

CONJUNCTIONS

Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, or clauses together.

Example:

I like cooking and eating, but I don't like washing dishes afterward. Sophie is clearly exhausted, yet she insists on dancing till dawn.

Conjunctions allow forming complex, elegant sentences and avoiding the chopiness of multiple short sentences. Make sure that the phrases joined by conjunctions are parallel (share the same structure).

Coordinating Conjunctions

Coordinating conjunctions allow you to join words, phrases, and clauses of equal grammatical rank in a sentence. The most common coordinating conjunctions are for, and, nor, but, or, yet, and so.

Example:

I'd like pizza or a salad for lunch. We needed a place to concentrate, so we packed up our things and went to the library. Jesse didn't have much money, but she got by.

(Notice the use of the comma when a coordinating conjunction is joining two independent clauses.)

Correlative Conjunctions

Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions that work together. Some examples are either/or, neither/nor, and not only/but also.

Example:

Not only am I finished studying for English, but I'm also finished writing my history essay. I am finished with both my English essay and my history essay.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions join independent and dependent clauses. A subordinating conjunction can signal a cause-and-effect relationship, a contrast, or some other kind of relationship between the clauses. Common subordinating conjunctions are because, since, as, although, though, while, and whereas. Sometimes an adverb, such as until, after, or before can function as a conjunction.

Example:

I can stay out until the clock strikes twelve.

Here, the adverb until functions as a coordinating conjunction to connect two ideas: I can stay out (the independent clause) and the clock strikes twelve (the dependent clause). The independent clause could stand alone as a sentence; the dependent clause depends on the independent clause to make sense.

EXERCISES

Complete each sentence using the subordinating conjunction from the parenthesis:

1. I visit the Grand Canyon _____ I go to Arizona. (once, whenever, wherever)
2. This is the place _____ we stayed last time we visited. (where, when, how)
3. _____ you win first place, you will receive a prize. (wherever, if, unless)
4. You won't pass the test _____ you study. (when, if, unless)
5. I could not get a seat, _____ I came early. (as, though, when)
6. We are leaving Wednesday _____ or not it rains. (if, whether, though)
7. Pay attention to your work _____ you will not make mistakes. (so that, unless, or)
8. The musicians delivered a rousing performance _____ they had rehearsed often. (though, as, once)
9. She's honest _____ everyone trusts her. (if, so, when)
10. Write this down _____ you forget. (or, when, lest)

Answers: 1 – whenever, 2 – where, 3 – if, 4 – unless, 5 – though, 6 – whether, 7- so that, 8 – as, 9 – so, 10 – lest

EXERCISES

Complete each sentence using the correct correlative conjunction pair from the parenthesis:

1. I plan to take my vacation _____ in June _____ in July. (whether / or, either / or, as / if)
2. _____ I'm feeling happy _____ sad, I try to keep a positive attitude. (either / or, whether / or, when / I'm)
3. _____ had I taken my shoes off _____ I found out we had to leave again. (no sooner / than, rather / than, whether / or)
4. _____ only is dark chocolate delicious, _____ it can be healthy. (whether / or, not / but, just as / so)
5. _____ I have salad for dinner, _____ I can have ice cream for dessert. (if / then, when / than, whether / or)
6. _____ flowers _____ trees grow _____ during warm weather. (not only / or, both / and, not / but)
7. _____ do we enjoy summer vacation, _____ we _____ enjoy winter break. (whether / or, not only / but also, either / or)
8. Calculus is _____ easy _____ difficult _____ (not / but, both / and, either / or)
9. It's _____ going to rain _____ snow tonight. (as / if, either / or, as / as)
10. Savory flavors are _____ sweet _____ sour. (often / and, neither / nor, both / and)

Answers: 1 – either / or, 2 – whether / or, 3 – no sooner / than, 4 – not / but, 5 – if / then, 6 – both / and, 7 – not only / but also, 8 – not / but, 9 – either / or, 10 – neither / nor

EXERCISES

Complete each sentence using the correct coordinating conjunction from the parenthesis:

1. My car has a radio _____ a CD player. (but, or, and)
2. Sharon hates to listen to rap music, _____ will she tolerate heavy metal. (but, nor, or)

