammu, Nooh, and Amravati) was established to facilitate the students. One hundred and fifty five study centers are run simultaneously under these regional and sub-regional centers to provide educational and administrative support to the students. DDE also utilizes ICT for its educational and administrative activities.

The admissions in all programs are done only through online mode. The soft copies of Self Learning Material for students are made available on the website of Directorate of Distance Education. In near future, the links of audio and video recordings will also be made available on the website. In addition, SMS facilities are being provided to students to have better communication. The students are informed through SMS regarding various facets of programs such as course registration, assignment, counseling, exams, etc.

Directorate of Distance Education will not only play a vital role to bring educationally and economically backward Urdu speaking population into the main stream but also in the increase of Gross Enrolment Ratio.

**Prof. Abul Kalam**

***Director, Directorate of Distance Education,***  
MANUU, Hyderabad

## **Introduction to the Course**

Language is a mean of communication. It is the most important tool through which we communicate our ideas and thoughts to other individuals and groups. It is believed that about 6500 spoken languages are in use in different parts of the globe.

English has a very significant place among this galaxy of languages. On the basis of its historical and technical background it has emerged as a global language.

It is because of its utility, English has got a prominent place in school curriculum in our country. Moreover, it is also used as the medium of Instruction, specially in higher education.

Maulana Azad National Urdu University aims at preparing its student to be fit in the global context. A lot of importance is being given to teaching of English language at school level.

Introduction of Communicative English in B.Ed. Programme is an effort to equip the students with basic language skills known as listening, speaking, reading and writing.

In Unit 1, you will be introduced with essentials of grammar and phonetics to enable you to have sound background to learn English language.

Remaining four Units are devoted for four basic skills i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing and their various aspects.

It is hoped that B.Ed. Students, irrespective of their pedagogy subjects will appreciate the role of English in modern times and prepare an action plan to learn the language skills in the light of the guidance provided in this course.

It may be noted that the students have to practice these skills rather than being dependent only on theoretical knowledge. Practice is the only way to make yourself perfect in any field including language skills.



# **COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH**

# **Unit One: Grammar and Phonetics**

## **Structure of the Unit**

### **1.1 Introduction**

### **1.2 Objectives**

### **1.3 Grammar**

1.3.1 Parts of Speech- Noun, Pronoun, Adjective, Verb, Adverb, Prepositions, Conjunction & Interjection

1.3.2 Types of Sentences

1.3.3 Tenses

1.3.4 Transformation of Sentences - Active – Passive, Direct – Indirect, Affirmative – Negative

1.3.5 Degrees of Comparison

1.3.6 Clauses

1.3.7 Question Tags

### **1.4 Phonetics**

1.4.1 Segmental Features

1.4.1.1 Organs of Speech

1.4.1.2 Vowels

1.4.1.3 Consonants

1.4.2 Supra-segmental Features

1.4.2.1 Stress

1.4.2.2 Rhythm

1.4.2.3 Intonation

1.4.3 Paralinguistic Features

1.4.3.1 Voice Quality

1.4.3.2 Clarity

1.4.3.3 Pace and Pauses

1.4.3.4 Voice Modulation

### **1.5 Points to remember**

### **1.6 Glossary**

### **1.7 Unit End Activities**

### **1.8 Suggested Readings**

## 1.1 Introduction

*Language is the vehicle of our thoughts and feelings and of our stories whether true or not and grammar is the machinery by which that vehicle is set in motion.* - L. A. Gorden

The grammar of any language is important because acceptability and intelligibility in writing and speech depend on the basic notions and norms of grammar. Grammar is behind the logic of a language. It provides an insight into the structure of the language. It is the systematized knowledge of the language. Its importance in writing is doubtless. It provides the criteria for judging the correctness of language. Therefore, it is necessary to learn grammar.

Grammar is the study of words and the ways words work together. It is an invisible force that guides us to put words together into sentences. Every person who communicates using a particular language is consciously or unconsciously aware of the grammar of that language. We study grammar to speak in a clearer and more effective manner. A person wants to seek greater depth of understanding and proficiency then studying grammar is necessary. Grammar helps to frame sentences with proper structure so that other people can understand what you exactly want to say.

Grammar is important in language learning. Along with it, phonetics is also important because speaking English in the way we like, with all the regional markers, will not be intelligible to the listener. While speaking English, we have to be careful about segmental, supra-segmental and paralinguistic features of English. Inattention to these features would lead us to a failure in conversation, especially, when we converse with a native speaker of English. Henry Sweet, an English phonetician, mentioned in his book, 'The Practical Study of Language (1899)', "without phonetics we can neither observe nor record the simplest phenomenon of language."

In this unit, we will try to understand different aspects of English grammar and phonetics.

## 1.2 Objectives of the Unit:

By the end of this unit, the student-teacher will be able to know:

1. parts of speech
2. different types of tenses
3. how to transform sentences
4. degrees of comparison
5. different types of clauses
6. question tags
7. all the sounds of the English language
8. rules of word stress
9. the rhythm of the sentences
10. all the four types of intonation
11. definition of voice and its types
12. about clarity
13. when to pause and about the pace at which s/he has to speak and
14. the modulation of the voice.

## 1.2 Grammar

### 1.3.1 Parts of Speech

We use English language by means of English words, phrases and sentences. Every English word has a definite purpose. English words are classified or divided into eight types according to their uses. These eight types of words are called as parts of speech. The eight types of parts of speech are noun, pronoun, adjective, verb, adverb, preposition, conjunction and interjection. Let's try to understand these parts of speech.

#### a. Noun

The noun is a word used as a name of a person, place or thing. Let us understand the four kinds of noun:

##### ➤ *Common noun*

It is a name given in common to every person or thing of some kind or class.

Examples: *Girl, boy, women, city, road, flower, hill, etc.*

##### ➤ *Proper noun*

It is the name of a particular person, thing or place.

Examples: *Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, King Aurangzeb, Hyderabad, Godavari, Charminar, etc.*

➤ *Collective noun*

It is the name of a group or collection of things, persons taken together and spoken of as one whole.

Examples: *crowd, family, army, herd, jury, etc.*

➤ *Abstract noun*

It is the name of a quality, action or state considered as part of the object to which it belongs.

Examples: *goodness (quality), hatred (action), poverty (state), etc.*

**b. Pronoun**

A pronoun is a word used instead of a noun. Examples: I, we, you, she, it, they, etc. Pronouns are classified into:

➤ *Personal Pronoun*

A pronoun used for three persons is known as a personal pronoun.

1. *First Person*

A pronoun used for the person speaking is known as the first person. Examples: *I, we, me, and us.*

2. *Second Person*

A pronoun used for the person spoken to is known as the second person. Example: *you.*

3. *Third Person*

A pronoun used for the person spoken of is known as the third person. Examples: *he, she, it, and they.*

➤ *Reflective Pronoun*

When the action of the subject turns back or reflects upon the subject, it is called a reflective pronoun.

Example: **I** saw **myself** in the mirror. (Here 'I' and 'myself' are the same people)

➤ *Emphatic Pronoun*

A pronoun used for the sake of emphasis is known as emphatic pronoun.

Example: You **yourself** can explain it to me.

➤ *Demonstrative Pronoun*

A pronoun used to point out the person or thing we talk about is known as demonstrative Pronoun.

Examples: *this, that, such, these, and those, etc.*

➤ *Possessive Pronoun*

A pronoun used to express possession or ownership is known as possessive pronoun.

Examples: *mine, his, theirs, ours, yours, hers, its.*

➤ *Indefinite Pronoun*

A pronoun used to talk about a person or things indefinitely is known as indefinite pronoun.

Examples: *someone, something, and anybody, etc.*

**c. Adjective**

A word used to express the quality, quantity, number and to point out the person or thing is regarded as an adjective. There are five kinds of adjective:

➤ *Adjective of Quality*

An adjective used to talk about the quality of a person or thing is known as adjective of quality.

Examples: *large, honest, foolish, poor, etc*

➤ *Adjective of Quantity*

An adjective which is used to talk about the quantity of things is known as adjective of quantity.

Examples: *little, much, enough, some, half, etc.*

➤ *Adjective of Number*

An adjective used to talk about the number of things or persons are known as adjective of number.

Examples: *first, third, one, two, some, all, enough, etc.*

➤ *Demonstrative Adjective*

An adjective used to point out which person or thing we speak about is known as demonstrative adjective.

Examples: *this, that, there, those, such, etc*

➤ *Interrogative Adjective*

An adjective used to question is known as an interrogative adjective.

Examples: *what, which, whose, where, etc*

**d. Verb**

A verb is a word used to express an action or state. There are three kinds of verbs:

➤ *Transitive verbs*

A transitive verb is a verb that denotes an action which passes over from the doer or subject to an object.

Example: The driver *stopped* the train.

➤ *Intransitive verbs*

An intransitive verb is a verb that denotes an action which does not pass over to an object.

Example: The train stopped suddenly.

➤ *Verbs of incomplete predication*

Verbs which require a word to make the sense complete are called verbs of incomplete predication.

Example: Saba seems *happy*.

**e. Adverb**

An adverb is a word used to add something to the meaning of a verb, an adjective or another adverb. The kinds of adverb are as follows:

➤ *Adverb of Manner*

An adverb used to show how an action is done is known as an adverb of manner.

Examples: *quickly, hard, fast, well, clearly, etc.*

➤ *Adverb of Time*

An adverb used to show when an action is done is known as an adverb of time.

Examples: *now, then, today, tomorrow, early, soon, still, etc.*

➤ *Adverb of Frequency*

An adverb used to show how often an action is done is known as an adverb of frequency.

Examples: *once, twice, often, never, always, seldom, etc.*

➤ *Adverb of Place*

An adverb used to show where an action is done is known as an adverb of place.

Examples: *here, there, up, down, near, below, above, away, etc.*

➤ *Adverb of Degree*

An adverb used to show how much or to what degree, or to what extent an action is done is known as adverb of degree.

Examples: *fairly, almost, fully, partly, etc.*

➤ *Adverb of Reason*

An adverb used to show the reason for an action is known as adverb of reason.

Examples: *hence, therefore, etc.*

## **f. Preposition**

A preposition is a word used before a noun or a pronoun to show in what relation the person or the thing denoted by it stands in regard to something else. There are three kinds of prepositions:

### ➤ *Simple Prepositions*

Simple prepositions are single basic words.

Examples: *in, on, of, out, from, over, by, at, for, to, up, with, etc.*

### *Compound Prepositions*

These prepositions are generally formed by prefixing a preposition to a noun, to an adjective or to an adverb.

Examples: *without, within, inside, beside, outside, beyond, before, between, etc.*

### ➤ *Phrase prepositions*

These prepositions are formed by phrases.

Examples: *in place of, according to, in front of, along with, in order to, instead of, etc.*

## **g. Conjunction**

A word which joins together sentences or words or clauses is known as Conjunction.

Conjunctions are divided into following types:

### ➤ *Correlative Conjunctions*

Conjunctions which are used in pairs are known as correlative conjunctions.

Examples: *neither-nor, either-or, not only-but also, hardly-when, etc.*

### ➤ *Compound Conjunctions*

Compound conjunctions are the group of words that are used as conjunctions.

Examples: *as soon as, as well as, in order to, so-that, etc.*

### ➤ *Coordinating Conjunctions*

Conjunctions which are used to join together clauses of equal rank are known as coordinating conjunctions.

Examples: *or, but, also, for, etc.*

### ➤ *Subordinating Conjunctions*

Conjunctions which are used to join clauses of unequal rank are known as subordinating conjunctions.

Examples: *after, although, when, because, if, that, unless, etc.*



## **h. Interjection**

An interjection is a word which expresses some sudden feeling or emotion. Examples: Hurrah! (Joy), Alas! (Grief), Bravo! (Approval), What! (Surprise), etc

### **1.3.2 Types of Sentences**

A group of words which make complete sense is known as a sentence. We can classify sentences on the basis of purpose and on the basis of structure of sentence. On the basis of purpose, there are four kinds of sentences;

#### ➤ *Declarative or Assertive Sentence*

A sentence that makes a statement or assertion is called as Declarative or Assertive sentence. Such sentences always end with a full stop.

Example: *Hyderabad is the capital of Telangana.*

#### ➤ *Interrogative Sentence*

An interrogative sentence asks a direct question and always ends with a question mark.

Example: *What is the capital of Telangana?*

#### ➤ *Imperative Sentence*

An imperative sentence gives a direct command to someone. This type of sentence can end either with a full stop or with an exclamation mark, depending on how forceful the command is.

Example: *Sit down! , Read this article.*

#### ➤ *Exclamatory Sentence*

A sentence that expresses strong feeling is called as an exclamatory sentence.

Example: *How beautiful this river is!*

According to the structure of sentence, there are three types of sentences:

#### ➤ *Simple Sentence*

It is a basic type of sentence which contains only one clause. A simple sentence can be as short as one word.

Examples: a. *Run!* b. *Ice melts.*

#### ➤ *Compound Sentence*

A compound sentence consists of two or more independent clauses or simple sentences, joined by coordinating conjunctions like ‘and’, ‘but’ and ‘or.’

Examples: *Saudi Arab is a rich country, but still it has many poor people.*

➤ *Complex Sentence*

A complex sentence contains one independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

Example: *Although my cousins invited me to a party, I do not want to go.*

### **1.3.3 Tenses**

Tense is a special feature of all languages in general. The term 'Tense' is derived from the Latin word 'Tempus' which means time. Hence, tense refers to the time of the action done by the subject. In English, there are three main types of tenses. They are nothing but the divisions of time for referring the time of the action. These three types of tenses and their subtypes are explained as under:

#### **a. Present Tense**

It refers to action done in present time. It means the action is done recently, almost now at the time of speaking. This tense shows the time of activity in present. This tense is subdivided into four types:

➤ *Simple Present Tense*

It is used to denote the true happenings in nature and habitual truth. It gives simple action of the present time.

Examples: i. *The earth rotates around the sun.* ii. *Salma reads the Holy Quran daily.*

➤ *Present Continuous Tense*

The present continuous is used for an action going on at the time of speaking.

Examples: *Altaf is reading a storybook.*

➤ *Present Perfect Tense*

The present perfect tense is used to indicate completed activities in the immediate past and is connected in some way with the present.

Examples: *He has read the storybook.*

➤ *Present Perfect Continuous Tense*

The present perfect continuous tense is used for an action which began at some time in the past and is still continuing.

Examples: *Sachin has been playing cricket since his childhood.*

#### **b. Past Tense**

It shows the time of activity in the past. This tense is subdivided into four tenses:

➤ *Simple Past Tense*

It denotes the actions completed in the past. It is formed by using past form of the verb.

Example: *The train arrived here at 8.00 pm.*

➤ *Past Continuous Tense*

It shows an activity which was in progress before in the past.

Example: *When I reached his house, he was sleeping.*

➤ *Past Perfect Tense*

It denotes the activity that took place before any other activity in the past.

Example: *Mariam **had finished** her homework before I **reached** her home.*

➤ *Past Perfect Continuous Tense*

It denotes the action which began in the past, continued for some time and stopped in the past.

Example: *I had been repairing his watch for two days last year.*

**c. Future Tense**

Future tense shows the activity which is going to take place in future. It is subdivided into four types:

➤ *Simple Future Tense*

It is used to express actions that will happen in the future.

Example: *Salim will write an application.*

➤ *Future Continuous Tense*

It is used to express an action which will still continue in future time without any definite limit. It also expresses a future without intention.

Examples:     1. *I will be going to Hyderabad tomorrow.*

                  2. *He will be participating in the competition.*

➤ *Future Perfect Tense*

It is used to express an action that will have been completed at a time in future.

Example: *I will have passed B.Ed. successfully.*

➤ *Future Perfect Continuous Tense*

It is used for actions which will be in progress over a period of time that will end in the future.

Example: *I will have been teaching for five years next February.*

### 1.3.4 Transformation of sentences

In transformation, the form of sentence is changed without changing the meaning of the sentence. We can transform active voice into passive voice, from direct speech to indirect speech, from affirmative sentence to negative sentence and vice-versa. Let's study the transformation of voice;

#### a. Voice

Voice shows whether the subject of some verb acts or is acted upon. There are two types of voice:

##### ➤ *Active Voice*

A verb is said to be in the active voice when the subject acts.

Example: *Dogs kill cats.*

##### ➤ *Passive Voice*

A verb is said to be in the passive voice when the subject is acted upon.

Example: *Cats are killed by dogs.*

From the above sentences, it is clear that when a sentence in the active voice is changed into the passive voice, the following changes occur:

- a. The object of the verb in the active voice becomes the subject of the verb in the passive voice.
- b. The subject in the active voice becomes the object in the passive voice.
- c. In the passive voice the verb 'to be' is one of its form (am, is, are, was, were) should be used with the past participle of the transitive verb.

The following table shows the transformation of active voice into passive voice:

Simple Present Tense	
is, am, are + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
She <b>lights</b> the candle.	The candle <b>is lighted</b> by her.
She <b>does not light</b> the candle.	The candle <b>is not lighted</b> by her.
<b>Do</b> you <b>eat</b> chicken?	<b>Is</b> chicken <b>eaten</b> by you?
Present Continuous Tense	
is, am, are + being + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
<b>I am driving</b> a bus.	A bus <b>is being driven</b> by me.
<b>I am not driving</b> a bus.	A bus <b>is not being driven</b> by me.
<b>Am I driving</b> a bus?	<b>Is</b> a bus <b>being driven</b> by me?
Present Perfect Tense	
has, have + been + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
She <b>has stolen</b> my pen.	My pen <b>has been stolen</b> by her.
She <b>has not stolen</b> my pen.	My pen <b>has not been stolen</b> by her.
<b>Has</b> she <b>stolen</b> my pen?	<b>Has</b> my pen <b>been stolen</b> by her?
Simple Past Tense	
was, were + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
She <b>finished</b> work.	Work <b>was finished</b> by her.
She did not <b>finish</b> work.	Work <b>was not finished</b> by her.
<b>Did</b> she <b>finish</b> work?	<b>Was</b> work <b>finished</b> by her?
Past Continuous Tense	
was, were + being + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
He <b>was revising</b> his books.	His books <b>were being revised</b> by him.
He <b>was not revising</b> his books.	His books <b>were not being revised</b> by him.
<b>Was</b> he <b>revising</b> his books?	<b>Were</b> his books <b>being revised</b> by him?
Past Perfect Tense	
Had + been + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
<b>I had completed</b> the homework.	The homework <b>had been completed</b> by me.
<b>I had not completed</b> the homework.	The homework <b>had not been completed</b> by me.
<b>Had I completed</b> the homework?	<b>Had</b> the homework <b>been completed</b> by me?
Simple Future Tense	
will/ shall + be + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
My uncle <b>will</b> pay my college fee.	My college fee <b>will be paid</b> by my uncle.
My uncle <b>will not</b> pay my college fee.	My college fee <b>will not be paid</b> by my uncle.
<b>Will</b> my uncle pay my college fee?	<b>Will</b> my college fee <b>be paid</b> by my uncle?
Future Perfect Tense	
will, shall + have been + 3 <sup>rd</sup> verb	
Active Voice	Passive Voice
We <b>shall have done</b> our homework.	Our homework <b>shall have been done</b> by us.
We <b>shall not have done</b> our homework.	Our homework <b>shall not have been done</b> by us.
<b>Shall</b> We <b>have done</b> our homework?	<b>Shall</b> our homework <b>have been done</b> by us?

Table no : 1.1- Tenses ( Retrived from: [www.careersplay.com](http://www.careersplay.com))

## b. Reported Speech

There are two ways of reporting what someone has said; direct and indirect speech.

