

9<sup>th</sup>

**ENGLISH  
FLUENCY  
CHALLENGE**

**Term 2-3**

**Year 21-22**

**Grade 9**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Reading Passages  
Term-1

## 1. AMAZING INTERNET CONNECTIONS

12-year-old Sean Redden from Denton, Texas, was in on the Internet, playing a cyber fantasy world game. Suddenly someone came online, asking for help. The person said she was a Finnish business student who was locked in her college's computer lab. She said she was having an asthma attack and couldn't breathe.

Redden wasn't sure if this was part of the game as sometimes a few people lie on the Net. However, as he later told the Dallas Morning News, he decided it was, "too real to be a joke." So, Redden called the police. With the additional help of international phone operators, Finnish paramedics found 20-year-old Tara Laintinen and gave her the medical attention she needed. Without the Internet and the efforts of a 12-year-old boy half a world away, she might not have survived.



It was just an ordinary night on a crowded subway car for Patrick Swales, a 21-year-old web designer in New York City. The car had just stopped at a station and the doors opened. Suddenly, he saw himself waiting at the platform. But the clothes were not really his style. What was he doing waiting there? He should be in the car. But he was in the car! By the time he realized that he had just run into his double, the doors had shut and they were moving. At that instant, their eyes met. Disbelief, amusement, wonder was all conveyed in that one look! They both raised a hand in an attempt to catch each other but it was too late.



haken by the encounter and determined to find his double, Patrick came up with a unique idea. He created a website called subwaymydouble.com. He posted his own photo and a description of the man he had seen in the subway, in the hope that someone would see it and make contact. He got the call two days later.

Now Patrick and his double are best friends. His name is Manuel and he is in New York studying web design! Patrick and Manuel have decided to take themselves out of the public eye, so they have stopped updating the site. Patrick posted this message on the website: "In our best interest, there will be no more updates to this website. Unlike popular TV series, you will have to continue the story yourselves. Best wishes to all and may you find your double someday."

## **2. LEARNING FACE-TO-FACE AND ONLINE**

There have been significant changes in education due to technology. The Internet has played a determining role in transforming the face of education as we used to know it. More and more universities and colleges offer Face-to-face and Online course modes or blended versions that combine classroom Face-to-face and email, social networking, or synchronous e-learning.



Research has shown that students choose different options, depending on individual preferences, learning styles, and practical considerations. For example, working adult students prefer online courses as they offer the flexibility that they need to combine learning with work. In other words, individuals, whose time and/or mobility are restricted, are happier with online courses.

On the other hand, a large number of students enroll in Face-to-face courses as they feel that Face-to-face instruction and communication with peers will help them understand concepts better and learn more effectively. They are not opposed to using email or social networks to communicate with peers but not with their instructor. On the contrary, online students find it easier to communicate with instructors by email as it frees them of inhibitions, they might have about asking questions or raising issues Face-to-face.

Both groups defend their respective choice wholeheartedly. This is further demonstrated by success rates and learning outcomes. So, given a positive attitude to technology and the necessary skills, students will benefit from online courses as much as their counterparts in Face-to-face contexts. What remains to be seen is if such courses will also benefit interpersonal skills and help people perform as members of a team.

### 3. CRIME PUZZLES

#### The Case of the Stolen Jewels

Detective Colmes was at the coffee shop around the corner when he learned that Jones's Jewelry had been broken into. He arrived at the scene of the burglary in moments.

Mr. Jones, the owner of the store, explained what had happened. "I arrived this morning to open up the store. As I walked up to my shop, I noticed a lot of broken glass on the pavement. I looked up and realized that the display window had been broken." Colmes looked out the broken window at the sidewalk, littered with glass. Mr. Jones continued, "Then I saw that all of the jewelry from the display window was gone. The doors were still locked, so this must be where the burglar broke in!"



"Why didn't the alarm go off?" asked Colmes. "It's a strange coincidence," said Mr. Jones. "I removed our old alarm system yesterday and made an appointment to have a new one installed today."

Colmes looked around at the empty jewelry cases. "I assume your jewelry was insured?" "Of course!" said Mr. Jones. "Thank goodness for that!"

Colmes nodded and said, "Mr. Jones, I believe there was a crime indeed. And it was committed by you."

What crime does Colmes suspect Mr. Jones of committing? Why?

***Your Notes:***

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#### 4. The Case of the Bowling Alley Murder

The Center Street Bowling Alley, the oldest bowling alley in the city, closed at midnight. At 4:00 a.m., the janitor found a terrible sight: a man with a knife in his back lying in one of the lanes. Detective Colmes quickly arrived at the scene with a swarm of police officers.



“Anybody know the victim?” asked Colmes. “I do,” said one of the officers. “That’s Bob Reynolds. He’s running for councilman. He and Mike Jenner have been having a bitter campaign battle.”

“Perhaps we should pay Mr. Jenner a visit,” said Colmes. Before leaving the bowling alley, Colmes took his cell phone out of his pocket and left it behind.