3. Carol wanted to drive to Colorado,_____Bill insisted that they fly. (and, or, but)
4. I'm afraid of heights,_____I appreciate the view from the top of this building. (and, yet, nor)
5. I have to be on time,_____my boss will be annoyed if I'm late. (and, nor, for)
6. Do you like chocolate_____vanilla ice cream better? (or, nor, and)
7. I have to go to work at six,_____I'm waking up at four. (but, so, yet)
8. I was on time,_____everyone else was late. (so, but, for)
9. Nadia doesn't like to drive,_____she takes the bus everywhere. (but, yet, so)
10. Our trip to the museum was interesting,_____there were several new artifacts on display. (but, for, yet)

Answers: 1 – and, 2 – nor, 3 – but, 4 – yet, 5 – for, 6 – or, 7- so, 8 – but, 9 – so, 10 – for

www.binils.com

Reading Practice from Dialogues and conversations

- ☐ Reading comprehension from dialogues and ~~ones~~ provide an opportunity for both reading and speaking practice.
- ☐ Scripted dialogue conversations help the students to gain confidence
- ☐ Confidence – They do not have to strain to understand new items or words.
- ☐ A chance to review and reuse the words frequently used in ~~dialogue~~ conversations.

Dialogue reading

- ☐ Interactive
- ☐ Student Centered
- ☐ For students at all ~~bd~~

PRACTICE:

(Two friends talking)

Angie: Congratulations on your new job, Chris!

Chris: Thanks, Angie. To tell you the truth, I'm not so sure I like working.

Angie: Why do you say that? Last year you wanted to get out of university!

Chris: I know, but that was last year. Now, it's just work, work, and work. I work hard all day, every day.

Angie: Oh, come on. Don't complain. You're making a good salary now. Last year, you didn't make anything.

Chris: Right. Now, I have money, a nice apartment and a car. BUT I don't any time to enjoy it all.

Angie: It can't be all that bad.

Chris: No, of course it isn't. I still have my weekends.

Angie: So tell me, what do you miss about university?

Chris: I used to go to parties; I stayed up late talking with friends...

Angie: You can go to parties now, and you can stay up late.

Chris: Right, but then I'm tired at work. I can't do that. I have to be serious about

things.

Angie: I think you are TOO serious about everything.

Chris: That's easy for you to say, you are still at university.

Angie: Yes, but I don't have a job.

Chris: Would you like to change places with me?

Angie: Oh, come on Chris. It isn't all that bad.

Chris: Hmmm...

Read the dialogues and choose the most appropriate options to complete the dialogues.

Doctor

Take this medicine for a week and you'll start to feel better.

Patient

Doctor

Are you sure? It's the best on the market.

Patient

Yes I am. Can you please prescribe another one?

A) What shall I do if unexpected side effects arise?

B) What is the ideal dosage for my weight?

C) No, it's too early to prescribe another medicine.

D) But I've used it before and it did not help at all.

It looks as if the illness has already been cured.

Jake

How did you like the movie you saw last night?

Karen

I can't say it was the best I've ever seen.

Jake

Karen

Certainly not. Do not waste your time.

- A) Did you go alone or with a friend from work?
- B) Hadn't you read the reviews before you went to see it?
- C) What do you mean by saying it depends?
- D) I knew I could always count on you.
- E) Then you wouldn't recommend it, would you?

☞ Father

What? You crashed the car again?

Son

Father

I'm sure it wasn't. This is the third accident you have had this year.

Son

You're very angry now, dad. We had better talk about this later on.

- A) I do apologize. I promise it won't happen again.
- B) Was the car in good condition?
- C) But it wasn't my fault. You've got to believe me.
- D) Was it worth the money and time you had wasted?
- E) Why do you ask? Don't you know it's too late now?
- F) Chuck

Sue

why do you think so?

Chuck

Whenever we meet, she pretends not to see me.

Sue

I don't think it's because she hasn't got over her anger. She's having a bad time at work nowadays.

- A) It seems that Martha is still angry with me.
- B) Martha will never make a good manager.
- C) I have never seen a smarter woman than Martha.
- D) One thing that I especially like about Martha is her sincerity.
- E) Martha has finally managed to get over her resentment.

Tom:

MARY:

Are you kidding? We are in June.

TOM:

So what? What's wrong with June?

MARY:

The right time to trim your roses is the beginning of winter, when they lose their flowers.