### ➤ Direct Speech

A direct speech gives the words of a speaker exactly as spoken. Examples: *Farhana said, "I don't like horror movies."*

### ➤ Indirect Speech

An indirect speech gives the same meaning without using the speaker's exact words.

Example: *Farhana said that she didn't like horror movies.*

While changing direct speech to indirect the following points must be taken care of;

1. Use 'that' conjunction to join two sentences.
2. Don't use comma after reporting verb.
3. Inverted commas, interrogative mark, exclamatory mark are not used.
4. Form of verbs, pronouns, demonstrative pronouns, adverbs of time and place are changed.

The following table shows some examples of transformation of direct speech into indirect speech:

	Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
present simple	I like banana.	She said (that) she liked banana.
present continuous	I am living in Mumbai.	She said (that) she was living in Mumbai.
past simple	I bought a bicycle.	She said (that) she bought a bicycle.
past continuous	I was walking along the street.	She said (that) she had been walking along the street.
present perfect	I haven't seen Sunita.	She said (that) she hadn't seen Sunita.
past perfect*	I had taken Urdu lessons before.	She said (that) she had taken Urdu lessons before.
will	I'll see you later.	She said (that) she would see me later.
would*	I would help, but...	She said (that) she would help but...
can	I can speak perfect Urdu.	She said (that) she could speak perfect Urdu.
could*	I could swim when I was four.	She said (that) she could swim when she was four.
shall	I shall come later.	She said (that) she would come later.
should*	I should call my father.	She said (that) she should call her father
might*	I might be late.	She said (that) she might be late
must	I must study at the weekend.	She said (that) she must study at the weekend
Assertive sentence	Jamil says, "I drink coffee".	Jamil says (that) he drinks coffee.
Imperative sentence	"Read slowly," said the sister to the brother.	The sister advised the brother to read slowly.
Interrogative sentence	Mohammad asked, "Where is he going?"	Mohammad asked where he was going.
Exclamatory sentence	The girl said, "Hurrah! How skillfully Rahul played!"	The girl shouted with joy that Rahul played very skillfully.

\*doesn't change

Table no : 1.2- Reported Speech

### 1.3.5 Degrees of Comparison

There are three degrees of comparison of adjectives, namely Positive Degree, Comparative Degree and Superlative Degree. Let us study these degrees of comparison:

➤ *Positive Degree*

An adjective used to talk about the quality of a person, place or thing is known as positive degree.

Example: *Praneeta is a beautiful girl.*

➤ *Comparative Degree*

An adjective used to compare two persons or things or the quality is known as comparative degree.

Example: *Sruthi is more beautiful than Sana.*

➤ *Superlative Degree*

An adjective used to talk about comparing more than two persons or things or their quality is known as the superlative degree.

Example: *Sruthi is the most beautiful girl in the class.*

Some rules of formation of degrees of comparison are mentioned in the following table;

Formation	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
By adding 'er' and 'est' to the positive	Tall	Taller	Tallest
	Short	Shorter	Shortest
	Young	Younger	Youngest
When positive ends with 'e', only 'r' and 'st' are added	<b>Brave</b>	<b>Braver</b>	<b>Bravest</b>
	<b>Wise</b>	<b>Wiser</b>	<b>Wisest</b>
	<b>Fine</b>	<b>Finer</b>	<b>Finest</b>
When positive ends with 'y' and has a consonant before it 'y' is changed into 'i' and 'er' and 'est' are added.	Happy	Happier	Happiest
	Lazy	Lazier	Laziest
	Easy	Easier	Easiest
By doubling the final consonant and adding 'er' and 'est'.	<b>Big</b>	<b>Bigger</b>	<b>Biggest</b>
	<b>Fat</b>	<b>Fatter</b>	<b>Fattest</b>
	<b>Hot</b>	<b>Hotter</b>	<b>Hottest</b>
By adding 'more' and 'most'.	Beautiful	More beautiful	Most beautiful
	Active	More active	Most active
Irregular Formation of adjectives.	<b>Bad</b>	<b>Worse</b>	<b>Worst</b>
	<b>Good</b>	<b>Better</b>	<b>Best</b>
	<b>Little</b>	<b>Less</b>	<b>Least</b>

Table no : 1.3- Degree of Comparison

### 1.3.6 Clause

A group of words which forms a part of a sentence and contains a subject and a predicate is called a clause. The part which names the person or thing we are speaking about is known as subject of the sentence whereas, the part which tells about the subject is known as predicate.

Clauses are divided into two types:

➤ *Principal Clause*

A clause which makes complete sense independently and stands by itself is called a main or principal or an independent clause.

Examples: ***She** received a letter and replied to it.*

➤ *Subordinate Clause*

A clause which depends on some other clause for its meaning is called a Dependant or Subordinate clause.

Examples: ***If you are a graduate**, you are eligible for this post.*

### 1.3.7 Question Tag

Question Tag is a common practice in conversation to make a statement and ask for confirmation. Question tags are made by using an auxiliary verb (be or have) and subject pronoun (we, you, she). If the main clause is positive, the question tag is negative and if the main clause is in negative, the question tag remains positive.

Examples: It's hot (positive), isn't it (negative)?

Isn't it hot (negative), is it (positive)?

If there is no auxiliary verb in the clause then 'do, does and did' can be used to make question tags. If the auxiliary verb is 'am', then 'are' is used for making question tag.

The following table shows how to make positive and negative question tags of different tenses and auxiliaries:

Present simple ' <b>be</b> '	She's American, <b>isn't she</b> ?
Present simple <b>other verbs</b>	They live in New Delhi, <b>don't they</b> ?
Present continuous	We're working tonight, <b>aren't we</b> ?
Past simple ' <b>be</b> '	It was hot yesterday, <b>wasn't it</b> ?
Past simple <b>other verbs</b>	He went to the conference last night, <b>didn't he</b> ?
Past continuous	We were waiting at the airport, <b>weren't we</b> ?
Present perfect	They've been to Dubai, <b>haven't they</b> ?
Present perfect continuous	He's been studying a lot recently, <b>hasn't he</b> ?
Past perfect	He had forgotten his wristwatch, <b>hadn't he</b> ?
Past perfect continuous	We'd been working, <b>hadn't we</b> ?



Future simple	She'll come at nine, <b>won't she?</b>
Future continuous	They'll be arriving soon, <b>won't they?</b>
Future perfect	They'll have finished before six, <b>won't they?</b>
Future perfect continuous	She'll have been cooking all day, <b>won't she?</b>
Modals	She can help, <b>can't she?</b>
Modals	Nasiruddin must stay, <b>mustn't he?</b>

**Table no. 1.4 Positive sentences, with negative tags**

Present simple ' <b>be</b> '	We aren't late, <b>are we?</b>
Present simple <b>other verbs</b>	She doesn't have any children, <b>does she?</b>
Present continuous	The car isn't coming, <b>is it?</b>
Past simple ' <b>be</b> '	She wasn't at home yesterday, <b>was she?</b>
Past simple <b>other verbs</b>	They didn't go out last Monday, <b>did they?</b>
Past continuous	You weren't playing, <b>were you?</b>
Present perfect	She hasn't eaten all the eggs, <b>has she?</b>
Present perfect continuous	He hasn't been running in this weather, <b>has he?</b>
Past perfect	We hadn't been to New Delhi before, <b>had we?</b>
Past perfect continuous	You hadn't been sleeping, <b>had you?</b>
Future simple	They won't be late, <b>will they?</b>
Future continuous	He'll be studying tomorrow, <b>won't he?</b>
Future perfect	She won't have left work before five, <b>will she?</b>
Future perfect continuous	He won't have been travelling all day, <b>will he?</b>
Modals	She can't speak Urdu, <b>can she?</b>
Modals	They mustn't come early, <b>must they?</b>

**Table no. 1.5 Negative sentences, with positive tags**

## 1.4 Phonetics

Phonetics is the scientific study of sounds of a language.

### 1.4.1 Segmental Features

Segmental features are the speech sounds of the English language. In this section, we shall learn about organs of speech, vowels (pure vowels and diphthongs) and consonants and how they are articulated. All these come under 'Phonetics'. Before we study the speech sounds, we shall learn about organs of speech.

#### 1.4.1.1 Organs of Speech

Various organs of speech help us to pronounce the sounds and words clearly. Without these organs speech is impossible. Let us know about the important organs of speech:

- a. lips
- b. teeth
- c. alveolar ridge
- d. hard palate
- e. soft palate (velum)
- f. nasal cavity

Organs of speech and place of articulation are seen in the pictures given below:

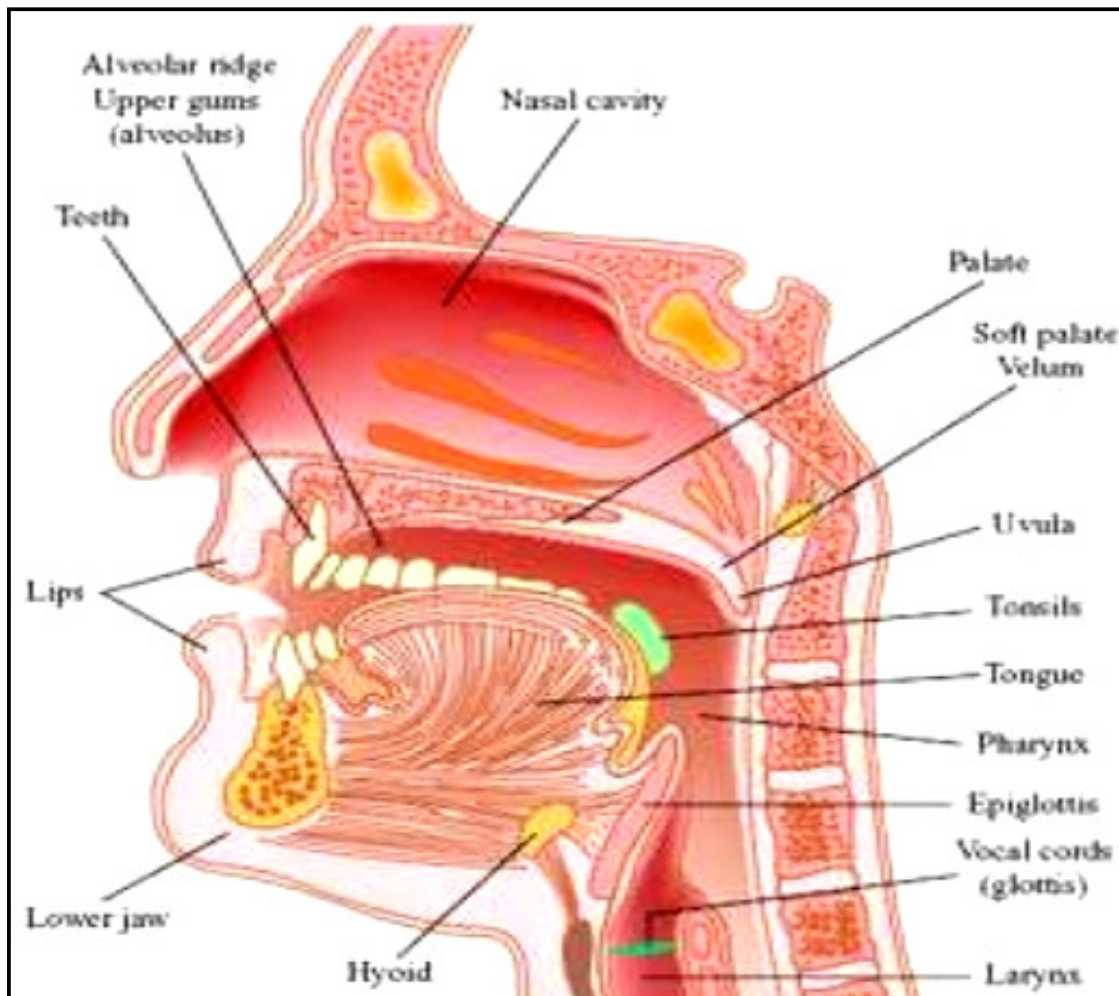


Figure 1.1

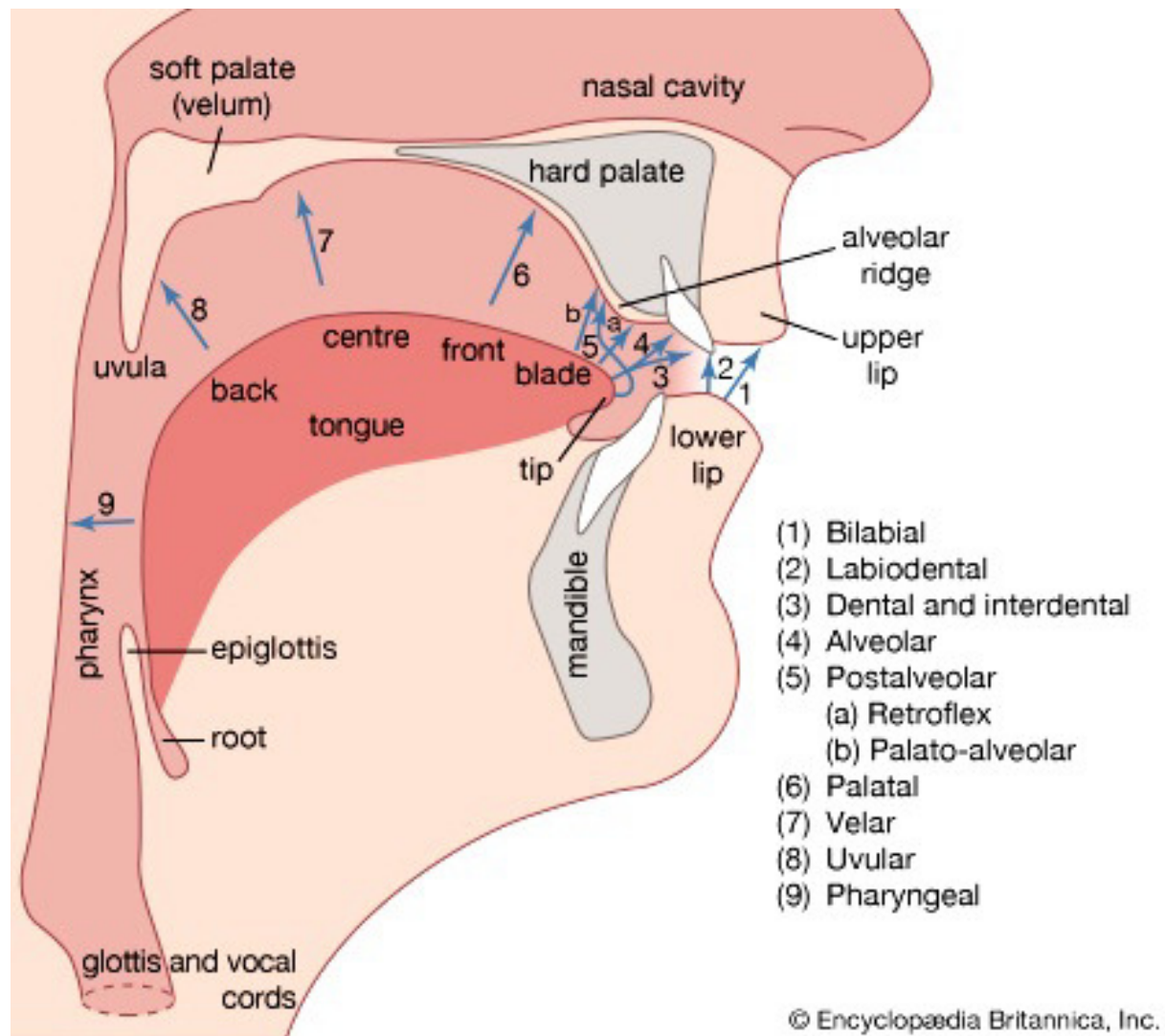


Figure  
1.2

### Activity 1

List out the organs of speech.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

### 1.4.1.2 Vowels

It is a voiced sound. It is produced when speech organs do not obstruct the air passage in the oral cavity. English has 20 vowels. These vowels are divided into two categories – pure vowels and diphthongs. There are **12 pure vowels** and **8 diphthongs** in the English language.

#### a. Pure Vowels

These sounds do not get changed during the course of utterance. They are same from the start to the end. The diagram below helps us to understand how the vowel sounds are produced. The diagram below represents the tongue. The tongue has been divided into three parts: **front** of the tongue, **central** part of the tongue, and **back** of the tongue. Depending on the position of the tongue and lips, it has been divided into **close**, **half-close**, **half-open** and **open** positions.

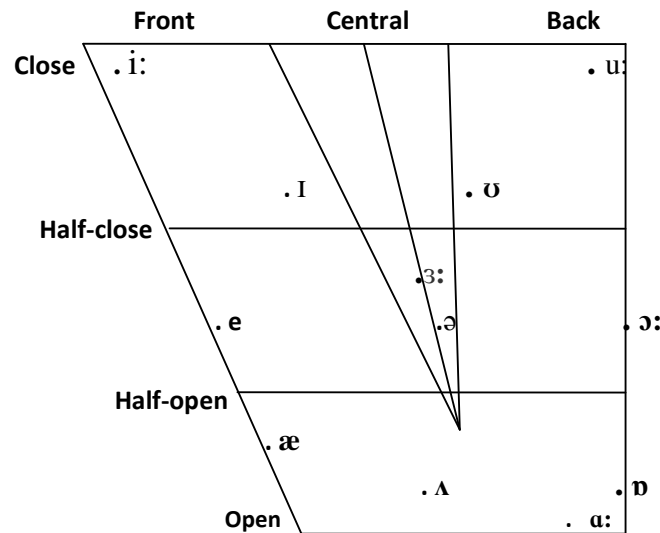


Figure 1.3

#### Description/Three-term Labels of Pure Vowels

The above-mentioned sounds (phonemes) have been described below. The description is short and it is also known as “**three-term label**”.

Sl. No	Sound	Description of the Sound	Examples Underlined letters represent the sound given in column #2
1.	/i:/	Just below close, front, unrounded vowel	<u>tea</u> , <u>please</u>
2.	/ɪ/	Just above half-close, front, unrounded vowel	<u>tin</u> , <u>drink</u>
3.	/e/	Between half-close and half-open, front unrounded vowel	<u>ten</u> , <u>pens</u>
4.	/æ/	Between half-open and open, front, unrounded vowel	<u>fat</u> , <u>rat</u>
5.	/ɜ:/	Below half-close, central, neutral vowel	<u>third</u> , <u>world</u>
6.	/ə/	Between half-close and half-open, central, neutral, vowel. It is also known as “schwa”.	<u>a</u> bout, <u>A</u> merica
7.	/ʌ/	Between half-open and open, central, neutral, vowel.	sh <u>u</u> t, <u>u</u> p

8.	/u:/	Just below close, back, rounded vowel.	<u>c</u> ool, <u>f</u> ood
9	/ʊ/	Just above half-close, back, rounded vowel.	<u>g</u> ood, <u>b</u> ook
10.	/ɒ/	Above half-open, back, rounded vowel.	<u>h</u> ot, <u>p</u> ot
11.	/ɔ:/	Between half-open and open, back, rounded vowel.	<u>b</u> ald, <u>b</u> oar
12.	ɑ:/	Open, back, unrounded vowel.	<u>c</u> lass, <u>p</u> assed

Table no. 1.6 Pure Vowels

### Activity 2

Write down the three-term labels of the following:

1. /æ/ .....
2. /ɜ:/ .....
3. /ə/ .....
4. /ʌ/ .....
5. /ɒ/ .....
6. /ɔ:/ .....