On arriving at Mike Jenner’s house, Colmes told Jenner, “I have some grim news. Bob Reynolds has been murdered.”

“No! I can’t believe it!” cried Jenner.

“We’d like to speak with you about the murder. But first, I need to get back to the police station to file the report. Can you meet me at the station?”

“Of course. I’ll help in any way I can.” “I’ll give you a call.” Colmes patted his pocket. “Uh oh, I must’ve left my cell phone at the bowling alley. Would you mind picking it up and bringing it with you to the station?”

Jenner looked confused, but said, “Sure. I’ll do anything to help with the investigation.”

Later that day, Jenner brought Colmes’s cell phone to the station. He was arrested and charged with murder. Why?

***Your Notes:***

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## **5. CHARGING YOUR CELL PHONE, CAN GET YOU IN TROUBLE!**

A burglar was arrested after leaving his cell phone at the house that he broke into. The man was going through the rooms, looking for valuables, when he heard someone unlock the door and enter the house. So, he jumped out of a window and fled to avoid getting caught.



The police searched the house later, looking for prints and other clues to help them identify the man. All of a sudden, one of the owners pointed to a cell phone plugged into one of the sockets, charging, and said that he had never seen it before and did not know who it belonged to. The police checked with the rest of the family and confirmed that it did not belong to any of them.

One of the police officers had an idea. He called a contact listed in the phone memory, and told the person that the owner of the phone had been in an accident, so the police were trying to get in touch with friends and family. The man was identified. He was later arrested and charged with a total of 12 burglaries!

## **6. ECOTOURISM: SEE THE WORLD WHILE SAVING IT**

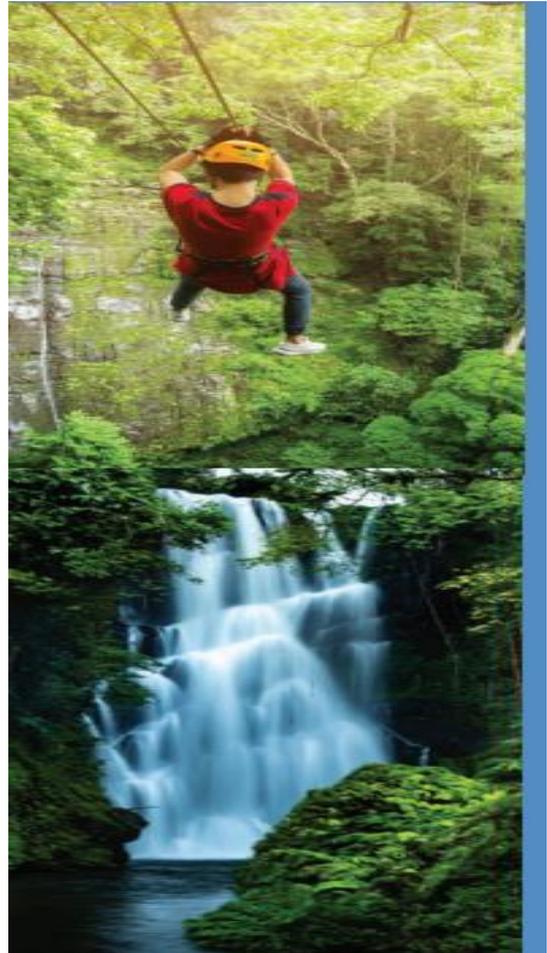
Imagine vacationing in a place of stunning, natural beauty. Picture yourself relaxing on a pristine beach in Belize, exploring the desert on a camel in Riyadh, or following lions and zebras in Kenya. Now imagine that while enjoying these experiences, you are also helping to preserve the environment, protect wildlife, and support local communities. Sound too good to be true? It isn't! Such vacations are part of the fastest growing trend in the travel industry. The trend is called ecotourism.

While ecotourism was almost unheard of before the 1990s, it has quickly become a multi-billion-dollar industry. But what exactly is ecotourism? These are some of its characteristics:

- It involves travel to natural, often remote, destinations. These are often protected areas where development is limited.
- Ecotourism destinations focus on recycling, water conservation, and using renewable energy sources. • It builds environmental awareness. As visitors explore an area, they also learn about it.
- It provides an economic incentive to preserve the environment and raises money to help protect it.
- It creates financial opportunities and jobs for the local population.

Costa Rica was one of the first ecotourism success stories. At one time, Costa Rica had the highest rate of deforestation in all of Latin America. However, since ecotourism, there has been a dramatic reduction in deforestation. Now, more than a quarter of Costa Rica's land is protected from development. Costa Rica is now the world's top ecotourism destination. Amazingly, this small country of five million people has about three million visitors per year.

Stacy Davison is one of the three million tourists who chose to visit Costa Rica this year. "We wanted to explore a country that was largely unspoiled by



development. And, boy, did we get what we were looking for. We saw beautiful beaches, lush rain forest, and exotic wildlife.” Stacy is especially enthusiastic about a wildlife refuge she and her husband visited during their trip. “Getting there took four hours by bus along an unpaved road. But it was so beautiful that it was worth it. We hiked the trails and took a tour through the rain forest canopy. Our guide showed us how to poke a stick into a termite nest to get a snack (They have a nutty flavor!), and how to use live leaf-cutter ants to create stitches for a cut. It was quite an amazing experience!”