- A) Are you going to plant those roses in your garden in June or July?
- B) Can you help me prune the roses in the garden at the weekend?
- C) I didn't know your brother knew so much about gardening.
- D) Have you got any idea what the right time is to shorten rose plants?
- E) Are we supposed to do anything special to keep the roses fresh?

WRITING - FREE WRITING

What is free writing?

Free writing is the practice of writing without a prescribed structure, which means no outlines, cards, notes, or editorial oversight. In free writing, the writer follows the impulses of their own mind, allowing thoughts and inspiration to appear to them without premeditation.

What Are the Benefits of Free writing?

- ☐ It makes you more comfortable with the act of writing
- ☐ It helps you bypass the "inner critic" who tells you can't write.
- ☐ It can be a valve to release inner tensions.
- ☐ It can help you discover things to write about.
- ☐ It can indirectly improve your formal writing.
- ☐ It can be fun.

Creative expression

- ☐ Many writers embrace free writing as a way to find unexpected inspiration.
- ☐ The creativity that comes from free association.
- ☐ By starting with a rough idea, but without pre-planned details, a writer opens themselves up to discovery and new found inspiration.

Speed

- ☐ Free writing is typically faster than other forms of draft writing or outlining because you are simply writing without a strict form to follow and without organizing your thoughts.

Example:

My Dream

Everyone has a dream in his life which they want to achieve when they grow up. Some kids want to become rich so that they can buy anything and some want to be a doctor, lawyer, or engineer. But only you know that for achieving these goals you have to work

hard and stay attentive to it. In this essay on my dream, we are going to discuss the basic things that will help in achieving my dream.

For turning a dream into reality the first thing that you need is determination. This will help you in a lot of ways. Firstly, it will help you decide the course of action for doing anything. Besides, it will also help you to plan the journey ahead. Also, it will help to take things slow and maintain a steady pace towards the dream.

Moreover, no matter how big my dream planning and setting short term goals will always help. This is important because rushing to your dream will not going to help you in any way. Besides, there is some dream that requires time and they follow a process without following it you cannot achieve that dream.

For completing the dream you have to keep your dream in the mind. And remind this dream to yourself daily. There come hard times when you feel like quitting at those times just remember the goal it helps you stay positive. And if you feel like you messed up big times then start over with a fresh mind.

You don't need to cover milestones to reward yourself. Set a small target towards your dream and on fulfilling they reward yourself. These rewards can be anything from toffee to your favorite thing. Besides, this is a good way of self-motivation.

Working towards your goal not means that you work day and night without stopping. Apart from that, due to continuous efforts, people soon start to become de-motivated. So, taking a break will help your body and mind. For doing so, take a break in between your schedule for some time and engage yourself in other activities

Your company affects you in a lot of ways than you can imagine. So, be with people who appreciate you and stay away from people who distract and criticize you.

We human beings fear to make mistakes but with it, we forget an important point that is a mistake helps us to learn. Whenever you make a mistake you face a tough time but these tough times helps you to polish yourself and be more determinat.

To sum it up, we can say that dreaming of a goal is far easier than achieving it. And for fulfilling your dream you need a lot of things and also have to sacrifice many things.

Above all, for fulfilling your dream plan and work according to it because it will lead you to the right path. And never forget to dream big because they help in overcoming every obstacle in life.

Telephone conversation

Telephonic conversation is an integral part of Speaking in the modern world. It requires a lot of practice to be confident while undergoing conversation on telephone/mobile. There are two things which are very important while talking on telephone.

First is the listening with understanding and second is the reaction.

What is a Telephone Conversation?

It is the transmission of a message through phone.

☒ It can be informal - when you call to a friend or relative.

☒ It can be formal - When you call to an office, to your boss, etc

Example of an informal phone conversation:

Speaker 1: Hi ram, how is going on?

Speaker 2: Hey man! Cool. You?

Speaker 1: Good! What about you?

Speaker 2: I'm working now.

Speaker 1: good, if you can call me please.

Speaker 2: Sure! I'll.

Speaker 1: Thanks Ram. Take care!

Speaker 2: No problem, you too!

Speaker 1: Bye!

Speaker 2: Bye!

Example of a formal phone conversation:

Speaker 1: Good morning. I'd like to talk to Mr. Dan Brown please.

Speaker 2: Good morning. I'm sorry but Mr. Dan Brown is not here at the moment.

Would you like to leave him a message?