### b. Diphthongs

It is a combination of two pure vowels. The sound of a diphthong begins with one vowel and ends with another vowel during the course of its pronunciation. Diphthongs are also known as glides.

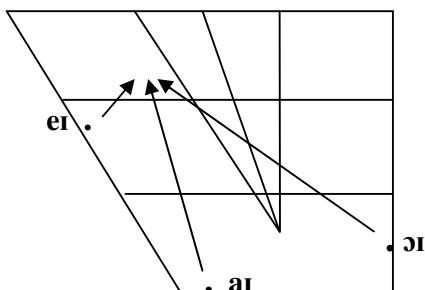


Figure: 1.4

#### 1. /aɪ/

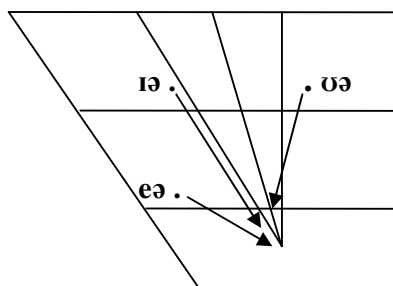
This diphthong begins at a point slightly behind the front open position and moves in the direction of /ɪ/. (See figure 1.4). Examples: right, time

#### 2. /ɔɪ/

This diphthong begins at a point between the back half-open and open positions and moves in the direction of /ɪ/. (See figure 1.4). Examples: Point, Troy

#### 3. /eɪ/

This diphthong begins from slightly below the half-close front position and moves in the direction of /ɪ/. See (See figure 1.4). Examples: Safe, way



**Figure: 1.5**

**4. /ɪə/**

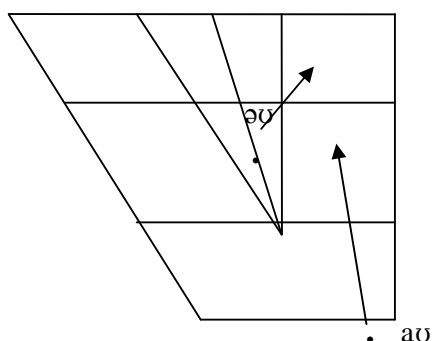
This diphthong begins from just above the half-close front position and moves in the direction of /ə/. (See figure 1.5). Examples: dear, peer

**5. /eə/**

This diphthong begins from just above the half-open front position and moves in the direction of /ə/. (See figure 1.5). Examples: fair, care

**6. /ʊə/**

This diphthong begins from just above the half-close back position and moves in the direction of /ə/. (See figure 1.5). Examples: poor, moor



**Figure 1.6**

**7. /əʊ/**

This diphthong begins from the central position between half-close and half-open and moves in the direction of /ʊ/. (See figure 1.6). Examples: so, low.

**8. /aʊ/**

This diphthong begins at /a:/ position and moves in the direction of /ʊ/. (See figure 1.6)

Examples: cow, house.

### Activity 3

Describe all the diphthongs.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

#### 1.4.1.3 Consonants

It is a sound, which is produced when the air from lungs is obstructed due to narrow or complete closure of air passage. English has 24 consonant sounds.

##### a. Classification of Consonants

Consonants are classified based on four features:

##### 1. Place of Articulation

It informs us the place where a sound is produced (*stricture*) and the articulators which are involved in producing a sound.

##### 2. Manner of Articulation

If the stricture is *complete or partial*, it is called “close approximation”. If it is *relatively open*, it is called “open approximation”.

##### 3. State of the soft palate (*velum*)

If the soft palate is lowered, a nasal sound is produced. If the velum is raised, an oral sound is produced.

##### 4. State of the Vocal Cords (*glottis*)

If the vocal cords vibrate while uttering a sound it is called "voiced sound" if it doesn't, it is called "voiceless sound".

Gimson (1980) states that the term “approximation” refers to the two articulators approaching, or “approximating”, one another.

##### b. Place of articulation

There are important places of articulation to produce the sounds of the English language.

They are:

##### 1. Bilabial

These sounds are produced with the help of upper and lower lips. Examples: /p/, /b/ and /m/

2. *Labio-dental*

These sounds are produced, when the lower lip comes in contact with the upper teeth. Examples: /f/ and /v/.

3. *Dental*

These sounds are produced, when the tongue tip and rims touch the upper teeth. Examples: /θ/ and /ð/.

4. *Alveolar*

The blade, or tip and blade, of the tongue comes in contact with the alveolar ridge to produce the sound. Examples: /t/, /d/, /l/, /n/, /s/ and /z/.

5. *Post-alveolar*

The tip of the tongue touches the rear part of the alveolar ridge. Example: /r/.

6. *Palato-alveolar*

The blade, or tip and blade, of the tongue, comes in contact with the alveolar ridge and the front of the tongue is raised towards the hard palate. Examples: /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /tʃ/, and /dʒ/.

7. *Palatal*

The front of the tongue touches the hard palate. Example: /j/.

8. *Velar*

The back of the tongue touches the soft palate. Examples: /k/, /g/, and /ŋ/.

9. *Glottal*

There is no vibration between vocal cords except for a slight obstruction or a narrowing. Example: /h/

**c. Manner of Articulation**

1. *Plosives*

A complete closure at some point in the vocal tract, behind which the air pressure builds up and the air is released with an explosion.

2. *Fricatives*

The air-stream passes through a gap between upper teeth and lower lip with friction.

3. *Affricates*

A complete closure at some point in the mouth, behind which the air pressure builds up and the organs separate slowly compared to a plosive.

4. *Nasals*

A complete closure at some point in the mouth, the soft palate lowers and the air escapes through the nose.

5. *Lateral*

A partial closure is made at some point in the mouth and the air-stream is allowed to escape on one or both sides of the contact.

6. *Frictionless Continuant*

The air passage is partially closed and the nasal passage is closed. The air escapes through the mouth without any friction.

7. *Semi-vowels*



They are usually placed under consonantal category on functional grounds, but they are treated as vowel glides.

#### d. Place and Manner of Articulation

Place of Articulation  Manner of Articulation	Bilabial		Labio-dental		Dental		Alveolar		Post-alveolar		Palato-alveolar		Palatal		Velar		Glottal	
	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V	VI	V
Plosives	<b>p</b>	<b>b</b>					<b>t</b>	<b>D</b>							<b>k</b>	<b>g</b>		
Fricatives			<b>f</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>θ</b>	<b>ð</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>Z</b>			<b>ʃ</b>	<b>ʒ</b>					<b>h</b>	
Affricates											<b>tʃ</b>	<b>dʒ</b>						
Nasals		<b>m</b>						<b>N</b>								<b>ŋ</b>		
Lateral								<b>L</b>										
Frictionless Continuant										<b>r</b>								
Semi-vowels		<b>w</b>												<b>j</b>				

**Note:** VI: Voiceless V: Voiced

Table no 1.7 Place and Manner Articulation

#### e. Description of the Consonant Sounds

The sounds given in the table given above are described below:

Sl. No.	Phoneme/Sound	Description/Three-term Label of the Phoneme/Sound	Example (The letter(s) underlined represent the sound given in column # 2)
1.	/p/	voiceless bilabial plosive	<u>p</u> en
2.	/b/	voiced bilabial plosive	b <u>est</u>
3.	/t/	voiceless alveolar plosive	<u>t</u> ub
4.	/d/	voiced alveolar plosive	<u>d</u> ust
5.	/k/	voiceless velar plosive	<u>k</u> ettle
6.	/g/	voiced velar plosive	<u>G</u> od
7.	/f/	voiceless labio-dental fricative	<u>f</u> ather
8.	/v/	voiced labio-dental fricative	<u>v</u> ast
9.	/θ/	voiceless dental fricative	<u>th</u> ank
10.	/ð/	voiced dental fricative	<u>th</u> em
11.	/s/	voiceless alveolar fricative	<u>s</u> tar

12.	/z/	voiced alveolar fricative	<u>z</u> ebra
13.	/ʃ/	voiceless post-alveolar fricative	<u>sh</u> irt
14.	/ʒ/	voiced palato-alveolar fricative	gar <u>age</u>
15.	/h/	voiceless glottal fricative	<u>h</u> at
16.	/tʃ/	voiceless palato-alveolar affricate	<u>ch</u> icken
17.	/dʒ/	voiced palato-alveolar affricate	<u>J</u> esus
18.	/m/	voiced bilabial nasal	<u>m</u> other
19.	/n/	voiced alveolar nasal	<u>n</u> umber
20.	/ŋ/	voiced velar nasal	<u>th</u> ing
21.	/l/	voiced alveolar lateral	<u>l</u> ast
22.	/r/	voiced post-alveolar frictionless continuant	<u>r</u> un
23.	/w/	voiced bilabial-velar semi-vowel	<u>w</u> ise
24.	/j/	voiced palatal semi-vowel	<u>y</u> ellow

Table no. 1.8 Consonant Sounds

#### Activity 4

Write down the three-term labels of the following:

1. /ʃ/ .....
2. /ʒ/ .....
3. /ŋ/ .....
4. /j/ .....
5. /θ/ .....
6. /ð/ .....
7. /v/ .....
8. /w/ .....

### 1.4.2 Supra-segmental Features

Supra-segmental features are as important as segmental features. Without supra-segmental features, there is no distinction between Urdu and English. Hence, it is important to study these aspects too.

In this section, we shall study stress, rules of word stress, rhythm and intonation. In intonation, there are four types of intonation: falling tone, rising tone, falling-rising tone and rising-falling tone.

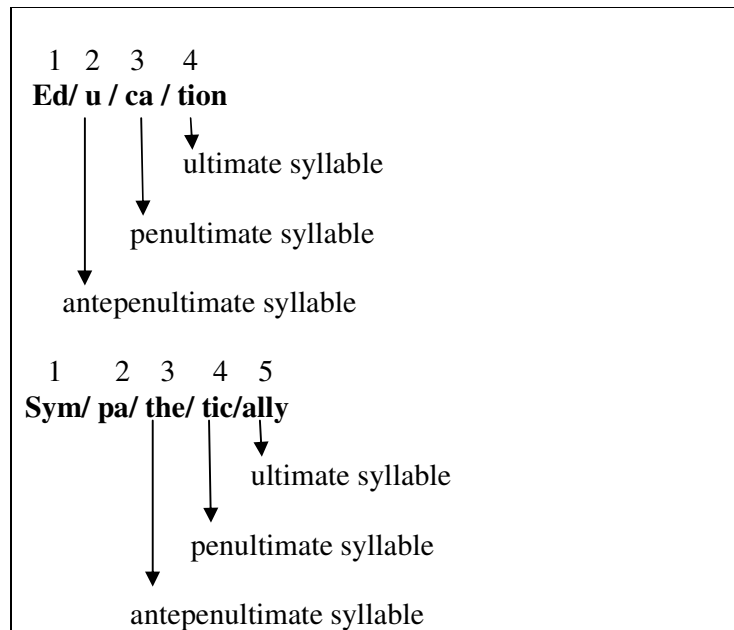
#### 1.4.2.1 Stress

It is defined as the relative importance of syllable in a word. A syllable is made up of one or more phonemes or sounds. A **phoneme** *is the smallest unit of sound in speech.*

Almost all the Indian languages are syllable-timed languages. It means, every syllable in Indian languages is important. Hence, all the syllables in a word are stressed while speaking the language. Whereas, English is stress-timed language, which means only one syllable in a multi-syllable word is stressed. For example, the word, “education” has four syllables (ed<sup>1</sup>/u<sup>2</sup>/ca<sup>3</sup>/tion<sup>4</sup>) but only the underlined (third) syllable is pronounced with more emphasis or force than the others.

Syllables, which belong to the word classes (parts of speech) given below are stressed.

- a. Nouns
- b. Full verbs
- c. Adverbs
- d. Adjectives



**Figure no. 1.7 Naming/numbering the syllables**

1. Syllables are numbered from left to right, as given in the figure given above.
2. Syllables are named from right to left. As given in the figure given above, the last syllable is called ultimate syllable, the second syllable from the last is called penultimate syllable, and the third syllable from the last is called antepenultimate syllable.
3. Stress is represented by “1”

#### **b. Rules of Word Stress**

1. In a two-syllable word, nouns/adjectives have stress on the first syllable and it shifts to the second syllable in a two-syllable verb.

##### **Nouns/adjective**

'object

'conduct

'produce

'content

##### **Verb**

ob'ject

con'duct

pro'duce

con'tent

2. Any word ending in **-ion** has stress on the penultimate syllable.  
Examples: ex'tension, re'lation, pro'motion, e'lection.
3. Any word ending in **-ic**, **-ical**, and **-ically** have stress on the syllable immediately preceding the suffix.

Examples: eco'nom**ic**, eco'nom**ical**, eco'nom**ically**.

fan'tast**ic**, po'lit**ical**, scien'tif**ically**.

4. Any word ending in **-ial**, **-ially**, **-ian**, **-ious**, and **-ity** has stress on the syllable immediately preceding the suffix.

Examples: 'partial, 'partial**ly**, pedia'tric**ian**, am'bitious and parti'al**ity**

5. Verbs, which have more than two syllables and end with **-ate**, **-fy**, and **-ize** (or **-ise**) the stress is on the antepenultimate syllable.

Examples: 'punctuate, 'classify, 'compromise, 'subsidize

Exceptions with “-ize” are: characterize, 'hospitalize, and 'regularize.

6. Any word which ends with **-logy** or **-graphy**, the stress is on the antepenultimate syllable

Examples: bi'ology, bi'ography

### Compound Words

1. In any compound noun, the stress is on the first word.

2. Examples: 'classroom, 'textbook, 'chalkboard

3. In any compound word, where present participle comes first, the stress is on the first word.

Examples: 'laughing-gas, 'dining-table, 'writing-pad

4. Any compound word, which ends with suffixes **-self** and **-ever**, the suffixes receive the primary accent.

Examples: my'self, your'self, what'ever, how'ever.

### 1.4.2.2 Rhythm

An important aspect of English is the rhythm it possesses. The presence of stressed syllables (strong forms) and unstressed syllables (weak form) make all the difference while speaking English. Example:

Was 'this the 'face that 'launched a 'thousand 'ships and 'burnt the 'topless 'towers of 'Ilium

1            2            3            4            5            6            7            8            9

If we examine the sentence given above, there is an unstressed syllable, after which there is one stressed syllable. The unstressed and the stressed syllable form a stress group. Each number given above is one stress group. As per the rule, each stress group will get the same

amount of time as the other to utter it. It means every stressed syllable in a sentence comes at equal intervals of time. This is the reason why English is called stress-timed language.

### **1.4.2.3 Intonation**

Listen to a BBC English news reader. We find there is a frequent change in their pitch. The change in the pitch of the voice is called “intonation”.

We know that there are syllables which are stressed and unstressed in a sentence. In any normal spoken sentence, the pitch does change on the last stressed syllable. It is known as tone. The syllable which receives the tone is known as “tonic syllable”. It is important to note that it is difficult to say that a specific tone is used to express a specific meaning.

There are four types of intonation:

- a. Falling Tone
- b. Rising Tone
- c. Falling-Rising Tone
- d. Rising-Falling Tone

#### **a. Falling Tone**

In a falling tone, the pitch falls from high to low.

General rules to use a falling tone.

1. Statements.  
Example: Sakshi is a good girl.
2. Wh-questions (Questions starting with: how, what, which, where, who, whom, why)  
Example: What is he doing?
3. Orders or commands  
Example: Switch on the fan.
4. Exclamations  
It's beautiful scenery.
5. Question tags: when the listener does not disagree with the speaker.  
Example: Sakshi makes good tea, doesn't she?

#### **b. Rising Tone**

In a rising tone, the pitch rises from low to high.

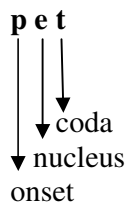
General rules to use a rising tone:

1. Yes/no type of questions.  
Example: Does Sakshi like pets?
2. Requests  
Example: Please switch on the light.
3. Sentences showing doubt, incompleteness, protest or surprise.  
Examples: I may come back.  
When she called me....  
This is not the shirt, which I asked you to buy.
4. Question tags: when the speaker expects only information.

### c. Falling-rising tone

In this tone, the pitch falls and rises on the nucleus of the same syllable (**undivided tone**). Sometimes it falls on one syllable and rises on another syllable of the same sentence (**divided tone**) depending on the context.

In the word /pet/ there are three sounds/phonemes, /p/, /e/ and /t/



/p/ is called onset: the initial sound of a syllable, usually a consonant.

/e/ is called nucleus: the centre sound of a syllable, always a vowel.

/t/ is called coda: the final sound of a syllable, usually a consonant.

General rules to use a falling-rising tone:

1. When a statement is said in rejection and anger.  
Example: I cannot go now.
2. When there is a reservation on the part of the speaker.  
Example: The tea is good (but it could have tasted better if she added some more sugar to it.)
3. When there is no “not” either in the statement or in the tag in a question tag.

Example: We tasted it, did you?

/

4. Making a correction.

Example: (He is an American) He's a Briton.

✓

#### d. Rising-falling tone

In this tone, the pitch rises and falls on the same syllable or on a different syllable.

The general rule to use a falling-rising tone:

It is being used when a listener shows surprise and enthusiasm.

Example: Would you like to see London? Oh yes! (divided rising-falling tone)

#### Activity 5

Write down the appropriate tone for the sentences given below:

1. What is intonation?

.....

2. I am good.

.....

3. We went to Seetanagaram last week, did you?

.....

4. There is male chauvinism in our community. (but it is less in)

.....

5. (You are a Telugu) I am a Relli.

.....

#### 1.4.3 Paralinguistic Features

Good speakers of English, master paralinguistic features like voice quality, clarity, pace, pauses and voice modulation along with segmental and supra-segmental features.

##### 1.4.3.1 Voice Quality

Concise Oxford Companion to the English Language defines it as the characteristic sound of the voice produced by the mode of vibration of the vocal cords or folds. The quality of voice depends on the degree and the manner of glottal closure.

##### Kinds of Voice



Sexon (2003) delineates the following types of voice:

- a. Breathy voice: In this type of voice, **words accompany with air**. It creates in an environment of secrecy.
- b. Creaky voice: This type of voice has a **short high-pitch sound**.
- c. Falsetto voice: It is a **very high sound voice**.
- d. Full voice: It is a formal and dignified voice. It is also called as **orotund** or **round mouth** quality.
- e. Thin voice: It is a **high-pitch sound**. It is common with old age, tiredness or weakness.
- f. Chest voice: It is the **lowest speaking voice**.
- g. Normal voice: It is **natural** but with **little** or **no emotion**.

#### 1.4.3.2 Clarity

Clarity is the *quality of speech* delivered to listeners.

Our speech should be as clear as a crystal and intelligible. Every listener should understand every sound or word that we pronounce. In other words, clarity in our speech removes ambiguity or misunderstanding and helps listener to comprehend easily whatever we speak.

#### Improving clarity

- a. Relax your jaws and tongue  
It aids us to open our mouth freely and helps us to be precise in pronouncing the sounds of English.
- b. Show punch in your voice  
Use more breath and reasonable volume. They will produce more power in our speech.
- c. Received Pronunciation  
Research (Jayaraju, 2005) proves that Received Pronunciation (RP) is more intelligible than any other dialect of English. Hence, RP is clear and comprehensible.

#### 1.4.3.3 Pace and Pauses

We have to maintain pace as per the listeners and give adequate time to our listeners to help them absorb whatever we speak. If need arises, we have to even slow down wherever necessary.

In addition, pauses also play a significant role. Pausing between two important ideas helps listeners to follow and identify important parts of our speech. It also helps us in holding their attention.

**1.4.3.4 Voice Modulation**

The monotonous tone in most of the cases is not helpful. The tone must change based on the importance of the point and the emotion that the speech carries. An effective speaker is he who pours life into his speech and holds the attention of his listeners.

**Activity 6**

List out the linguistic features of a language and explain why it is necessary for speech?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**1.5 Points to Remember**

In this unit, we tried to understand different aspects of English Grammar, such as; parts of speech, types and transformation of sentences, tense, degrees of comparison, types of clauses and question tag. In brief Students should go through standard books on English Grammar that are available in the market or on Internet, for detailed study of English Grammar.

In phonetics, we have dealt with the pure vowels, diphthongs and consonants in segmental features; stress, rhythm and intonation in supra-segmental features. In paralinguistic features of English, we have studied voice quality, clarity, pace, pauses and voice modulation.

In the next unit, we will study, Listening Comprehension and Speaking Skills.

**1.6 Glossary**

Pitch	:	the highness or lowness of voice
Rate	:	the speed with which the speaker speaks
Volume/ Intensity	:	loudness of a sound

## **1.7 Unit End Activities**

### **I. Very Short Answer Questions**

Write down the definitions of the following:

1. Verb
2. Adverb
3. Adjective
4. Preposition
5. Vowel
6. Diphthong
7. Syllable
8. Intonation
9. Voice modulation

### **II. Short Answer Questions**

1. What are the parts of speech (word classes)?
2. What are the segmental features? Explain
3. What are the supra-segmental features? Explain.
4. What are the rules of word stress?
5. What are the linguistic features of the language? Explain.
6. What are the different types of intonation?
7. What is passive voice? Give two examples.
8. Write a short note on direct and indirect speech.
9. Explain in brief the tenses in English.

### **III. Long Answer Questions**

1. Explain Parts of speech with examples
2. Exemplify vowel sounds and consonant sounds.
3. Why grammar and phonetics are important in language learning?

## 1.8 Suggested Readings

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# **Unit Two: Listening Comprehension and Speaking Skills**

## **Structure of the Unit**

### **2.1 Listening Comprehension**

- 2.1.1. Introduction
- 2.1.2 Objectives
- 2.1.3 Difference between Hearing and Listening
- 2.1.4. Types of Listening
- 2.1.5 Characteristics of good listeners
- 2.1.6 Learning to Listen

### **2.2 Speaking Skills**

- 2.2.1 Introduction
- 2.2.2 Making Speeches and Presentation
- 2.2.3 Compering and Anchoring
- 2.2.4 Role Play

### **2.3 Points to remember**

### **2.4 Glossary**

### **2.5 Unit End Exercises**

### **2.6 Suggested Readings**

## **2.1 Listening Comprehension**

### **2.1.1 Introduction**

English language teaching in India officially began during the early nineteenth century after the recommendations of Macaulay report. Post independent era observed a significant boost in English language teaching in India and post-1990s have further pushed the communicative approach of teaching-learning. The importance of listening and speaking started gaining through curriculum reform and modern textbooks in Indian classrooms.

The concept of listening comprehension is rarely understood and given less importance in traditional teaching-learning. But, it is said that most of the time (about 80%) during communication, one is engaged in listening activities. This itself conveys the importance of listening comprehension in education.

Language consists of four major skills such as; Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Listening and Reading are considered as receptive language skills whereas Speaking and Writing are considered as productive language skills. But, listening as a language skill is not a passive skill rather an active process of language communication which involves linguistic and nonlinguistic understanding during communication. Usually, linguistic skill is referred to verbal communication and nonlinguistic skill is considered as non-verbal communication.

### **2.1.2 Objectives**

At the end of this unit, student-teacher will be able to;

1. understand the importance of listening skill in English Language Teaching and Learning.
2. identify the differences between listening and hearing.
3. understand the characteristics of efficient listener which can be adopted and taught to the learners of ELT.
4. know the sub-skills of making speech and presentation.
5. understand the concept of compering and anchoring.
6. understand the concept of 'speaking', 'speaking skill' and sub-skills of speaking skills.
7. understands learner's needs for speaking skills.
8. know the nature and details of some major speaking activities.
9. know the role of the teacher in different kinds of speaking skills development activities.

10. know the significance of using stories in building speaking skills.
11. explore a variety of activities such as theme stories, skeleton stories etc.
12. conduct follow-up of activities such as discussion, debate, role play, and Radio show.
13. identify real-life situations for oral skills activity.

### 2.1.3 Difference between Listening and Hearing

Listening as a language skill is often confused with hearing in general understanding, whereas it is different from hearing in many ways. The hearing is a passive activity which is done without any objective. An unintentional listening in which comprehension is not required is called a hearing. The hearing is a process of receiving sounds without processing through the mind. It is a kind of perceiving sounds regarding recognised vibration through the auditory organ.

On the other hand, listening is an active process which requires hearing with comprehension of sounds. A hearing activity along with an ability to accurately receive, comprehend and interpret the message is called Listening.

The differences between *hearing* and *listening* are given below for better understanding;

Sl. No.	Hearing	Listening
1	Receiving sounds through hearing organ	Hearing with processing through mind
2	Passive activity	Active language process
3	Comprehension not required	Understanding and comprehension required
4	No processing of heard sounds through mind	Processing of sound, words and sentences is actively required
5	Response activity is not required	Response and feedback is important in listening
6	Unintentional/ without an objective	Listening with an objective and required intention
7	Ability to recognise the sounds	Ability to understand the relationships between words and sentences

Table 2.1 Difference between Listening and Hearing

It is important to know the concept of hearing as well as listening in order to have mastery over communication skills in modern life. Further, it is also to note that, the difference between hearing and listening is important because most of the time, instead of listening, the learner is engaged with hearing. Therefore, the difference between hearing and listening will clarify the importance of listening in communication skills.

**2.1.4. Types of Listening:** Different textbooks or web resources provide different types of listening but, the most popular and useful types of listening are given below;



**(i) Comprehensive Listening:**

Listening for the purpose of complete comprehension of the message conveyed. It also involves coverage from beginning to end of the speech/ presentation materials by the listeners. For example; Classroom lectures usually before the examination.

**(ii) Appreciative Listening:**

Listening for the purpose of aesthetic development and appreciation is called appreciative listening. It involves an in-depth understanding of the subject by the listeners which is also the pre-qualification for appreciative listening. For example; listening activities in the classroom of English literature.

**(iii) Critical Listening:** Listening for the critical understanding which involves listeners' active engagement with the speakers' intention along with understanding the positivity, negativity and neutral aspects of the listening materials. For example; listening activities performed during debates, discussions and group discussions.

**(iv) Discriminative Listening:**

Listening with the purpose of discriminating sounds, meanings, tone, attitudes, etc in order to understand the verbal/spoken language along with the non-verbal behaviors of the speakers. Discriminative listening is one of the basic strategies of listening for example; a speaker speaks one speech differently to different individuals/groups to mean different. It is important here to discriminate the sounds, tones and attitudes for getting different meanings.

**2.1.5. Characteristics of Good Listeners**

Listening is an important activity among all language skills. Therefore, a student with characteristics of good listening skills can be considered as a good communicator. Although, there are many skills enumerated by the experts of language communication, some of the specific skills essentially required for good listener are given below;

A good listener:

1. has a positive state of mind for listening and its comprehension.
2. pays attention to the speech carefully with concentration.
3. pays attention to both verbal and non-verbal languages/behaviour.
4. makes a good rapport and eye contact with speaker.

5. encourages speaker by giving positive gestures.
6. uses effective gestures and postures while listening.
7. connects the listening text with his previous knowledge.
8. avoids the listening barriers such as; physical, physiological and linguistic.
9. is ready to learn in any circumstance.
10. identifies the relationship of words and sentences in the speech.
11. waits for sentences and speech to complete before judging the speech.
12. engages in post-listening activities for complete and additional information.
13. raises questions, queries and feedback at the end of the listening activity.

### **2.1.6. Listening activities and tasks**

There can be numerous ways in which listening activities can be initiated; some of the activities are given below.

- Listen to the Local English News on Television or Radio and try to write down main themes of the news items.  
.....  
.....  
.....
- Listen to the recorded news items in slow motion and write the complete news as it \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ spoken.  
.....  
.....  
.....
- Listen to your favourites Television Show in English and create a dialogue situation among your peer group.  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

## **2.2 Speaking Skill**

### **2.2.1 Introduction**

Language is primarily speech. That is the reason, a large number of languages in the world are only spoken and they do not have writing scripts. Even among those who use a language that has a script, like Hindi, a majority of them use the spoken form for communication. The purpose of language is to communicate that is to pass on or move our thoughts or information

from one person to another person. We speak when we want to express our feelings or when we want to obtain some information. We speak to establish friendship and social relationships.

In recent years, great emphasis has been placed on the development of oral skills particularly in second language teaching in India. Materials and recent textbooks have focused on the inclusion of interesting and varied activities which require a learner to respond orally. School authorities and educational system to built into the curriculum various real-life situations which will systematically and efficiently help learners to acquire a repertoire of oral skills.

In speaking activity, Learners actively involved in the classroom process and not remain passive receivers in a speaking activity. Researchers in English Language Teaching state that in an average English period, a teacher speaks for 2/3 of the time. Needless to say the learners, with hardly any opportunities for speaking, may feel nervous and lack confidence in their skills.

The main function and purpose of language as discussed earlier is communication and speaking skill plays a very significant role in communication. In the present syllabus, weightage is given to conversation skills. Even in continuous and comprehensive evaluation 20% weightage is allocated to conversation or oral skill.

In our country, English serves as a valuable link language. Many of us are either bilinguals or trilingual. While, speaking, people mix up their own mother tongue with English and express their ideas using many styles and varieties of spoken English. Sometimes, it becomes necessary to communicate in English at work places, travels, get-togethers, parties and the time of interviews. All these situations point towards the need of cultivating good spoken English.

The teacher should take following measures in the classroom teaching:

1. encourage students to speak as early as possible.

2. teach them a number of words/phrases/sentences.
3. encourage them to speak right from the first day.
4. accept even one-word answers to questions asked.
5. help them to speak actively with whatever English they have.

With these measures, a teacher can conduct variety of activities and enable them to speak correctly. For developing speaking skills a variety of tasks or activities can be taken.

### **2.2.2. Making Speeches and Presentation**

Speech preparation is the most important element in speaking skill. It is important to plan and make a **presentation to reduce nervousness and combat fear**. Anyone can give a speech but not everyone can give an effective speech.

Many experts suggested steps for effective presentation. These steps are briefly introduced here:

#### **A. Be prepared**

Being prepared is the most important element. How many times do you practice your speech? As a general rule, you should spend about 30 hours of preparation and rehearsal time for every hour you will be speaking. Use a tape recorder or videotape yourself. This will help you to get an accurate picture of how you speak.

#### **B. Select a speech topic for speech**

This may seem like an easy task, but there are infinite public speaking topics. How do you choose the *right* one? How do you select a topic which is a perfect fit between you and your audience?

Your topic leads to your **core message** — the entire presentation aims to deliver this core message to your audience.

#### **C. Create a speech outline**

**Your speech needs structure.** Without structure, your audience will either wonder what your core message is or they will lose interest in you entirely. Sadly, this step is often skipped to “save time.” A planned outline is also a vital.

#### **D. Write the speech**

**Speech writing is an iterative process** which begins with your first draft.

Once the first draft is created, speech writing involves iteratively massaging your speech into its most effective form. Keeping your ego in check, you are wise to **edit mercilessly**.

Remember that **speeches should be written for the ear**; adopting figures of speech will keep your speech from sounding like an essay or legal document.

#### **E. Start strongly**

The beginning of your presentation is crucial. You need to grab your audiences’ attention and hold it.

They will give you a few minutes' grace in which to entertain them before they start to switch off if you're dull. So don't waste that on explaining who you are. Start by entertaining them.

#### **F. Apply gestures, staging, and vocal variety**

At this stage, the words are ready, but that’s all you have — words. A **presentation is not read by the audience**; it is listened to and watched. These elements should **seamlessly complement your words and punctuate key phrases**.

#### **G. Pay attention to all details**

Make sure you have the right location (school, hotel, room & time). Make sure you know how to get to where you are speaking. Ask how large an audience you will be speaking to. Make sure you bring all your visual aids and plenty of handouts. Arrive early so you can check out where you will be speaking and make any last minute adjustments. It is very important that you pay attention to even the smallest details. You can never overplant. Remember, "He who fails to plan is planning to fail."

#### **H. Practice and solicit feedback**

Great speakers seem natural when they speak, almost as though they are speaking the words for the first time. Nothing could be more wrong. **Rehearsing your speech** makes you a master of the content. Soliciting feedback and acting on it gives you confidence that your presentation will be a success.

## **I. Summarize**

Restate the main idea or problem, its importance, and the major points you have made.  
Give your listeners a chance to ask questions either during or after the speech.

## **J. Self-Critique: Prepare for the next speech**

Although listed as the final step in the process, it's really the first step in preparing for your *next* speech.

After you've delivered your speech, examine your performance objectively. This will solidify lessons learned as you prepare for your next speech challenge.

### **2.2.3. Compering and Anchoring**

Both terms indicate the action of drawing together disparate parts of presentation, but they are usually used in different contexts. Comparing means 'acting as a Master of Ceremonies; it suggests a series of performers or entertainment segments.' Originally, a comparer used to be a person who shouts out the dialogues from backstage and actors enacted the words on stage. But as time changed their job became minimal. So now a compere can be assumed as a person who manages live on ground events.

We know that an anchor is a metallic object which is used to place and assign a location to ship. An anchor controls the speed of the ship and grips the bottom of the ship. So news presenters were also called anchors because they had complete control of the broadcasting of the news. But now anyone who presents a television programme is called an *anchor*. A host is generally referred as master of ceremonies who can be a moderator or interviewer for a television or radio program. These are the ideal usage of terms. However, in today's world, they are used interchangeably. Here we present an example of anchoring and compering scripts so that students can get ideas about playing a role of anchor.

#### **A. Anchoring Script for a Cultural Event**

Anchor-1: Good Evening! Ladies and Gentleman! The galaxy of intellectuals, your Excellency, invited guests, teachers and my dear friends – how different is this evening. Dear audience, you will yourself discover the colours of cultural feast unfold!

On behalf of the Principal, teaching staff and students, we welcome you all to our Annual Day Function.

Anchor-2: We feel honoured to have with us - The Honorable Chief Guest His Excellency Mr. Biren Nanda, the Indian Ambassador to Indonesia. You hardly need any introduction; you have made all of us proud of your distinguished work in numerous capacities. You are one of the most celebrated foreign services dignitaries. Guests of Honor: Mr. Dexter Kennedy, the Pro-Vice Chairman of the School, the man of distinct vision and a fountainhead of illuminating ideas, an idol of knowledge and experience and inspiration to all of us. Mr. Vipin Kumar, who is ..... ( add yourself)

Anchor-2: Next, I would like to call upon our respected Principal, the sculptor of human character, a seasoned scholar and navigator of this flagship of knowledge ---- to present a brief agenda and give the school presentation.

### ***Presentation***

Anchor-1: Without taking much of your time, let us start the programme.

Anchor-2: Everyone is eager to sink into the depth of music, song, lights and joy. Well, here you are. Today, we will have rainbow of cultural programmes designed under the guidance of our teachers.

First, there will be a fan dance by kids from grade 6 To 8 (This dance is performed with one or more fans and has a Japanese/Korean Origin. It involves various movements, figures and mesmerizing formations which engrosses its audience to the core.)

### ***Dance***

Anchor-1: That was indeed a lovely performance. How captivating! A blend of cosmic tune and divine music!

Anchor-2: Now hold your breath for another dance performance, a candle dance which perhaps is one of the oldest dance forms in the world. It hearkens back not just centuries but aeons ago. Dancing with flames bring us to a more elemental and archetypical state of mind. This mesmerizing, powerful and alluring candle dance performance requires full body integration.

### ***Performance***

Anchor-1: I still feel like lost in that melody dipped music notes.

Anchor-2: Well, come back now. Let's have a change.

Anchor-2: OK, what is next?

Anchor-1: Wait, wait ...don't step over the clock! Come with me to the theatre of life. Now kids of grade 2 to 6 will take us to olden days. Yes, behold - we now present a drama on *Pied Piper of Hamelin*. It is a legend about many children who were taken away by a pied piper from the town of Hamelin, Germany. It is a high-level costume drama.

### ***Drama***

Anchor-2: Do you know the magic of ankle bells?

Anchor-1: Magic!

Yes, magic and music both. Here comes a wonderful ballet. It is a formalized type of dance performance which is highly technical with its own vocabulary.

Anchor-2: Really?

Anchor-1: Yes, A blend of meticulous, precise and weightless acrobatic movements.

Anchor-2: Wow! Incredible! The young dancers really held everyone captive. Awesome!

Anchor-1: Don't you think kids are more creative than the grown up.

Anchor-2: How do you mean?

Anchor-1: I mean – the kids are more talented.

Anchor-2: Can you wait a moment.

Anchor-1: What is up?

Anchor-2: Surprise, suspense, action and emotion.

Anchor-1: Come on, what is this puzzle?

Anchor-2: Now our seniors are going to unleash a breathtaking stage performance – a one-act play “Friendship Forever”.

Anchor-1: Here you are.....



## ***Performance***

Anchor-2: Now it is time we acknowledged the talent of our brimming buddies- prize distribution ceremony and annual day report, I request Principal Sir to announce the names of the winners and our honourable Chief Guest Mr. Biren Nanda to give away the prizes.

Anchor-1: Now I would like to call upon Mr. Dexter Kennedy to present the Vote of Thanks

## ***Vote of Thanks***

### **2.2.4. Role Play**

It is a popular technique used in classes to teach and practice language items to develop speaking skill. There are three types of role plays.

- 1) Totally guided by the teacher.
- 2) Clues will be given.
- 3) Free.

#### **Task 1:** (with clues)

A traveller wants to book a ticket to Mumbai from Hyderabad. He is at the Railway Reservation Counter.

Place:            Railway Station

People:          Traveller and the clerk

Role Play:      You play the role of a traveller, you want to reserve a ticket for Mumbai in class A.C. Ask for the cost, time of departure, time of arrival, which platform and other details.

Language:      could you tell.....

Should use:    what time.....

Where does it.....

Will it.....etc.

#### **Task 2:**

Totally guided

To practice how to report Wh-questions, think that you have just returned from an interview. Your father wants to know what you were asked in the interview. Here is a dialogue. Form a pair with your friend and play the roles of father and son.

Father:	Hi, Anwar
Son	Hi, Dad
Father	How did the interview go?
Son	Not too badly
Father	Well, what did they ask?
Son	One of them asked me what my name is?
Father	Haven't they seen your application? Then how did the interview go?
Son	They wanted to know why I had applied for a job. They wondered why I wanted to give up my present job. The director asked how long I had been working in my present job. Then finally they asked what I would do in my spare time.
Father	What did you say?
Son	What else can I say except applying for better jobs?

### Task 3: Free Type

Play the following roles:

Doctor and patient in a hospital (2 People)

A police inspector inquiring neighbours regarding a burglary. (4 People)

### 2.3. Points to remember

- Listening is one of the most frequent activities in human communication/conversation.
- Communicative approach made listening more popular in last few decades.
- In recent years, the advancements in multimedia, Information and Communication Technologies and modern language labs have paved positive ways towards English language Communications.

In addition, we have learnt different kinds of speaking activities and the role of teachers in involving the learners in these activities; such as

- Role plays, dialogues, stories, debate, radio shows etc. At the same time, there is a need to integrate speaking with other skills such as reading texts or listening inputs.
- Time management in this process is important because each activity has to be broken into various phases with appropriate time allotment.