Speaker 1: Yes please. Tell him that Ms. Sumathi needs to contact

him. Speaker 2: Sure, I'll tell him. Does he have your phone number?

Speaker 1: Yes he has it. Thank you.

Speaker 2: You're welcome. Something else?

Speaker 1: No, that's all. Good bye

Speaker 2: Good bye Ms. Sumathi.

Tips for Telephone Conversation in English Greetings

- ☑ Every phone call should begin with a polite greeting such as, hi, how've you been? Or nice to hear from you.

Getting to the point

There always comes the point, however, where you want to move on from friendly banter and get down to business. E.g... I'm just calling to ...

For example, I'm just calling to see if you'd like to set up a meeting. If the situation is reversed, however, and you are waiting to find out why someone called you, you can guide the conversation by saying, so what can I do for you?

PARAGRAPH WRITING

What is a paragraph?

Paragraph is a collection of sentences all related to a central topic, idea, or theme. Paragraphs act as structural tools for writers to organize their thoughts into an ideal progression, and they also help readers process those thoughts effortlessly. Imagine how much harder reading and writing would be if everything was just one long block of text. There are four main types of paragraphs to learn how and when to use them.

Expository paragraphs:

Essays, academic papers, and journalistic articles mainly use expository paragraphs to thoroughly explain an individual point. These paragraphs rely on data, statistics, or citations from other sources to present facts and build up to an irrefutable conclusion.

Descriptive paragraphs:

Common in fiction and certain styles of journalistic or other nonfiction writing, a descriptive paragraph contains various details of the same thing, with each sentence adding new insight. A paragraph in a horror novel might describe how it feels walking around the woods alone; a love letter's paragraph might focus on the details of your significant other's eyes. No matter the context, descriptive paragraphs are meant to provide the clearest picture of your subject.

Persuasive paragraphs:

For editorials and opinion pieces, persuasive paragraphs are meant to convince the reader of a specific point, with each sentence presenting evidence or reasoning to support that point. Like expository paragraphs, persuasive paragraphs may contain data and statistics, but here, these work to support an opinion rather than verify a fact. The trick to writing persuasive paragraphs knows how to assert your opinion without sounding preachy.

Narrative paragraphs:

If you're telling a story, fiction or nonfiction, you'll need to break up the action into digestible segments so your reader doesn't get confused. That's the purpose of narrative paragraphs: they break up sequential actions into related chunks, with one leading into the next, so that the reader can remain focused on the storyline. They don't use evidence or supporting arguments like the other paragraph types, but they still abide by the main rule of paragraphs about unity.

Example:

1. Write a short descriptive paragraph on the famous Indian scientist Sir CV Raman

Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman born on 7 November 1888, in the former Madras Province of India (presently Tamil Nadu) was an Indian physicist who carried out ground-breaking work in the field of light scattering. He discovered that when light traverses a transparent material. Some of the deflected light changes wavelength. These phenomena of "Raman effect" earned him the 1930 Nobel Prize for Physics.

Raman was honored with a large number of honorary doctorates and memberships of scientific societies. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society early in his career in 1924 and knighted in 1929. He later resigned from the fellowship in 1968 for reasons unrecorded, the only Indian FRS ever to do so.

In 1954, India honored him with its highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna and celebrates National Science Day on 28 February of every year to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect in 1928. Raman breathed his last on 21 November 1970.

2. Value of Discipline

Discipline is the law of nature. It is in man's best interest to observe discipline in all walks of life. Discipline is the backbone of character. Without discipline, nothing

great can be achieved in life. A man who does not observe discipline in life has to suffer. He becomes lethargic and arrogant. He is disliked by all. A student who does not obey his teachers and does not do his homework does not get success. An employee who does not work sincerely in office may be sacked any time. If sportsmen do not observe discipline cannot hope to win any match.

In the army, discipline is of utmost importance. Discipline leads to harmony whereas indiscipline leads to confusion. No life is worth living without discipline.

Conclusion A disciplined person is an asset to himself, to his family, to his society, to the nation and to mankind. Discipline works everywhere. It controls the physical movements and our morals. There is no sphere in heaven and the Earth where discipline does not dominate.

www.binils.com

PREPOSITIONS

A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to show its relation to some other word in a sentence. Some examples of prepositions are words like "in," "at," "on," "of," and "to."