## 2.4 Glossary

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Listening:            | Listening is a conscious and deliberate act of hearing with understanding.   |
| 2. Hearing:              | Hearing is just an impression of sounds on the auditory organs without any purpose. Example: noise.  |
| 3. Comprehension:        | Comprehension is the ability of understanding with the meaning intended by the speaker/author.   |
| 4. Compering:            | A process of introducing different acts and items of an entertainment on stage. Compering means 'acting as a Master of Ceremonies; it suggests a series of performers or entertainment segments. |
| 5. Anecdotes:            | Small and always funny stories.  |
| 6. Visual Comprehension: | Understanding images & words in the context it is being used.  |

## 2.5 Unit End Exercise

### I. Very Short Answer Questions

1. Listening is a ..... skill. (productive/receptive)
2. Hearing is ..... process. (an active / a passive)
3. Define the term comparing with suitable example.

### II. Short Answer Questions

1. What is the difference between hearing and listening?
2. What are the characteristics of listening skills?
3. What are the sub-skills of speaking?
4. What do you mean by role-playing? Write in brief.
5. What is anchoring? Give an example of anchoring.
6. What do you mean by role play? Give an example.
7. What are the types of role play? Give suitable examples.

### III. Long Answer Questions

1. What do you understand by listening comprehension? Explain with suitable examples.
2. What is speaking? Write down the need and importance of speaking skill.
3. What are the different steps of making speeches and presentation?

## 2.6 Suggested Readings

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## **Unit Three: Reading Comprehension and Writing skills**

### **Structure of the Unit**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

#### **3.2 Objectives**

#### **3.3 Reading Comprehension**

3.3.1 Purpose of Reading

3.3.2 Types of Reading

3.3.3 Speed of Reading

3.3.4 Characteristics of a Good Reader

#### **3.4 Writing Skills**

3.4.1 Writing a Paragraph

3.4.2 Letter Writing

3.4.3 Writing Invitations

3.4.4 Writing Resume

3.4.5 Writing Notices and Announcement

3.4.6 Report Writing

#### **3.5 Points to remember**

#### **3.6 Glossary**

#### **3.7 Unit End Exercise**

#### **3.8 Suggested Readings**

### 3.1 Introduction

Reading has never been more important to success in life than it is today. Only a few years ago, most Canadian jobs centred on natural resources like wood products, fishing, farming, and mining; today most available jobs relate to handling information, usually in written form. As information grows and more and more jobs are created around it, understanding what you read is an essential skill. (Introduction to reading comprehension, Academic English, p.10)

Reading comprehension is not just answering a few questions on the reading of a paragraph. For a student pursuing higher education, understanding a text at a deeper level with the help of both vocabulary and context becomes part of his studies. Take for example following line:

*“The fishing boat, its hull in serious need of paint, was still riding high in the water when it returned to harbour.”*

What the line suggests: If the boat is riding high in the water, it means that it is empty or nearly empty and that they have caught nothing. The word still suggests that this is not the first time this has happened. When you add its hull in serious need of paint, you would probably be correct in guessing that the owner is down on his luck (in a difficult situation) and has neither the money nor the energy to paint his boat. You might even conclude that he is depressed. (Introduction to reading comprehension, Academic English, p.33)

Writing skills are needed for writing exams, making lesson plans, planning books and preparing lectures. Writing offers has three benefits. First, understanding the structure of sentence-making; second, it makes us good reader and listener; third, writing makes you a strong thinker. Anyone may need to write an article for a newspaper, or a letter to someone, or an invitation to a party, or a resume for a job. An invitation cannot be written like a letter; likewise, letter to a friend and letter to a relative are two types of writing. Thus, it becomes necessary to learn the skills required for different types of writing.

### 3.2 Objectives

At the end of the unit student-teachers will be able to;

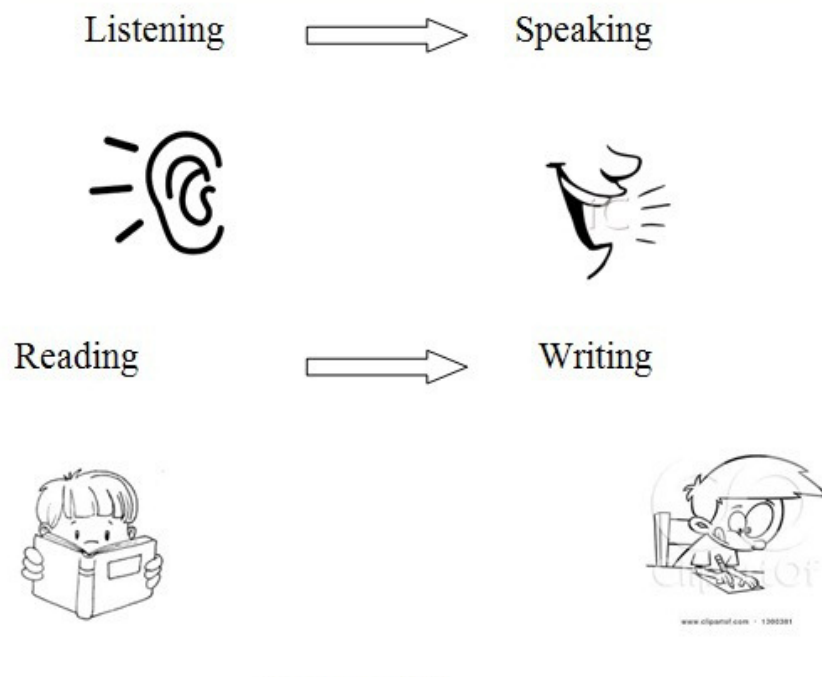
1. enjoy reading activity.
2. understand different words and develop a good reading habit.
3. enjoy reading stories and English books.

4. make self-reliant and independent readers.
5. understand the importance of speed of reading.
6. apply the speed of reading while reading different texts.
7. list the characteristics of a good reader.
8. write grammatically correct English.
9. write paragraphs and clear account of events.
10. write a description of picture and scenes.
11. write messages notices and letters.
12. write his/her own ideas in the English language.
13. know about different types of letters.
14. understand how to express an idea through letter – personal as well as formal.
15. write different letters.
16. develop awareness of the letter writing process on different topics and purposes.
17. understands the concept of resume.
18. know how to prepare a resume, based on the job.
19. develop the art of writing invitations among the student teachers.
20. provide the knowledge of different types of invitations to the student teachers.
21. know the procedure of writing invitations.

### **3.3 Reading Comprehension**

There are four important skills for learning any language. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. They are four pillars of learning any language. These skills are interrelated and influence each other. It is clear that when one listens more he can speak fluently and when one reads more his/her vocabulary increases and eventually enhances writing skills. This can be represented graphically in the following manner.





Picture 3.3

### **Meaning of Reading Comprehension**

Reading comprehension means the ability to read a text, process it and understand its meaning. In reading comprehension, readers use complex cognitive skills to understand what they have read. Hence, the ultimate goal of reading is comprehension. It requires the ability to integrate text information with the knowledge of reader and finally results in the elaboration of mental representation. In short, reading comprehension is an intentional, active, interactive process that occurs before, during and after a person reads a particular piece of writing.

### **Process of Reading Comprehension**

The process of reading comprehension involves two important elements. They are Vocabulary Knowledge, and Text Comprehension.

In order to understand a text, a reader must be able to comprehend the vocabulary used in the text. Besides understanding each distinct word in a text, a reader has to be able to put them together to develop an overall meaning of the text.

Reading comprehension is a complex skill that can be developed in children. The reading comprehension strategies must be developed among children by teachers who have knowledge and experience in using them. It is worth mentioning that teaching these strategies

should not only be confined to elementary grades but should extend to higher grades also where their reading materials become more diverse and challenging and children need to learn new comprehension strategies for understanding the text.

**Activity: Exercise on reading comprehension**

Read the following passage carefully

"What would the world do without tea?" the writer Sydney Smith asked over 150 years ago. It's no idle question. Tea is the world's most popular drink, after water. And it provides protection against several health threats.

Heart Helper in a Dutch study last year of 4807 people, those who drank at least two cups daily had half the heart attack risk of non-tea drinkers. Last year, researchers in Boston found that heart patients who drank two or more cups daily were 44% less likely to die over the next four years.

A recent US study showed that tea can lower bad cholesterol levels by an average of 10%. In cases where dangerous cholesterol has already struck to artery walls, flavonoids, the antioxidants in tea, are thought to prevent it from damaging the inner lining.

Cancer fighter in Japan, a 1998 investigation found that drinking ten or more cups of green tea every day delayed the onset of cancer by almost nine years in women and about three in men and a Canadian study from 1998 suggests another benefit for males: Men who drank three cups a day were 30% less likely to develop prostate cancer.

Bone builder flavonoids in tea seem to protect bones. Tea also contains fluoride and substances that stop bacteria from sticking to teeth, which together help fight cavities.

Green and black tea is probably equally protective, says Jeffrey Blumberg, a US nutrition researcher. Even iced tea is beneficial, though it's usually more diluted.

(Source: Reader's Digest)

### **3.3.1 Purpose of Reading**

Do you remember your childhood days when your parents gifted you books ranging from comic, fiction, novel to textbooks and reference books? While reading a comic book or novel or fiction you normally read at a faster rate. While reading a textbook or reference book you

slow down your speed. In the first case, reading was conscious and it is for examination. In the second case, reading is done for pleasure. So, the purpose is either to enjoy or get information that determines the speed of the reading.

Reading is a purposeful activity. The purpose can vary from person to person. Generally, the purpose of reading is to:

- a. understand the main idea in the text or understand the gist of it.
- b. find the specific information from text.
- c. understand the message/idea that the writer wants to convey through the text.
- d. understand broadly the subject matter.
- e. understand new changes and development in a particular field.
- f. widen our perspective and
- g. understand the writing style and use of language.

### **3.3.2 Types of reading**

There are four types of reading. They are listed below:

- a. Intensive reading
- b. Extensive reading
- c. Skimming
- d. Scanning

Let us discuss each one of them in detail.

#### **a) Intensive Reading**

Intensive reading is regarded as important means of learning a language. Intensive reading implies vigorous reading, concentrated fully on the text. The reader tries to study the text thoroughly and understand minute details of it. It involves reading in detail with a specific purpose in mind. In other words, intensive reading is reading shorter texts for detailed information with much stress on precise understanding. In this type of reading, the reader tries to comprehend the ideas, analyze each word and some time, even feel the emotions or feelings of writer expressed in the text.

#### **b) Extensive Reading**

Extensive reading involves reading a large number of texts without bothering to understand every unknown word or structure. It is meant for getting an overall idea, general meaning and theme of material. It does not delve into details of language, its construction and beauty. Hence, in extensive reading reader reads both for information and pleasure.

### ***Characteristics of extensive reading***

Richard and Bamford (2002) provided a list of the characteristics of extensive reading.

- 1) The reading material should be easy and interesting to learners.
- 2) There is a wide variety of text and topics to choose from.
- 3) The students choose what to read.
- 4) Students read as much as possible.
- 5) Reading is for pleasure, information and general understanding.
- 6) Reading has its own reward. There are no tests, exercises and questions.
- 7) Materials are within the language competence of the students.
- 8) Reading is individual and silent.
- 9) Teachers orient and guide their students.
- 10) Extensive reading enhances general language competence.

### **c) Skimming**

Skimming is used for getting general idea or gist of the article. It is a fast reading technique often used with a purpose in mind. For example, sometimes, we will skim through a newspaper for getting an overall idea of what's happening. We do not read each and every news in detail. It involves reading for getting only the main idea and general view of the content.

Steps for skimming

- a. Read the Title
- b. Read the introductory paragraph
- c. Read the subtitles and comprehend the relationship between them
- d. Read the final paragraph or conclusion

### **d) Scanning**

Scanning is another tool for fast reading. In scanning, the reader looks for any specific information and not going for other details of the text. In other words, scanning is reading a text for locating particular information. It is not necessary to understand the whole text in scanning. Looking for a particular phone number in a telephone directory is an example for scanning.

**Steps for scanning**

- a. Establishing the purpose: what type of information is needed from the text.
- b. Anticipate in what form the information is likely to appear- number, name etc.

- c. Analyse the content.

In scanning, a reader can skip a large amount of text without reading or understanding them.

### **3.3.3 Speed of Reading**

Reading is a part and parcel of human life. Often, people usually start their day by reading a newspaper. People are also in the habit of reading magazines, books, letters, messages, emails etc. Thus, while reading, an individual is involved in an active process of interacting with the written text. But we see some people reading a text very fast and some very slow while others read at an average speed. You too might have a similar experience of reading a text either very fast or very slow or at an average speed.

While interacting with texts, the pace with which we read is called the speed of reading. In other words, the speed of reading normally means a number of words per minute a person can read. Ideally, an average number of words a person can read is around 25-300 words per minute. Anything more or less than that is called fast or slow reading.

The pace of reading depends on two factors: (i) Kind of text (ii) Purpose of reading

#### **Kind of Text**

Kind of text relates to textual material available to the reader to read. The textual material may be in the form of a book, legal contract, magazines, scientific papers, general articles in newspaper, etc. If the textual material is technical like a legal contract or scientific paper wherein words used have specific meaning and interpretation then the pace of reading a text cannot be fast because it will not help the reader to understand clearly what the words or sentences mean. But, if the textual material is non-technical then obviously speed of reading can be enhanced as it is important to understand the whole of the text. But, eventually, it is important to note here that speed of reading varies with the purpose of reading the textual material. So the purpose of reading a text is more important as it determines the speed of the text.

### **3.3.4 Characteristics of a Good Reader**

A good reader has several characteristics which are as under;

1. He has a purpose for reading and makes predictions about the content of a passage.
2. Uses multiple strategies to check the understanding of a text.
3. Reads faster.
4. Makes relevant observations.

5. Forms opinions about the text.
6. Identifies the key ideas.
7. Draws inferences from the words, lines and paragraphs.
8. Draws background knowledge as they read.
9. Summarize a text that has been read.

### **3.4 Writing Skill**

#### **3.4.1 Writing a Paragraph**

*What is needed is more simplicity, not more sophistication!" Aim "to inform, not to impress.*

Frances Luttikhuizen

Writing is not everyone's cup of tea. It is that area of language that demands more time and labour to master. In a piece of writing we may see words strung giving no sense, but more fun. A student can improve his or her writing if s/he is guided to put his or her thought in a concise and simple way. This lesson will cover the tricks and techniques of writing a paragraph.

##### ***a. What is Paragraph?***

Throughout your school and college career, you have heard it all the time; 'Read the two paragraphs'. 'Write a five-paragraph essay', 'Organize your paragraphs'... but what is a paragraph? A paragraph is a section of a piece of writing covering one topic.

Let's look a bit closer at that definition. The first part states a paragraph is 'a section of a piece of writing'. This means paragraphs break down larger pieces of writing. For example, imagine you are reading a chapter in your history textbook on President A P J Abdul Kalam. Each section of that chapter will be broken into paragraphs. The paragraphs will help you follow along with the ideas throughout the entire chapter.

The second part of the definition states 'a paragraph covers one topic. 'Within that larger piece of writing, each paragraph should explain just one concept related to the larger topic. For example, in that chapter on President Kalam, you may read one paragraph that describes his childhood. That paragraph should focus on only his childhood and not the other parts of his life.

For the illustration purpose, look at the above writing; the present piece of writing talks about what a paragraph is, and is comprised of three paragraphs, each with a single topic. For example, the third paragraph deals with the discussion that a paragraph always covers a

single topic. We can make it in a single paragraph by stringing together four different distinct paragraph into a definition paragraph.

### ***b. Purpose of a Paragraph***

Now you know, what a paragraph is. Let's discuss why paragraphs are important. As we saw earlier, paragraphs help to keep a large piece of writing organized. Each paragraph should cover one specific concept. They provide a flow to the writing overall. When you write assignments or essays, paragraphs will help you keep your ideas organized. You should even decide the topic for each paragraph before you begin writing. Then you can organize the whole piece of writing by deciding the order of the topics, and thus, the paragraphs. If you do this and stick to one main idea per paragraph, then your paper and your ideas will not be confusing.

Besides helping writers, paragraphs also help readers. Imagine you are reading a chapter on President Kalam. What if the first few sentences were about how he was elected, the next few were on where he was born, the next on his death, and the next on the start of his science career, wouldn't you be completely confused? Having one paragraph for each of those topics will help you make the reader comprehend your ideas. Furthermore, you will not be overwhelmed with information and will remain interested in the writing.

A paragraph is a piece of writing, as the definition shows itself here. Therefore, what comprises a good writing must be discussed. If a student can write intelligently, well-organized, s/he is well on the way towards great writing. A good writing comprises of five elements: (i) purpose (ii) audience (iii) clarity (iv) unity and (v) coherence.

### **a. Purpose**

When we talk about the purpose of a paragraph, we are talking about the reasons that a writer is writing a particular paragraph. For writers to stay focused on their topic, they must understand the purpose that they are trying to accomplish. The purpose is the goal that writer is trying to achieve.

The three most common objectives of writing are:

- to inform readers
- to persuade readers
- to entertain readers

Writers often create a purpose statement before they begin writing. A purpose statement is a short sentence that clearly defines the point of the paragraph. Going over the purpose statement while writing, will help you to stay on topic and maintain the focus of your writing.

For example, if you are going to write a paragraph about how much A P J Abdul Kalam loves development, your purpose statement would read something like this:

- The purpose of this paragraph is to explain how A P J Abdul Kalam visions India among developed nations.

Another example of purpose statement can be given on the topic ‘how dirty our cities are’:

- The purpose of this paragraph is to describe how dirty our cities are becoming.
- Although it might seem obvious that a paragraph should have only one topic, many fail to remain “on topic.” It is very easy to lose focus and include material that does not fit in the paragraph. This extra information might belong in a new paragraph, or you might not need it at all. If you use a purpose statement, you can check that each sentence in the paragraph actually fulfils the purpose of that paragraph.

### Activity 1

Give purpose statement on the following topics

Topics	Purpose statement
Loss of values	
Water Crisis	
Need of English	
If I Were a Bird!	
Who is Called a Hero	

### b. Audience

The second element of good writing is to keep your audience in mind as you write. The term audience refers to the readers. Good writers know, who their audience is, before they start writing. Good writers keep their audience in mind as they write every sentence in their paragraph. Audience can be reached through (a) Viewpoint or person (first, second, or third) (b) formal or informal writing.



### ***i. Viewpoint or person (first, second, or third)***

The first person includes "I, we, me, us, mine, ours, my, our". Use the first person when you write about your personal experiences. The second person includes "you, your, yours". DO NOT use the second person when you write for college. The third person includes "he, she, it, they, him, her, them, his, hers, theirs". This is the most common point of view you will use when you write for college.

- First Person: Yesterday I went to the beach with my cousins.
- Second Person: After filling the sink, you must then add detergent.
- Third Person: He turned quickly and saw them leaving the theatre.

A paragraph should not jump from singular to plural nouns and pronouns consistent with respect to the person. Good writers do not shift between the first, second, and third person within one piece of writing. Look at the sentences wrongly structured in the case of number and pronouns.

- When a person goes for shopping, ~~you~~ should always look for sales.
- One should carpool if ~~you~~ want to save on gas
- Doctors warn people that ~~you~~ should "watch what ~~you~~ eat."

Corrected

- When a person goes for shopping, he should always look for sales.
- One should carpool if one wants to save on gas
- Doctors warn people that they should "watch what they eat."