Prepositions of Direction

To refer to a direction; use the prepositions "to," "in," "into," "on," and "onto."

Prepositions of Direction

To refer to a direction; use the prepositions "to," "in," "into," "on," and "onto."

- ☐ She drove to the store.
- ☐ Don't ring the doorbell. Come right in(to) the house.
- ☐ Drive on (to) the grass and park the car there.

Prepositions of Time

To refer to one point in time, use the prepositions "in," "at," and "on."

Use "in" with parts of the day (not specific times), months, years, and seasons.

- ☐ He reads in the evening.
- ☐ The weather is cold in December.
- ☐ She was born in 1996.
- ☐ We rake leaves in the fall.

Use "at" with the time of day. Also use "at" with noon, night, and midnight.

- ☐ I go to work at 8:00.
- ☐ He eats lunch at noon.
- ☐ She often goes for a walk at night.

- ☒ They go to bed at midnight.

Use "on" with days.

- ☒ I work on Saturdays.
- ☒ He does laundry on Wednesdays.

To refer to extended time, use the prepositions "since," "for," "by," "during," "from...to," "from...until," "with," and "within."

- ☒ I have lived in Minneapolis since 2005. (I moved there in 2005 and still live there.)
- ☒ He will be in Toronto for 3 weeks. (He will spend 3 weeks in Toronto.)
- ☒ She will finish her homework by 6:00. (She will finish her homework sometime between now and 6:00.)
- ☒ He works part time during the summer. (For the period of time throughout the summer.)
- ☒ I will collect data from January to June. (Starting in January and ending in June.)
- ☒ They are in school from August until May. (Starting in August and ending in May.)
- ☒ She will graduate within 2 years. (Not longer than 2 years.)

Prepositions of Place

To refer to a place, use the prepositions "in" (the point itself), "at" (the general vicinity), "on" (the surface), and "inside" (something contained).

- ☒ They will meet in the lunchroom.
- ☒ She was waiting at the corner.
- ☒ He left his phone on the bed.
- ☒ Place the pen inside the drawer.

To refer to an object higher than a point, use the prepositions "over" and "above." To refer to an object lower than a point, use the prepositions "below," "beneath," "under," and "underneath."

- ☒ The bird flew over the house.
- ☒ The plates were on the shelf above the cups.
- ☒ Basements are dug below ground.

- ❑ There is hard wood beneath the carpet.
- ❑ The squirrel hid the nuts under a pile of leaves.
- ❑ The cat is hiding underneath the box.

To refer to an object close to a point, use the prepositions "by," "near," "next to," "between," "among," and "opposite."

- ❑ The gas station is by the grocery store.
- ❑ The park is near her house.
- ❑ Park your bike next to the garage.
- ❑ There is a deer between the two trees.
- ❑ There is a purple flower among the weeds.
- ❑ The garage is opposite the house.

Prepositions of Spatial Relationships

To refer to a spatial relationship, use the prepositions "above," "across," "against," "ahead of," "along," "among," "around," "behind," "below," "beneath," "beside," "between," "from," "in front of," "inside," "near," "off," "out of," "through," "toward," "under," and "within."

- ❑ The post office is across the street from the grocery store.
- ❑ We will stop at many attractions along the way.
- ❑ The kids are hiding behind the tree.
- ❑ His shirt is off.
- ❑ Walk toward the garage and then turn left.
- ❑ Place a check mark within the box.

EXERCISE:

1. He went ---- the market.
2. He lives ---- a small town.

3. I met him - - - the afternoon.

4. He took something - - - the drawer.

5. He put the books - - - - the table.

6. He fell - - - - - the ladder and broke his leg.

7. Let us hope - - - - the best.

8. There is someone - - - - the door.

9. There is a mistake - - the third line.

10. I was born - - - - Kerala.

11. Soumya is the best girl - - - the class.

12. Indians celebrate Independence Day - the 15th of August.

13. This table is made - - wood.

14. I live - - - - - the sea.

15. There is something - - - - the curtain.

ANSWERS:

1. To, 2. In, 3. In, 4. From, 5. On, 6. From, 7. For, 8. At, 9. In, 10. In, 11. In, 12. On, 13. Of,

14. Near, 15. Behind

Reading and guessing meanings in context

Reading requires making inferences that depend on your previous knowledge. Guessing the lexical and contextual meanings is the first step in understanding a written message. Below given are some suggestions which would help you to recognize the meanings of words in context in which they appear.