### ***ii. Person in Formal or Informal Writing***

Most of the writing that you do for school is considered formal writing. In most cases, writing uses formal techniques in the third person. The informal audience is often family and friends. An informal approach is conversational in nature and more suited to a diary or an email to friends than a piece of academic writing. If you write a letter to your brother, it is addressed in an informal tone, but if you write a letter to the head of the department, your style of addressing must be a formal one. If your teacher asks you to write a paragraph on 'Corruption in India' your tone of addressing must be in the way that it does not humiliate his stature of being a teacher. You must not write as:

‘Yeah! Right! You ask me to write on corruption. Ok. Even you know about it more than what I could say about it. Everyone knows it. Anyway.....’

Examples of formal and informal sentence

Formal	Informal
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.	It would be cool if you'd give me a ring.
We have pleasure in announcing that ...	I'm happy to say that ...
Any loss of this document should be reported immediately.	If you lose it, then please contact us as soon as possible.
We can assist in the resolution of this matter. Contact us at our toll-free number.	I can help you to solve this problem. Call me

### Activity 2

Choose appropriate pronoun according to writer's point of view.

Last night I/me went out to play with a friend. We/us played jump rope and chased spiders before the moon came out. Mine/My mother came out to find me/my. When he/she found I/me my mother told me/I it was time for bed. When I/me said goodbye to my friend her/she told me us/we would play again tomorrow.

### c. Clarity

Clarity refers to how easy it is for the reader to understand your writing. Good writers explain their points clearly. Clear sentences are not vague or indirect; they get the point across to the reader by using specific, concise language. For example, a sentence like ‘It makes us pleasure’ is unclear. It may be like ‘It gives us pleasure’. Two ways that you can improve clarity: (i) Using descriptive (or precise) words (ii) Using clear pronoun references.

#### (i) *Using Clear, Descriptive Language*

Using clear, descriptive language improves clarity in a paragraph. It helps the reader see accurately the person or thing the writer is describing. Avoid vague and unclear words, such as good and nice. Instead, choose clear and precise words.

Take this sentence:

At the 2012 Olympic Games in London, Usain Bolt of Jamaica broke his own Olympic record in the 100-meter dash. He is a good runner.

What about the use of the adjective good in the above sentence? Here the adjective does not feature him accurately for what he is. Think to replace good with some other adjectives like outstanding, exceptional, phenomenal, etc.

At the 2012 Olympic Games in London, Usain Bolt of Jamaica broke his own Olympic record in the 100-meter dash. He is an outstanding/exceptional/phenomenal runner.

Adding adjectives or prepositional phrases can make your sentences more specific and descriptive to improve the clarity of your writing.

Examples:

Original:

- The boy quickly ate the food.

More specific:

- The boy quickly ate the stolen food.
- The hungry boy quickly ate the stolen food.
- The boy quickly ate the food in the dark.
- The tired and hungry boy ate the stale food from the junk.

### Activity 3

Suggest three alternative words that are more descriptive or precise than the adjectives that are given.

Use a dictionary or thesaurus to find appropriate adjectives.

good	wonderful	incredible	Delightful
bad	horrible	terrible	Awful
fun			
big			
small			
old			

#### (b) *Clarity in Sentences*

Just as it is important to maintain clarity at the word level, it is also important at the sentence level. The following non-descriptive sentences are followed by revised versions.

<b>Vague sentence</b>	<b>Clear sentence</b>
The boy went to the store.	Akram went to the computer store to purchase a pen drive.
Zara took her things with her.	Zara took her sunblock, glasses, and a towel when she went to the beach.
The house was slightly dark.	The house was dimly lit; the only source of light was a candle in the hallway.

*(c) Clear Pronoun Reference:*

Writers often use pronouns to avoid repeating a noun in a sentence or paragraph. Pronouns can make your writing clear and precise as long as every pronoun refers to a specific noun. When a pronoun reference is unclear, you can correct this by using the precise noun.

**d. Unity**

Unity in a paragraph means that all the sentences are related to the topic sentence and its controlling idea. Good writers stay on topic by making sure that each supporting sentence relates to the topic sentence. Look at the bolded sentence. The paragraph's topic is 'Cleaning the Room'.

Cleaning your room is not difficult if you follow some simple guidelines. First, you must pick up all of your clothes off the floor. Then you need to decide which clothes are dirty and which clothes are clean and put them in their appropriate places. It is important to wash your clothes with good-quality laundry detergent to keep them looking neat and clean. After that, you should put away any items that are out of place. The next step is to dust all of your furniture, such as your nightstand or dresser. The final step is to mop or vacuum the floor, depending on its surface. Once you have finished these steps, you can relax as you think about your good work.

The bolded sentence does not belong here. The paragraph is all about cleaning the room, not about cleaning the clothes. It tells the reader about the importance of doing laundry with a specific type of laundry detergent. Because the sentence does not support the purpose of the paragraph, it should not be included.

**e. Coherence**

A piece of writing has coherence when all of the ideas are organized and flow smoothly and logically from one to the next. When a paragraph or essay has coherence, the reader can follow the main ideas more easily. Three important features of coherence are: (a) logical order (b) repetition of keywords (c) use of transitional words and phrases

(a) Logical Order:

Let's remake the paragraph on 'Cleaning the Room'.

1. You should put away any items that are out of place.
2. Cleaning your room is not difficult if you follow some simple guidelines.
3. First, you need to decide which clothes are dirty and which clothes are clean and put them in  
their appropriate places.
4. You must pick up all of your clothes off the floor.
5. The next step is to mop or vacuum the floor, depending on its surface.
6. The final step is to dust all of your furniture, such as your nightstand or dresser.
7. Once you have finished these steps, you can relax as you think about your good work.

All of the seven sentences tell us something about cleaning the room but in a haphazard manner. Order of the sentence is illogical. So it is important to follow a logical order in your writing.

**Activity 4**

The following sentences form a paragraph, but they are not in the best order. Then read the sentences and then number them from one to five to indicate the best order.

1. He starts his day by putting on his black cape and tall black hat.
2. When he arrives, he puts on a performance that includes jokes, card tricks, illusions, and magic tricks.

1. When his performance ends and the audience is happy, Michael returns home, satisfied that he has done his job as a magician well.
2. Michael's typical day at work is far from ordinary.
3. He then grabs his magic wand and gets into his car and drives to a different location each day, usually a birthday party or other special event.

(b) Repetition of Key Words:

Good writers know that certain keywords need to be repeated in a paragraph to keep the reader focused on the topic. Sometimes students worry that using the same word, again and again, can sound too repetitive. To avoid being repetitive, you can also use pronouns or synonyms to replace these key nouns.

(c) Transitional Words and Phrases:

Transitional words and phrases are essential in maintaining the flow and coherence of a paragraph. They are the links between ideas. In above paragraph on 'Cleaning the Room' look at the transitional words such as first, then, after that, next, etc. Within a paragraph, transitions are often single words or short phrases that help to establish relationships between ideas and to create a logical progression of those ideas in a paragraph.

Commonly Used Transitional Words and Phrases			
To give examples	for example	for instance	namely
To add information	and	next	in addition
To compare or contrast	in contrast	by comparison	on the other hand
To show time	finally	after	before
To emphasize	for these reasons	obviously	without a doubt
To show sequence	first (second, third, etc.)	next	at the same time
To summarize	therefore	thus	in conclusion

Now, we have finished at looking how writing is accomplished. Our next task is to understand how a paragraph is constituted. If you have already grasped the above points on writing, three-fourths of your labour could be saved.

Paragraphs are the building blocks of papers. Many students define paragraphs in terms of length: a paragraph is a group of at least five sentences; a paragraph is half a page long, etc. In reality, though, the unity and coherence of ideas among sentences are what constitutes a paragraph. A paragraph is defined as "a group of sentences or a single sentence that forms a unit" (Lunsford and Connors 116). Length and appearance do not determine whether a section in a paper is a paragraph. For instance, in some styles of writing, particularly journalistic styles, a paragraph can be just one sentence long. Ultimately, a paragraph is a sentence or group of sentences that support one main idea.

The decision about what to put into your paragraphs begins with the germination of a seed of ideas; this “germination process” is better known as brainstorming. There are many techniques for brainstorming; whichever one you choose, this stage of paragraph development cannot be skipped. Building paragraphs can be like building a skyscraper: there must be a well-planned foundation that supports what you are building. Any cracks, inconsistencies, or other corruptions of the foundation can cause your whole paper to crumble.

### **Structuring a paragraph**

The basic parts of a paragraph:

- topic sentence
- controlling idea
- supporting sentences
- concluding sentence

#### *a) Decide the Topic of Your Paragraph*

Before you can begin writing, you need to know what you are writing about. First, look at the writing prompt or assignment topic. As you look at the prompt, note any key terms or repeated phrases because you will have to use those words in your response. Then ask yourself:

- On what topic am I supposed to be writing?
- What do I know about this topic already?
- If I don’t know how to respond to this assignment, where can I go to find some answers?
- What does this assignment mean to me? How do I relate to it?

#### *b) Develop a Topic Sentence*

Before writing a paragraph, it is important to think first about the topic and then what you want to say about the topic. Most often, the topic is easy, but the question then turns to what you want to say about the topic. This concept is sometimes called the controlling idea.

Paragraph development begins with the formulation of the controlling idea. This idea directs the paragraph’s development. Often, the controlling idea of a paragraph will appear in the

form of a topic sentence. In some cases, you may need more than one sentence to express a paragraph's controlling idea.

A topic sentence expressing the controlling idea tells the reader the point of all the evidence the writer is going to put forward. Strong paragraphs are typically about one main idea or topic, which is often explicitly stated in a topic sentence. Good topic sentences should always contain both a topic and a controlling idea.

Look at this short paragraph on 'Piranhas':

Piranhas rarely feed on large animals; they eat smaller fish and aquatic plants. When confronted with humans, piranhas' first instinct is to flee, not attack. Their fear of humans makes sense. Far more piranhas are eaten by people than people are eaten by piranhas. If the fish are well-fed, they won't bite humans.

The underlined sentence tells us something about what the following sentences would be. This is topic sentence as well as controlling idea that limits our idea on piranhas' ferocious nature of eating human being which the writer is going to defend.

**Piranhas** (topic) **rarely feed on large animals** (controlling idea).

The same paragraph could be started with a different topic sentence (underlined).

**Although most people consider piranhas to be quite dangerous, they are, for the most part, entirely harmless.** Piranhas rarely feed on large animals; they eat smaller fish and aquatic plants. When confronted with humans, piranhas' first instinct is to flee, not attack. Their fear of humans makes sense. Far more piranhas are eaten by people than people are eaten by piranhas. If the fish are well-fed, they won't bite humans.

*c) Demonstrate Your Point (Supporting Sentences)*

After stating your topic sentence, you need to provide information to prove, illustrate, clarify, and/or exemplify your point.

Ask yourself:

- What examples can I use to support my point?
- What information can I provide to help clarify my thoughts?
- How can I support my point with specific data, experiences, or other factual material?



- What information does the reader need to know in order to see my point?

A list of the kinds of information you can add to your paragraph;

- Facts, details, reasons, examples
- Information from the readings or class discussions
- Paraphrases or short quotations
- Statistics, polls, percentages, data from research studies
- Personal experience, stories, anecdotes, examples from your life

In above paragraph on 'Piranhas', the sentences following the topic sentence are clarifying the writer's thought. He is trying to illustrate or exemplify the topic sentence by giving information about facts regarding piranhas.

Link one paragraph to the next and provide another device for helping you ensure your paragraph is unified. While not all paragraphs include a concluding sentence, you should always consider whether one is appropriate.

Model paragraph

<p style="text-align: center;">Failure in school</p> <p>1. Failing school examination does not always predict failure in life. 2. Albert Einstein, one of the world's geniuses, failed his university entrance examinations on his first attempt. 3. William Faulkner, one of America's noted writers, never finished college because he could not pass his English courses. 4. Sir Winston Churchill, who is considered one of the masters of the English language, had to have special tutoring in English during elementary school. 5. These few examples show that failure in school does not always predict failure in life.</p>	<p>1-Topic sentence</p> <p>2, 3, 5- Supporting sentences</p> <p>5- Concluding sentences</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Olympic and fitness</p> <p>1. Olympic athletes must be strong both physically and mentally. 2. First of all, if they hope to compete in an Olympic Sport, they must be physically strong. 3. Furthermore, aspiring Olympians must train rigorously for many years. 4. For the most demanding sports, they train several hours a day, five or six days a week, for ten or more years. 5. In addition to being physically strong, athletes must also be mentally tough. 6. This means that they have to be totally dedicated to their sport, often giving up normal school, family and social life. 7. Being mentally strong, also</p>	<p>1-Topic sentence</p> <p>2,3,4,5,6,7-Supporting sentence.</p> <p>8-concluding sentence.</p>

means that they must be able to withstand the intense pressure of international competition with the accompanying media coverage. 8. Relieving themselves with these constraints and focussing on health building can only excel them in Olympics.	
<p style="text-align: center;">College VS School</p> <p>1. College students should understand that there are many skills and behaviours that are necessary in order to be successful. 2. College is very different from high school, so students need to realize that just getting by, not completing homework regularly, and relying on teachers to remind them of deadlines will put them at risk academically. 3. Instead, college students need to acquire a more responsible and adult mindset to help them achieve their goals. 4. Although there are behaviours that students should adopt, there are some specific ones that will be most beneficial. 5. Students should regularly attend classes and labs, diligently take notes and ask questions, do all course assignments, and study for exams.</p>	<p>1-Topic sentence</p> <p>2,3,4-Supporting sentence.</p> <p>5-Concluding sentence.</p>

### 3.4.2 Letter Writing

Do you like writing? Few of us do. Most of us like to read, or to talk to others, and to listen to others talking. But we don't usually like to write unless there is a need. Write a letter or reply a letter and so on. To listen to others is easy but when we write, we are never sure how it will be understood. So we have to take extra care when we write formal or informal letters. The letter may be a written message, request account of events, etc. sent by one person to another.

There are different types of letter writing – informal and formal letters. Formal letters are written to employers seeking a job, to some organization for redressal of grievances, letters of public concerns which appear in the newspaper etc. The main aim of any letter is to convey an idea, thought or message. Hence, a letter should be communicative and should convey the message and idea clearly.

(a)Letter Head: It consists the writers' address and the date of writing. Mostly, the heading is written at the top right-hand corner of the page. The punctuation mark is essential.

The date should appear under the address. Put a full stop after writing as 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 or 1 January 2017.

Name and address of the addressee

To whom the letter is addressed

This may be written on the left-hand side of the page at the top or at the foot of the letter.

(b) The salutations: Usually, respected sir, dear sir, etc. is written on the left-hand side of the page, a line below the date. Put a comma after the salutations. Salutation depends on the relation in which the writer stands to the person addressed. The following four of salutation is used in different context.

For blood relations, friends and dear one-younger one	My dear, dear
For blood relation –elder than writer	Respected, my dear etc.
For formal salutation officers, principal, headmasters, editors, present or prospective employee	Respected sir/madam
Shopkeepers, businessmen, managers	Sir/Madam, dear sir/madam
Strangers and acquaintances	Sir/madam dear sir/dear madam

If you are writing a formal letter to a lady whose name you know, address her as Dear Madam. If you do not know her name or status write dear Miss/Ms./ must be followed by the lady's name. The salutation words first letter should be in Capital Letter. If the salutation consists two words, the first letter of both should be in the capital. But, if there are three words, the second one should not be capitalized.

For example, dear mother, my dear mother, dearest should not be used for father, mother, wife, husband etc, as this implies more than two entities. However, it can be used for a friend, brother, sister, and uncle.

(C) The Body of the Letter: This is the most letter, this consists the purpose of the letter. The body of the letter should write in direct, simple style using the reported speech. It should be brief and explained easily. The body style of the letter depends on the type of letter. There are three main parts of the body:

- Beginning
- Content of the letter
- Complementary close

Concluding line: It depends on letter form (formal and informal)

- For parents and elder- with love and respects, with love and affectionate regard
- for younger relatives – ‘with love’ ‘best wishes’
- for friends- with best regards, with best wishes
- for official letters – thanking you, with best regards
- complimentary

The letter you should and some polite words to make the letter effective and impressive message. Subscription should always agree with the salutation

For relative and friends	-	yours affectionately, your loving friend etc.
For friends and acquaintance	-	yours sincerely, sincerely yours
Government officials, editors, shopkeepers, private firms, etc	-	yours faithfully, yours truly
Principal, headmasters etc	-	Yours obediently
Strangers	-	Yours faithfully
For employment, from one official to another, complaints or request to official	-	Yours faithfully

The first letter of the subscription should be in capital and the first letter of all other words is small. No apostrophe is used in yours.

(d) Signature: The signature is the last part of the letter and tells who has written the letter.

If you are writing an informal letter, sign with the name by which the person you are writing to.

If your letter is formal, sign with initials and surname or with the signature you normally use for bank or business transaction.

# 1) Formal or Public

To	Date – dd/mm/yy
Designation of person Name of the Institution/Organization Address of the Institution/Organization City-Pin-Code.	
From Name of the person (Mrs/Ms) Address city-Pin Code	
1- Informal Letters: Informal letters generally refer to letters written to friends and relatives. Such letters are written in conversational style. There are no strict rules on length, they should be warm. While it may be important, do not fill the letter with yourself, your problems, and your achievements. Make your letter reader oriented. Informal Letter	
<u>Example 2- From brother to brother</u>	
	44/7905 ---Nagar Bareilly-5

October-10, 2016
My dear Ramesh, I was glad to receive your letter. It is good that you have been selected for the basketball team of your school. But don't engage yourself too much in sports and neglect your studies.  You wrote to me that you are developing a good personality. One should work hard to develop it. A good personality is necessary for success in life. Meenu wrote to me that she will be coming home in the second week of the next month. Your mid-term examinations will be over by that time. She wants you to be here when she comes. Next time, I will send you a few good books.
Yours loving brother (Dinesh)

In the same manner personal letters can be written, from daughter to father, from daughter to mother; from son to mother and so on in personal relations and friends and family friends.

## 2-Social correspondence:

Social correspondence includes letters of invitation, congratulation, thanks, apology, sympathy and the like. Social correspondence is of two types: (i) Informal and (ii) formal.

(i) Informal communications are notes, handwritten in the first person.

(ii) Formal communication includes large social functions. They are usually typed and are in the third person. The phraseology of formal letters is standard and fixed.

### Letters of congratulations:

There are cheerful messages. Depending on this circumstances, letters of congratulations may be brief and formal or in informal conversation. Such letters are written on the occasion of marriage, on the birth of a child, wedding anniversary etc.

#### (1) Birthday Congratulations

Dear Tarsem

Twenty years ago, you were born. On this day, congratulations and best wishes. This is your first birthday you left this place. I hope you will enjoy the day very much.

Affectionately,  
Rohan

#### (2) On marriage

Dear Sheela,

Congratulations on your marriage. I wish you and your husband an ever-increasing happiness as years pass by.

Affectionately,  
Deepa

### **(3)Congratulations on success in examination**

Dear Fareeda

Congratulations for securing good marks in your examination. My parents are also very happy that you have got such high percentage in your examination. My sister also congratulates you on your brilliant success.

Convey our regards to your parents and brothers.

Yours affectionately  
Deepak

### **(4)Letters of Condolence**

Dear Renu (friend)

I just heard of the sudden death of your mother. It was a great shock to hear it. She was very kind and affectionate to me; she was like my own mother.

I will never forget her.

I send you my heartfelt sympathy and share your sorrow.

Affectionately,  
Deepa

**Formal or Public Letters:** Formal letters are those letters, which are written to the people, who are not relatives and friends. Their letters are usually precise and simple.

Like:

- 1) school / colleges/university correspondence
- 2) Official correspondence
- 3) Employment letters
- 4) Complaints and suggestions letters to the editors.
- 5) Miscellaneous correspondence

#### **1. School/colleges/university correspondence:**

Sometimes you have to write letters to college or university authorities regarding matters such as admission, hotel accommodation, examination, migration certificate and many others. There letters are formal, short simple and to the point. The salutation should be (Sir) or 'madam' and the subscription 'yours obediently'.

Example 1: Application from Students to principal seeking admission to hostel

To The Principal CTE, NUH MANUU,	Date- dd/mm/yyyy
Sir,	
I am B.Ed. student of 1 year. I am from Bihar. Nuh is totally new place for me. I am facing accommodation problem after coming here. I request you kindly admit me as a boarder in your hostel, so that, I may be able to continue and complete my studies.	
I would be very much obliged to you for taking the necessary action for the same.	
Yours obediently RashidaKhatoon B.Ed 1 year Student CTE, Nuh	

Example 2: Application from Students to Registrar seeking permission to appear in examination

To The Registrar MANUU Gachibowli,	24-12-2020
Sir	
I am a B.Ed. student of CTE Nuh. I am going to appear for the final for examination 2016/01/7.	
I have fallen short of attendance for about one month from the 20 <sup>th</sup> October to the 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2016. During this time, I was seriously ill with dengue fever and was unable to attend college. My leave application along with medical certificates were submitted to the principal of my college and the leave was sanctioned to me.	
I was a regular student and had always attended my classes and abided by the rules of the college. My detention for one year will certainly affect my career and my future.	
Photocopies of the relevant medical certificates are enclosed for your kind perusal.	
I shall be most thankful if you consider my case and allow me to appear in the examination	
Thanking you,	
Yours obediently, Asmal Ah B.Ed Students CTE, NUH	



## 2. Leave Application:

Leave application is a letter written by students and teachers to their principals, and employees to their employers or immediate superiors, asking for a leave. There are some important points:

Leave applications should be briefed to the point. There is no need to elaborate the reason of leave.

- 1) It should be neither too aggressive nor too bringing.
- 2) The reason for asking for leave should be clearly stated.
- 3) Leave letters are addressed to the immediate superior, so always end with "Thanking you".
- 4) The subscription is 'yours faithfully'.
- 5) Submit the application before the date for which leave is asked for unless some unforeseen circumstances force you to abstain from school or work.

Example 1:

To  
The principal,  
MA NUU Model School  
Nuh

24-12-2020

Dear Sir,

I have some urgent personal work in concern with sister's marriage. Kindly grant me casual leave for the 29<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2016-10-19.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,  
Wasim Khan  
PRJ, I  
Manu Model School, Nuh

### **Employment Letters:**

#### **Application for the Post of a Stenographer**

To The Advertiser Box No. 3420 The Hindustan Times New Delhi	26-12-2020
Sir, I wish to apply for the post of the stenographer advertised in 'The Times of India' of 20, 2016 Sunday edition. Please find enclosed a copy of my bio-data giving details of my qualifications and experience. I am 21 years old. I have passed my B.A. examination from Delhi University in 1998. I have a typing speed of 50 w.p.m and shorthand at 120 w.p.m. I am working as a stenographer with a reputed company in Delhi for the last two years. The only reason to leave the present job is to improve my prospects. I hope you will consider my application. I assure you that and shall make every effort to be worthy of the confidence placed on me.  Yours faithfully Imtiaz Ahmed	

### **3.4.3 Writing Invitations:**

Invitation Letter is a type of letter written to an organization or an individual for their participation or presence in an event or an occasion. The occasion can be official or personal. The invitation is an important part of organizing any event or any social function. It provides the basic information for conducting the event. Invitation helps to set the overall tone for the event and will help to find out the number of guests attending, seating arrangement, food selection and service, etc. The type of invitation letter we send depends on the type of event. Letters inviting people to a corporate seminar, for instance, have a distinctly different format and flavour than those you send to invite people to a personal or social event.

The formal invitations are an invitation to attend Republic day, Independence Day, Teachers day, invitation to attend a seminar, a conference, a workshop, inviting a guest speaker, graduation ceremony, a business party, an official party etc. Informal invitations include Invitations for marriage, birthday party, house warming ceremony, baby shower, cradle ceremony, death ceremony, get together party, for dinner etc.

(a)Types of letters:

The invitation letter written for the official purpose is known as official Invitation letters and those which address the personal requirement are known as personal invitation letters. Personal invitations are written in an informal way but official invitation letters are written following official etiquettes.

**(i) Official Invitation Letters /Business Invitation letters–**

Official Invitation letters are the ones which are written for inviting officials and certain distinguished people for their participation in various activities. They follow a formal format written in a formal tone. Example inviting for meetings, interviews, training, conferences, inaugurations, etc.

**(iii)Personal Invitation Letters/Friendly Invitation letters –**

Personal Invitation letters are the ones which are written for inviting friends, peers, relatives, family members, neighbours, etc. for social occasions or events. They are written in informal tone without any format, for ex: letters written for weddings, birthday parties, anniversaries, baby showers, other social occasions and activities

**(iv)Electronic Invitations:**

Electronic invitations are those which we send via email. It starts with appropriate salutation, followed by the body of the letter and closing. But it needs a follow up with the phone call.

***Points to remember while writing Invitation Letters***

1. **Organize the Matter** – It refers to a list of people to be invited, the sequential order of the events, timings of the events, special guest, official documents, photocopies and any other required item. All the relevant documents will help in drafting the letter.
2. **Drafting** –It ensures that our mistakes and their rectification aren't passed on to the invitation itself. A second opinion from a friend or peer may be useful.
3. **Politeness** –We have to follow certain manners and etiquettes while writing an invitation letter. We should always begin the letter with a welcome note instead of the straightforward information of the invitation. Words of respect and gratitude are symbols of courtesy and politeness; Hence we should always express our gratitude at the beginning and the end of the letter.

4. **Positive Tone** –The present tense conveys information about the event and the future tense conveys an anticipated presence of the guest.

5. **Offer Assistance** –The more facilities we provide the better the chances of someone's attendance. Hence, mention everything in the invitation.

6. **Special Instructions** – Some occasions require special instructions for the guests. These instructions can be:

- i.Dress code
- ii.Road or route map
- iii.Purpose of the occasion – birthday, honour, anniversary etc.
- iv.Return gift
- v.Response or confirmation to the invitation
- vi.Attire and items required for the guest to bring
- vii.No eatables allowed
- viii.Entrance only by invitation
- ix.2 people per pass
- x.No weapons allowed

7. **Length of the Matter** – We can change the length as per our need and requirement. Wedding and party invitation letters are not lengthy as compared to visit and certain personal invitation letters.

8. **Using Letterhead** – As a rule, official Invitation letters require a letterhead. If we have pre-printed letterhead then we have to use that.

9. **The gesture of Appreciation** – This can be completed with a formal note, stating that you look forward to seeing the individual at the event.

10. **Don't forget the Enclosure** – Some invitations require certain documents to be attached; these can be the photocopies of documents like agreements, hard copies of email received, earlier correspondence, receipts, warranty etc. hence we should keep original copies of all our letters, faxes, e-mails and other related documents.

11. **Closing the Letter** –At the end of last paragraph a complimentary close like, 'sincerely', 'thank you', 'truly' is essential.

12. **Proofreading** – We should check for awkward phrases, grammatical errors, incomplete sentences, spelling mistakes, punctuation, dull or lifeless sentences and correct them.

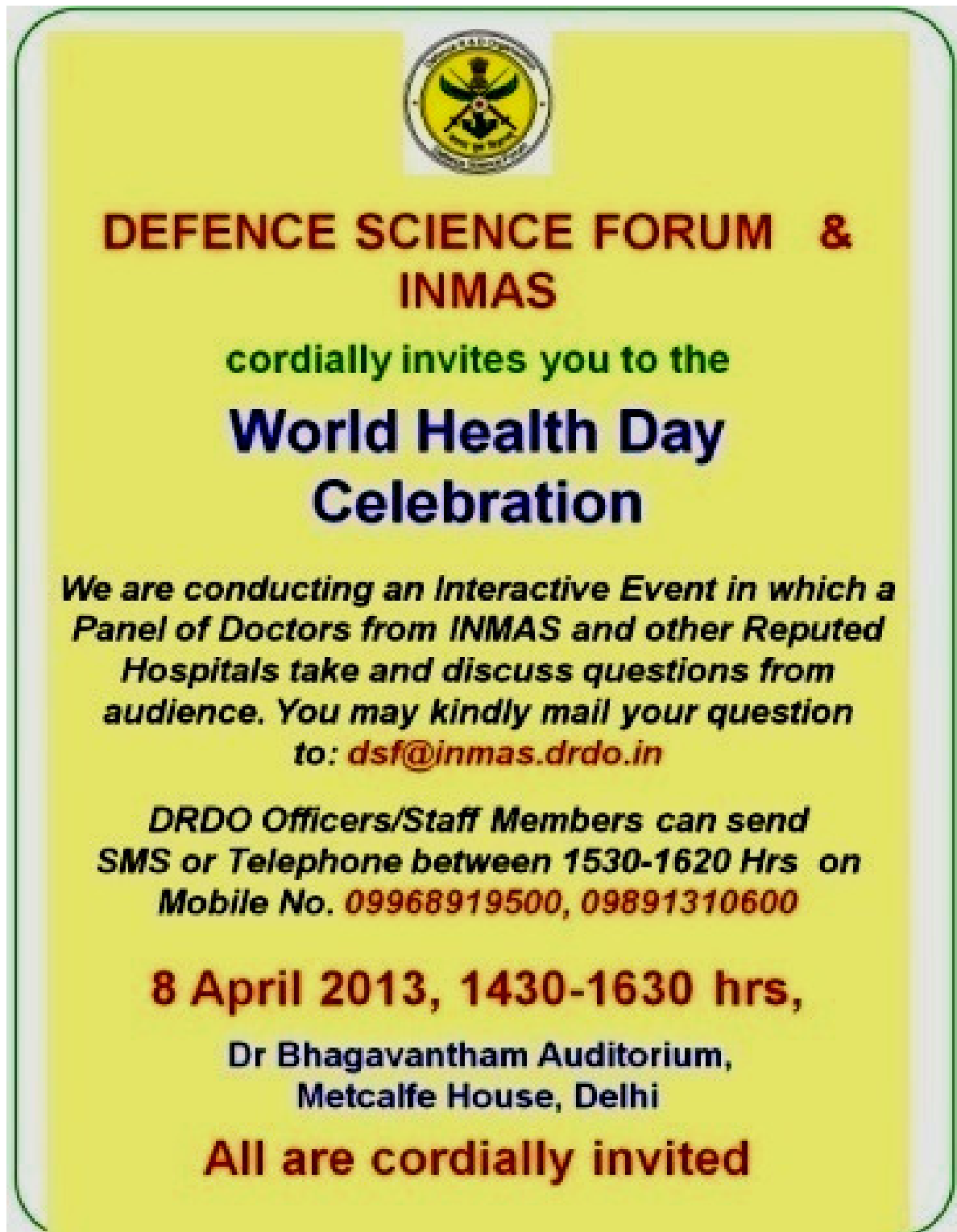
**13. Inform in Advance** – Invitation letters need to be sent in advance. We should try to send the invitation letter two weeks or more in advance. The recipients need to know in advance so that they can adjust their schedules, book tickets or make other arrangements which are essential.

***Steps of writing formal invitations***

- i. Place the organization or host's logo or graphic at the top of the invitation.
- ii. The host's full name should be used on the invitation
- iii. Full names should be used for all hosts when events are hosted by 2 or more people.
- iv. Extend the invitation. You can choose formal wording, such as "request your presence" or less formal verbiage, such as "cordially invites you to attend."
- v. Provide information about the event. For instance, "a breakfast," "an award ceremony," or "reception."
- vi. State the purpose of the event. For example, "in honour of..."
- vii. Provide the date of the event. "Thursday, the eleventh day of May" or keep it short such as, "Thursday, May 11." Writing it out is the more formal way to write the invitation.
- viii. Write the time of the event in full. Include words such as, "in the morning" or "in the evening" if the event purpose does not already make this clear. For example, if an event is taking place at 8:00 p.m., you would write, "At eight o'clock in the evening." If the event is a breakfast or a dinner, the additional words, "in the morning" or "in the evening" would not be required.
- ix. Provide the location of the event and its street address.
- x. Provide special instructions, if any. example "directions enclosed."
- xi. Include your Response card:- This is intended for parties and events where you must know exactly who is coming so arrangements can be made for seating, food, and other accommodations.
- xii. For invitations that do not include response cards, list the name and telephone number of the person who will be in charge of the responses.

## Sample formal invitations

### World Health day invitation card



## Annual day Invitation



### PROGRAMME

1. Arrival of the Chief Guest
2. Lighting of the Lamp
3. Welcome Address & Annual Report
4. Prize Distribution
5. Cultural Programme
6. Address by the Chief Guest
7. Vote of Thanks
8. National Anthem

Ph. 040-27794121

The Principal, Staff & Students of

**Kendriya Vidyalaya, Tirumalagiri**

**SECUNDERABAD – 500015.**



*Cordially invite you to their*



## ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

*On Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 at 1700 Hrs  
in the Vidyalaya Premises*

**Sri. S.M. Saleem**

Deputy Commissioner, K.V.S. Hyderabad Region

*Will grace the occasion as the Chief Guest*

**Smt. Shamshath Begum**

*Has kindly consented to give away the prizes*

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Note : Please be seated by 1645 Hrs

## Birthday Invitation

### **BHEL COMMUNITY CENTRE R.C.PURAM HYDERABAD – 32**

### **GANDHI JAYANTHI & SHRI LALBAHADUR SHASTRY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS**

**DATE : 02.10.2012**  
**TIME : 07.30 AM**  
**VENUE : ADMN BLDG (GANDHI STATUE)**

#### **PROGRAMME:**

- 1. BHAJANS.**
- 2. PRAYER BY PRIESTS OF DIFFERENT RELIGIONS**
- 3. GARLANDING THE STATUES OF SHRI MAHATMA  
GANDHI AND SHRI LALBAHADUR SHASTRY**

**ALL ARE REQUESTED TO PARTICIPATE.**

*V.C. Krishnan*  
**V.C. Krishnan**

**General Manager (HE&F, R&D and Engg Coordn)**  
**President, BHEL Community Centre.**



## Invitation for Alumni meet

*Hello to all VVP Alumni,*

There is some good news for you all.... Something you all must be waiting for since long!!!!

This mail comes to you as an invitation to attend *General Body Meeting (GBM)* along with **"RASOTSAV"** scheduled on **9<sup>th</sup> October 2015, Friday – 3:00 p.m. onwards** with **DINNER!!!**

Event Venue, schedule and registration details are as follows.

All these details are also available on our website: [www.vvpedulink.ac.in](http://www.vvpedulink.ac.in)

**Venue:** V. V. P Engineering College, Rajkot.

**Date:** **9<sup>th</sup> October 2015, Friday**

**Time:** 3:00 pm onwards.

**Schedule:**

Sr. No.	Event Particulars	Time
1	Arrival & Registration*	3:00 to 4:00 pm
2	High Tea	3:30 to 4:00pm
3	Games, Entertainment & Light Moments	4:00 to 5:00pm
4	Welcome & Inaugural Address	5:00 to 5:30pm
5	General Body Meeting	5:30 to 6:00pm
6	Rasotsav (GARBA) with <i>DINNER</i>	6:00pm onwards

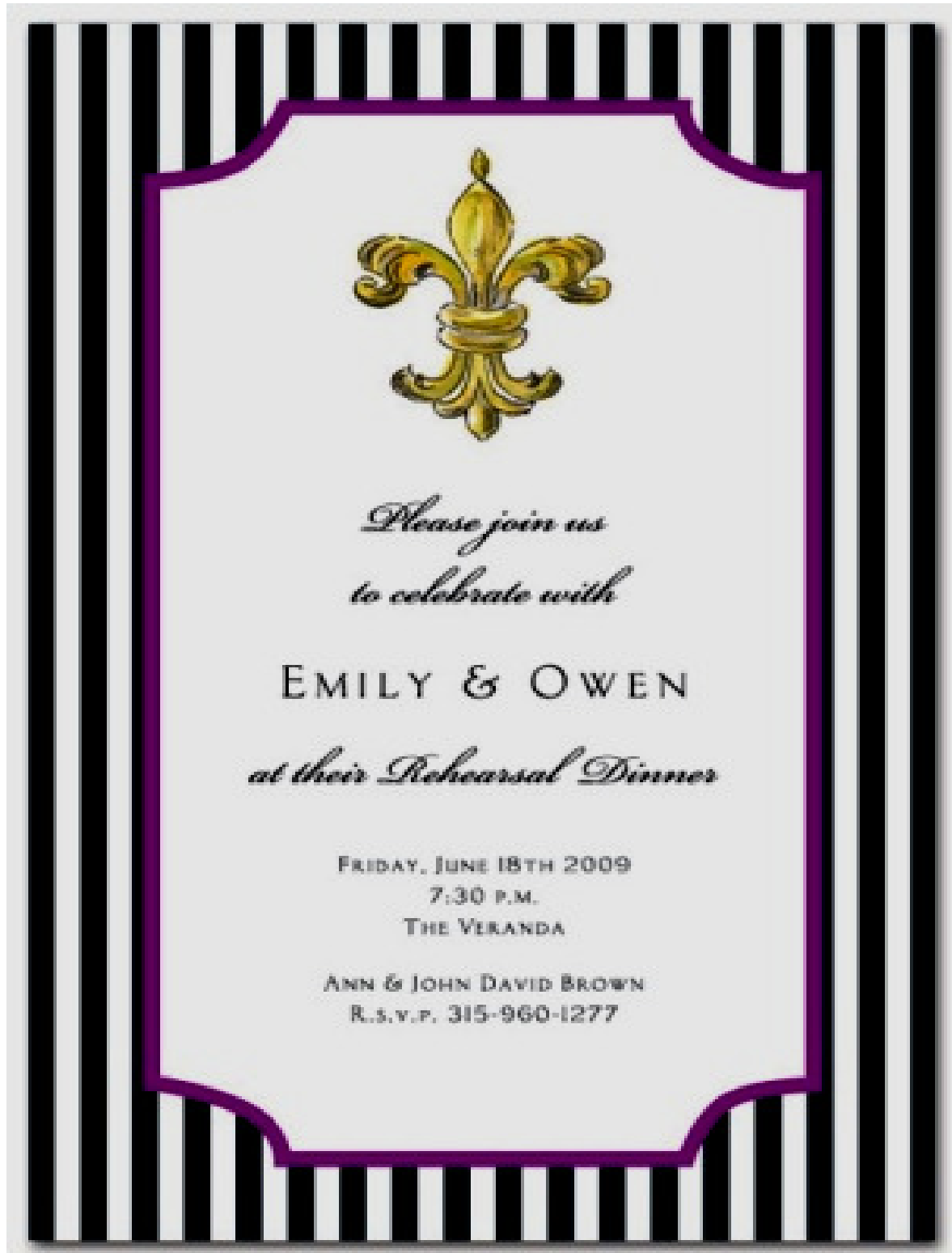
**\*Registration Fee:** Rs: 100/- per head for pass out students of any year.