- ❑ Unless you are familiar with the subject you will not be able to comprehend the meaning. So try to understand the technicalities. Only a fair knowledge of the subject will enable you to infer the meaning.
- ❑ Do not stop reading if you are not able to get the meaning of a certain word. Continue reading and gradually you will learn.
- ❑ Try to understand the syntax-the sentence structure and guess the meaning of the words with the help of context clues, signal words and derive at the meaning of the unknown words. Prefixes and suffixes and root words can help you.
- ❑ You can also get the clue to the meaning of the word from the context. For example,
 - ❑ Her prolonged illness has made her very weak and she is not able to walk long distances.

From the above sentence you get the meaning of the word prolonged by understanding the conditions mentioned as an effect of illness.

- ❑ You may infer the meaning of an unknown word through its extended definition or qualities mentioned. Example:
 - ❑ In order to be forgiven for her carelessness Shyla rendered profound apology to her teacher.
 - ❑ You may guess the meaning of profound (as heartfelt, sincere) from the reason stated
- ❑ If you come across an antonym of the unknown word you may be able to guess the meaning. Example: Few years ago, real estate was a dull business. While today, it is a very lucrative one.
- ❑ The meaning of lucrative (making large profit) is derived from the word dull.

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

Monsoons have arrived and so have the mosquitoes. As drains get water logged and stagnant pools form in the by-lanes, mosquitoes seem to breed in millions. Incidence of malaria increases manifold and no part of the city remains devoid of the problem.

People use various means to protect themselves from these little biting, blood sucking vampires. Whatever the season, some like to sleep under the mosquito net. There are others who feel safe after switching on mosquito repelling machines or applying mosquito repellent creams. Some go mad trying the various new contraptions introduced in the market every year. The grumbling sorts spend their nights clapping and trapping, hitting sundry objects and pillows. But the mosquitoes are the ones to have the last laugh. Blessed are those to whom any number of mosquitoes playing orchestra near their ears makes no difference.

However, we are as much to be blamed for the problem as is the weather. Coolers are no longer used but the water is never changed or coolers emptied making them a breeding place. Municipal staff claims that delisting and cleaning out drains is done regularly. But the choked sewers and drains overflowing with polythene bags tell another tale. People do not understand one plain fact that garbage is not something which will vanish in the air once it is thrown out of their house. It will very much remain outside the colony from an area or city. Mosquitoes do not demarcate between colonies. Diseases do not choose people. When they strike, they strike everywhere equally. When we act, we don't reach at the root of the problem. We only look for cures but it is already too late for prevention.

Examples:

- I. Match the table of the words with their meaning given:
 - a) Delisting— Helps to drive away the mosquitoes.
 - b) Stagnant – Removing mud and sand.
 - c) Repellent – Strange looking devices.
 - d) Contraptions – Still water
- II. Find the opposites of the following words from the passage.
 - e) Decrease

- f) Cursed
- g) Few
- h) Filled

Answers:

I. Match the table of the words with their meaning given:

- i) Removing mud and sand
- j) Still water
- k) Helps to drive away the mosquitoes
- l) Strange looking devices.

II. Find the opposites of the following words from the passage.

- a) Increase
- b) Blessed
- c) Manifold
- d) Empty

www.binils.com

2.1 Reading Comprehension

Learning to read is a complex skill that demands a lot from the students

WHAT IS COMPREHENSION READING?

Understanding or grasping the meaning of something

The answer to a comprehension question usually is something you can point to in the paragraph or passage

Things to do while reading a comprehension passage

- ❑ Go through the passage to find out what the passage is about.
- ❑ Give a detailed reading
- ❑ Understand the questions
- ❑ Finally, the questions should be answered suitably

Key strategies to answer comprehension passages

- ❑ Read the questions - Before reading the passage, go through the questions. It will give some idea about the passage.
- ❑ Unpack the questions – Read the questions couple of times, so that you know what you need to answer.
- ❑ Understand the meaning or the central idea of the whole passage – It will help you to find the answer properly

Example:

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:

Mike and Morris lived in the same village. While Morris owned the largest jewelry shop in the village, Mike was a poor farmer. Both had large families with many sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren. One fine day, Mike, tired of not being able to feed his family, decided to leave the village and move to the city where he was certain to earn enough to feed everyone. Along with his family, he left the village for

the city. At night, they stopped under a large tree. There was a stream running nearby where they could freshen up themselves. He told his sons to clear the area below the tree, he told his wife to fetch water and he instructed his daughters-in-law to make up the fire and started cutting wood from the tree himself. They didn't know that in the branches of the tree, there was a thief hiding.