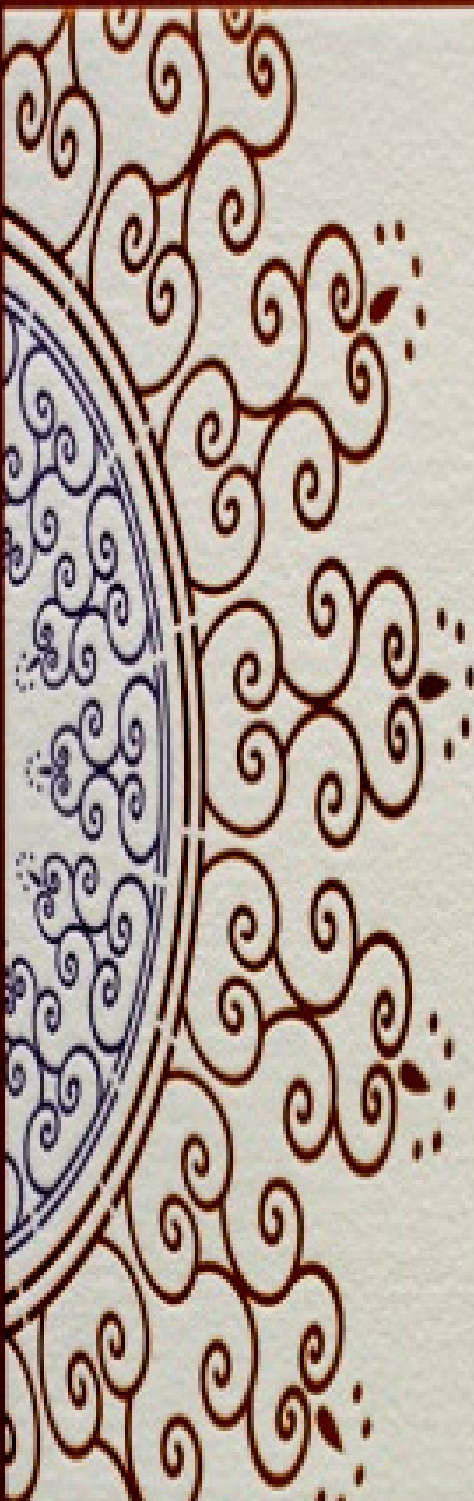
Rs: 150/- per head for Guest / family members. (Children above 10 years)

**Hurry up; Register your name.....**

**(it will not take more than 2 minutes)**

Informal invitation letters





Mr. & Mrs. Madan and Hita Kapoor  
request the pleasure of your company  
at the marriage of their daughter

*Lalita Vidya*

to

*Naveen Chandresh*

son of Mr. & Mrs. Arvind and Mary Dasari

Saturday, the ninth of May  
two thousand ten  
at two o'clock in the afternoon

Kensington Gardens  
Gig Harbor, Washington

### 3.4.4 Writing Resume

A Resume is a written document that catalogues your work, experience, skill and educational details. It is essential for a potential employer. It needs to contain well-presented facts about your achievements, accomplishments, abilities and reveals that you have a positive attitude and strong interpersonal skills.

#### a) Types of Resume

- a. Chronological Resume: it presents history of employer`s work experience
- b. Functional Resume: allows the reader to glance all of the events/activities and qualifications of the applicant given in a lucid manner.
- c. Combinational Resume: provides the knowledge, skills and abilities achieved from work in a reverse-chronological order

#### Resume Format:

- a. Personal details: name, father`s name, date of birth gender, marital status, nationality, religion, community and languages known.
  - i. Name : Azadullah
  - ii. Father`s Name : Abdul Khader,
  - iii. Date of birth : 9th December 1983,
  - iv. Gender : Male
  - v. Marital Status : Married
  - vi. Nationality : Indian
  - vii. Religion : Muslim
  - viii. Community : OBC
  - ix. Languages known : Urdu, Hindi, Arabic, Tamil and English.
- b. Objective statement: can be quoted like,
  - i. To get employed in a challenging ambience that would utilize my overall abilities and skills.
  - ii. To enhance my working capacities, professional skills to serve my institution in the best possible way.
- c. Educational details: Make higher order from lower

- d. Technical skills: Ms Word, Ms Excel and web designing in HTML etc
- e. Work experience and work attended: Name of institution, address, job profile, etc. can be given like
  - i. 5 years teaching experience
  - ii. Effective classroom management
  - iii. Inculcating moral values in our students
  - iv. Techniques for interactive learning
- f. Skills and abilities: Research work, project, core skills etc.
- g. Responsibilities: could be mentioned like;
  - i. Working with the team and motivating them towards success
  - ii. Hard working and dedicated to work
  - iii. Self-confidence and good energy level
  - iv. Good willingness to take up responsibility
  - v. Flexible in nature
- h. Address details : [a] address for communication [b] Email Id [c] Mobile Number
- i. Date, Place: Give date and place
- j. References: Name contact number, email address of some references

How should your resume be?

1. Simple and comprehensible
2. Employ effective titles/headings
3. Use attractive bullet points
4. keep away from mentioning negativity/weak points
5. Limit in one or two pages
6. Better selective regarding font size, style, etc.
7. No grammatical mistakes.
8. Truthful on information given.

### **3.4.5 Writing Notices and Announcements**

#### **Notice**

A notice is a piece of writing, very short in length, it is a kind of short and simple piece of information addressed to the related group of people belonging to an institution or an organization. It is usually written in a formal style. It is commonly used by individuals and organizations for the purpose of announcement of events as meetings, special news or information, a holiday or celebrations like anniversaries, births, deaths, and occasions like inaugurations, it may be used to issue public instructions, or to make appeals, to inform about the selection or termination of the employees. Most of the notices need to be pinned up on the notice boards present in the schools or offices of the organizations, whereas the notices by the Government departments and other big agencies use daily newspapers.

#### ***Uses of notices:***

Notice can be used for informing the masses, general public or for a specific group or for drawing the attention of some specific personnel, institution or organization. It can also be used to publicly declare about the change of name where one gives his/ her new name and the reason for changing the name. Further, it can be used for informing about the tours, fairs, exhibitions and camps that are to be organized in the near future.

#### ***Characteristics of an effective notice:***

1. It should be precise and to the point.
2. It should not leave any scope for any enquiry or doubt on the part of the reader. A perfect notice comprises of 50 words.
3. It should have a clearly stated purpose given in a formal language: A good notice clarifies its purpose in a simple and easy language but it should be formal in nature.
4. A notice should be such that it contains all necessary details like:
  - i. The name of the issuing agency and the date of issuing the notice should be clearly mentioned (who)
  - ii. Subject mentioned should not be vague. (why)
  - iii. Name of the Event or Ceremony should be given (what)
  - iv. Date and time to be mentioned clearly (when)

- v. Place/Venue to be properly written (where)
- vi. To give the name and signature of the Authorized signatory:
- vii. Important points should be highlighted if necessary.
- viii. The notice should always be enclosed in a closed box.

### **Art of writing a notice**

The art of writing an effective notice can be acquired with practice and keeping in mind some of the basic points. An effective notice gives complete information in a clear and lucid language.

### **Format of notice**

The contents of a notice must include following aspects;

1. Name of the School Organization, Institution or Office that issues it along with the date of issuing of that particular notice.
2. A bold heading/subject 'NOTICE' on top and in the centre to make it clearer.
3. A suitable description, an Agenda or a sort of eye-catching caption, a heading to hold the immediate attention of the reader.
4. Clearly mentioned purpose for which it has been written, for example, giving a notice for calling a meeting, making an appeal or informing the general public about the issue of some concern, etc.
5. Clearly given schedule including date, time, venue along with the duration of the programme, etc.
6. Suitable background images, logos or graphics can also be used to represent the event.
7. The date of the notice can be placed at the top right or left, or bottom right or left-hand corner.
8. The entire content of the notice is centred within a 'box'.
9. The individual/s responsible for issuing the notice indicates the name below the signature in parenthesis, followed by their designation/s.
10. Complete sentences need not always be used in all types of notices. Abbreviations and symbols can also be used.
11. Usually, future time references predominate over other tense forms.

## **Announcements**

An announcement is basically a social or a business declaration. It is mostly used in many places such as Schools, offices, public dealings, etc. It is one of the means of communication that is used to give information to the audience, reader and listener. People use to write announcements for declaring school results, programmes, meetings, college functions, engagements, marriage or wedding, birth and deaths, adoption, baptism, business, job, promotion or retirement, etc.

### **Uses of an announcement**

The announcement provides effective clear and complete information about the event, ceremony, decision or celebration. It gives complete information about the date time and venue of the event.

It is the simplest way of conveying the message.

### **Kinds of Announcement**

Announcements can be of two types:

#### **1. Spoken Announcement**

It is verbally conveyed to the concerned group or public. For example:

May I have Your Attention, Please!!

Tomorrow we are going to celebrate the foundation day of our school. So, please prepare the school for tomorrow, and make the necessary arrangements.

#### **2. Written Announcement**

The announcement can be in the written form also. Here, the information is given in the written form and in a specific format.

#### ***Format of an Announcement***

- a. Purpose: The purpose of the event to be clear and well mentioned.
- b. Day, Date and time: Specific Day Date and Time to be properly stated.
- c. Venue: The venue where the event is organized should be noted clearly.
- d. Informing authority: The name of the person who should be contacted in relation to the announced event



- e. Language Features of an announcement.
- f. Use simple present tense and simple future tense.

#### ***Characteristics of a written announcement***

- a. It should be short, inviting, impressive and to the point.
- b. Straightforward and easy for the readers to get information quickly
- c. Clear, complete and neatly typed.
- d. Use of direct and sensible statements **add an optimistic** message of understanding in a respectful tone for the announcement of a bad news.

### **3.4.6 Report Writing**

#### **Meaning and Concept of Report**

Generally, reports are brief, precise and sharp documents, written taking into care some particular audience and purpose. Reports are based on facts and written in a well-structured manner.

A report is designed to lead people through the information in a structured way and to enable them to find the information quickly and easily.

Reports are divided into sections with headings and subheadings. Reports can be academic, technical or business related, and feature recommendations for specific actions. Reports are written to present facts about a situation, project or process and will define and analyze the issue at hand.

Reports may contain some or all of the following elements:

1. A description of a sequence of events or a situation
2. Some interpretation of the significance of these events or situation
3. An evaluation of the facts or the results of your observation
4. Discussion of the likely outcomes of future courses of action
5. Your recommendations as to a course of action and
6. Conclusions.

## **Types of Report**

We can categorize reports into two broader categories, informal and formal.

### **1) Informal Reports**

The informal report functions to inform, analyze and recommend.

- It usually takes the form of a memo, letter or a very short internal document

like a

monthly activities report.

- This report differs from the formal report in length and formality.
- Common examples of informal reports are progress reports, personnel evaluations, literature reviews, etc.

### **2) Formal Reports**

The formal report is the collection and interpretation of data and information. The formal report is complex and used at an official level. It is often a written account of a major project. Examples of subject matter include new technologies, the advisability of launching a new project line, results of a study or experiment, an annual report, or a year old review of developments in the field. Formal reports include information, analyses and recommendations.

## **Format of a Typical Report**

In order to keep the report crisp, it is essential to adopt a pattern or format. The main components of a standard report are:

### **Title**

If the report is short, the front cover can include any information that you feel is necessary including the author(s) and the date prepared. In a longer report, you may want to include a table of contents and a definition of terms.

- **Summary**

The summary consists of the major points, conclusions and recommendations. It needs to be short as it is a general overview of the report. Some people will read the summary and only skim the report, so make sure you include all of the relevant information.

- **Introduction**

The first page of the report needs to have an introduction. Here you have to explain the problem and inform the reader why the report is being made. You need to give the definitions of terms.

- **Body**

This is the main section of the report. The previous sections needed to be written in plain English, but this section can include technical terms or jargon from your industry. There should be several sections, each clearly labelled with a subtitle. Information in a report is usually arranged in order of importance with the most important information coming first.

- **Conclusion**

This is where everything comes together. Keep this section free from jargon as many people will just read the summary and conclusion.

- **Recommendations**

This is where you discuss any actions that need to be taken. In plain English, explain your recommendations, putting them in order of priority.

- **Appendices**

This includes information that the experts in the field will read. It has all the technical details that support your conclusions.

### **Sample Report**

#### **SAMPLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL *LONG-TERM TREND* NOTIFICATION LETTER**

NOTE TO DISTRICT COORDINATORS OF ASSESSMENT: You must insert your data into the designated fields. This sample elementary school principal *long-term trend* notification letter is available for download in MS Word format at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/naep/naep2008.asp>.

(District Letterhead)

#### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** (Name of Principal)

**FROM:** (Name of District Coordinator of Assessment)  
(Title)

**DATE:** (Date)

**SUBJECT:** National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Your school has been selected through national sampling procedures to participate in the 2007 - 2008 administration of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Your scheduled assessment date is (**insert date**). Please add this date to your school calendar or let me know as soon as possible if there is a conflict. Participation of the students selected by Westat (the NAEP administration contractor) must be at least 90%, or a makeup session will have to be scheduled.

Below are the criteria of this year's assessment at your school:

- Type of Assessment: Long-Term Trend
- Subjects to be Assessed: Reading and Mathematics
- Assessment Duration: Approximately 90 minutes for students
- Assessment Administrator: Westat personnel
- Assessment Population: 9 year-old students (born between 01/1998 and 12/1998)

The long-term trend assessment uses test items that remain substantially unchanged each time a subject is assessed, allowing student progress in a subject to be measured over a long period of time for all students and for groups of students defined by gender and race/ethnicity. The data collected from this assessment can be linked back to NAEP assessments conducted for over 30 years to measure progress across time.

The Department of Education will provide Westat with the student lists, and they will choose the sample of students to be involved in the assessment based on your school's demographics. You or the individual you designate to coordinate the NAEP assessment at your school will be responsible for completing a *NAEP 2007 - 2008 School Data Collection Form*, which requests information about your school and provides you with information about the upcoming NAEP assessment. The *Form* must be completed online at [www.mynaep.com](http://www.mynaep.com) no later than **Friday, September 21, 2007**. You can find your school's MySchool Registration ID number on the enclosed sheet of pink paper.

### **3.5 Points to Remember**

1. Speed of reading is related to pace of reading i.e. how fast and how slow one can read and it depends upon kind of text and purpose of reading.
2. Kind of text relates to textual matter of a reading material and it can be either technical or non-technical.
3. Purpose of reading relates to either acquiring information from the text or reading it for the a pleasure to pass the time.
4. Invitation Letter is a type of letter written to an organization or an individual for their participation or presence in an event or an occasion.
5. There are formal and informal Invitation letters.
6. Electronic invitations are those invitation letters which we send via email.
7. Preparation of Invitations involves organizing the matter, drafting, observing tone, special instructions and proofreading etc.
8. A notice is a piece of writing, very short in length, it is a kind of short and simple piece of information addressed to the related group of people belonging to an institution, or organization.
9. Generally, reports are brief, precise, sharp documents, written taking into care some particular audience and purpose. Reports are based on facts and written in a well-structured manner.

### **3.6 Unit End Exercise**

#### **I. Very short answer type questions**

1. Reading is an/a ..... process of interaction with texts(interactive/active/passive)
2. The pace with which a reader reads a text is called ..... of reading (speed/acceleration/velocity).

3. If a reader is reading at speed more than 300 words per minute it is called as .....reading (fast/slow/average).
4. Scientific paper reading is a kind of .....reading (technical/non-technical/general).
5. The speed of reading a textual material actually depends upon..... (kind of text/purpose of reading/both).
6. While reading a novel, magazine, fiction based stories ..... is the purpose of reading. (information/pleasure/both)
7. A good reader always reads the material .....time (single/twice/multiple).
8. A good reader should have the quality of skimming, scanning and make (Predictions/generalization).
9. If the textual material is difficult, the speed of the reading must be ..... (slow/fast/average).
10. Good reader always have the habit of making.....of the content (summary/explanation/description)
11. There are ..... types of letters.
12. There are .....parts of letters.
13. Formal letters are .....letters.
14. There are.....types of social letters.
15. Signature is the.....part of the letter.
16. What do you mean by speed of reading.
17. Name the two factors on which speed of reading depends.
18. Explain how the kind of text affects the speed of reading.
19. Describe briefly, the purpose of reading.
20. List five characteristics of a good reader.
21. How information based reading affects the speed of reading?
22. Summarization and inference are key for a good reader. Comment.
23. Give an outline of an envelope.
24. What do you understand by formal and informal letters?
25. Write the types of employment letters.
26. Write the types of social correspondence.
27. What do you understand by business letters?

28. Discuss various types of report.
29. Write usefulness of report writing.
30. Map the format of report writing.

## **II. Short answer type questions**

1. What is an invitation?
2. What are the different types of invitations?
3. What is a paragraph?
4. Write the purpose of paragraph writing.
5. What should a good paragraph reflect?
6. What are the basic parts of a paragraph?
7. What are the advantages of sending an invitation to the guests?
8. What are the important elements of an invitation?
9. What is a report?
10. What type of precautions will you take while writing a report?
11. Define announcement.

## **III. Long Answer type questions**

1. Prepare a Republic day invitation.
2. Prepare an invitation to celebrate a birthday party.
3. Prepare an Invitation for Teachers day celebration.
4. Prepare an invitation for Independence Day.
5. Write a brief paragraph on the followings.
  - a) Education in the eyes of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
  - b) Charity brings prosperity
  - c) A day at Taj Mahal
  - d) Character is null without education
  - e) Digital age: boom or bane
6. What are the points to remember while preparing invitations?
7. What are the steps/process of preparing invitations?
8. Write a letter to your friend to invite him to your brother's marriage.
9. Write a letter to bank manager to open an account.





24. <http://docplayer.net/45910392-Writing-effective-paragraphs-outline-1-some-questions.html>
25. <http://www.english-efl.com/what-is-reading-comprehension/>
26. <https://www.ukessays.com/essays/biology/natural-products-botachemical-potentiality-and.php>
27. <http://www.nald.ca/library/learning/academic/english/bau-eng/module16.pdf>

# Model Examination Paper

## Communicative English

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**Time: 2 hours**

**Max. Marks: 35 marks**

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Note: This question paper consists of three parts: Part - A, Part - B, and Part - C. Number of words to answers each question is only indicative. Attempt all parts.

**Part - A** contains 05 compulsory questions of multiple choices / fill in the blank / very short answer type question. Answer all questions. Each question carries **01 mark. (5x1 = 5 marks)**

**Part - B** contains 08 questions of which students are supposed to answer 05 questions. Answer each question in approximately **200 words**. Each question carries **04 marks. (5x4 = 20 marks)**

**Part - C** contains 02 questions of which students are supposed to answer 01 question. Answer each question in approximately **500 words**. Each question carries **10 marks. (1x10 = 10 marks)**

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### PART - A

1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

(i) Babies \_\_\_\_\_ when they are hungry.

A. cry    B. cries    C. cried    D. are crying

(ii) Not a great film \_\_\_\_\_?

A. Wasn't it    B. Was it    C. isn't it    D. None of the above

(iii) Platinum is \_\_\_\_\_ than any metal.

A. Much precious    B. more precious    C. most precious    D. many precious

(iv) \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of proper noun.

A. University    B. Family    C. Poverty    D. None of the above.

(v) Sana is afraid \_\_\_\_\_ spiders.

A. From    B. in    C. of    D. about

### **Part - B**

2. Describe the types of listening.
3. Write a note on speaking skill.
4. Explain any five characteristics of a good reader.
5. Write a note on Vowel Sounds.
6. What do you mean by Unity in a paragraph?
7. Write your Resume in detail.
8. Write a leave application to your Headmaster for attending Counseling & Workshop Sessions of B.Ed. (DM) programme.

### **Part - C**

9. What are the characteristics of an effective Notice? Explain in detail.
10. Prepare an invitation for Annual Gathering of your School.