He watched as Mike's family worked together and also noticed that they had nothing to cook. Mike's wife also thought the same and asked her husband "Everything is ready but what shall we eat?" Mike raised his hands to heaven and said "Don't worry. He is watching all of this from above. He will help us."

The thief got worried as he had seen that the family was large and worked well together. Taking advantage of the fact that they did not know he was hiding in the branches, he decided to make a quick escape. He climbed down safely when they were not looking and ran for his life. But, he left behind the bundle of stolen jewels and money which dropped into Mike's lap. Mike opened it and jumped with joy when he saw the contents. The family gathered all their belongings and returned to the village. There was great excitement when they told everyone how they got rich.

Morris thought that the tree was miraculous and this was a nice and quick way to earn some money. He ordered his family to pack some clothes and they set off as if on a journey. They also stopped under the same tree and Morris started commanding everyone as Mike had done. But no one in his family was willing to obey his orders. Being a rich family, they were used to having servants all around. So, the one who went to the river to fetch water enjoyed a nice bath. The one who went to get wood for fire, went off to sleep. Morris's wife said "Everything is ready but what shall we eat?" Morris raised his hands and said, "Don't worry. He is watching all of this from above. He will help us."

As soon as he finished saying, the thief jumped down from the tree with a knife in hand. Seeing him, everyone started running around to save their lives. The thief stole everything they had and Morris and his family had to return to the village empty handed, having lost all their valuables that they had taken with them.

Question 1: Why did Mike and his family decide to rest under the thief's tree?

- A) Being a large family, they knew that they could easily defeat the thief
- B) It was a convenient spot for taking a halt at night
- C) There was a stream nearby and wood enough to build a house
- D) That was the only large tree that could shelter their large family

Solution: B) It was a convenient spot for taking a halt at night

A is incorrect as they didn't know that a thief was hiding on the tree.

C is incorrect as nothing has been mentioned in the passage about the amount of wood D is incorrect as nothing has been mentioned about the number of trees.

Question 2: Which of the following best describes Morris?

- A) He was a rich businessman
- B) He bullied his wife
- C) He paid his servants well
- D) He was greedy and imitated Mike

Solution: D) He was greedy and imitated Mike

Question 3 : What did Mike mean when he said "He is watching all this from above"?

- A) He had spotted the thief and wanted to scare him
- B) He was telling his wife to have faith in god
- C) It was just a warning for his family members to stick together
- D) He was begging the thief to help his family

Solution: B) He was telling his wife to have faith in god

Question 4: Why did the thief return to the tree?

- A) To wait for Mike to return
- B) To set up a trap
- C) To wait for Morris's family
- D) Not mentioned in the passage

Solution: D) Not mentioned in the passage

Question 5 : How did the fellow villagers react to Mike getting rich overnight?

- A) They were jealous of him
- B) they were very excited
- C) They followed his example
- D) they envied him

Solution: B) they were very excited

Giving personal information

Learning how to give personal information in English is crucial when you want to learn a new language and communicate with others. There are many phrases including questions and answers to talk about personal information in English. Most of these questions and answers have to do with the **Simple Present**.

Expected typical questions:

- ☐ Who? – asks for a name or person.
- ☐ Where? - asks for a place.
- ☐ When?- asks for a time
- ☐ Which?- asks about a thing
- ☐ How?- asks about an incident

There are many phrases, questions and answers to talk about personal information in English. Start giving your personal details with a bright smile on your face. Tell about your educational qualification. Share the reason that influences you to choose this career. Tell about your skills. You can tell about your special interest. Tell about your long and short term goal to make it more professional and effective. You can add the details about your hobbies too.

Personal Information Questions and Answers

These are some of the most personal information questions and answer.

Question

Answer

What's your name?

I am Jose

Do you have a nickname?

People call me Jay

What do you do?

I am DJ

Where do you work?

I work in Walmart

Do you like your job?

I love my job

Are you married or single?

I am single

How old are you?

I am 29 years old

www.binils.com