Stacy also enjoyed knowing that the money she was spending on her vacation was being used in environmentally responsible ways. She stayed in locally-owned, environmentally-friendly hotels that grow their own fruits and vegetables, and use renewable sources of energy such as wind and solar power.

Undoubtedly, ecotourism plays a critical role in preserving the land in Costa Rica as well as in other ecotourism destinations around the globe. At the same time, ecotourism provides visitors with a unique, unforgettable, and educational vacation. Basically, ecotourism is a win-win situation for both the tourists and the countries they visit.

## **7. Saudi Arabia’s Vision 2030**

Saudi Arabia is blessed with many rich assets. Our geographic, cultural, social, demographic and economic advantages have enabled us to take a leading position in the world.

To build the best future for our country, we have based our vision for Saudi Arabia on three pillars that represent our unique competitive advantages. Our status will enable us to build on our leading role as the heart of Arab and Islamic worlds.

At the same time, we will use our investment power to create a more diverse and sustainable economy. Finally, we will use our strategic location to build our role as an integral driver of international trade and to connect three continents: Africa, Asia and Europe.



Using our unique location, our vibrant economy and our status as the heart of the Arab and Islamic worlds, we will increase travel to our country and welcome guests. We recognize that Allah the Almighty has given to our country, a gift more precious than oil. Saudi Arabia is the Land of the Two Holy Mosques, the most sacred sites on earth and the direction of the Kaaba (Qibla) to which more than a billion Muslims turn at prayer. We will expand and further develop our country to ensure that Muslims from around the world can visit the Holy Sites.

The Hajj and Umrah Vision Realization Program will allow the highest possible number of Muslims to perform Hajj and Umrah to the fullest. We will develop facilities and transport around the Two Holy Mosques – providing pilgrims with the best possible services before, during and after their visits to Makkah and reflecting the bright and civilized image of the country in the service of the Two Holy Mosques. This unique status of our country is clearly manifested in our responsibility in providing generous services and care for visitors to these two holy sites.

Furthermore, we will provide wider tourism, as well as cultural and historical programs, for those who come to perform Umrah. To achieve this, we will continue working on the development of our infrastructure and support the private sector to provide high quality Umrah services.

The program will support the revival, preservation, promotion and classification of Islamic, Arab and National heritage through supporting museums and historical sites by facilitating access and funding preservation and funding events that showcase local traditions.

Cultural tourism destinations including the world's largest 'open air museum' (at Al-Ula) are planned along with the re-establishment of art and crafts centers.

Through our vibrant economy, we will develop the tourism infrastructure to create new holiday resorts and extend the road infrastructure, so visitors can experience the natural beauty of the country. Environmental parks will be rehabilitated and developed for ecological tourism. We will also further develop the digital systems to attract conference tourism to our country.

## **8. Computer Viruses: A Headache for Humans**

A computer virus is a computer program that has the ability to infect a computer without the user's permission, or even knowledge. There are more than a few similarities between computer viruses and human viruses.



Biological viruses enter the body through some kind of direct contact with the body and attach themselves to a host cell. The virus spreads, and the resulting damage can include pain, suffering, or even death. Similarly, computer viruses enter a host file in your computer when you open an infected email attachment. This virus then spreads, resulting in damage that can include deletion of files, emailing of all the addresses in the computer's email address book, a slowing down of the system, or even fatal damage to the hard drive.

If these viruses are so damaging, why do people allow them to infiltrate their computers? Because people are tricked into it. Viruses are sent attached to email messages. These emails use a variety of tricks to fool the reader into opening up the attachment. For example, some of these emails are designed to appeal to people's emotions. The "YOU HAVE WON" virus included an attachment titled "A-Gift-ForYou.text.vbs." Users, thinking they had been sent a gift letter, opened the file, instantly releasing a virus and infecting their computer. Another common virus disguised as a personal message is "Koob." "Koob" is spread through messages sent through social networking sites. The emails have subject lines like, "You look funny on our new video." When users try to download the "video," what they really get is a virus.

Another common way email user is manipulated into opening attachments that contain viruses is with messages that appear to come from businesses that people frequently use. These typically include auction sites, delivery services, and financial institutions. One such virus is the "UPS/FedEx Delivery Failure." This email comes with a message informing the user that a package he or she had supposedly sent could not be delivered. Users are told to click on the attachment for a refund. In reality, of course, the attachment unleashes a virus.

**Ironically, one virus-spreading email was disguised to look like an email about protecting the user's computer from viruses! The "Microsoft Patch" virus was spread through an email that urged the user to download a software patch to prevent viruses. This email even included the Microsoft™ icon, which fooled many into believing the email was legitimate. In reality, the "patch" was a virus. This virus was forwarded by millions of people, resulting in the infection of computers around the world.**

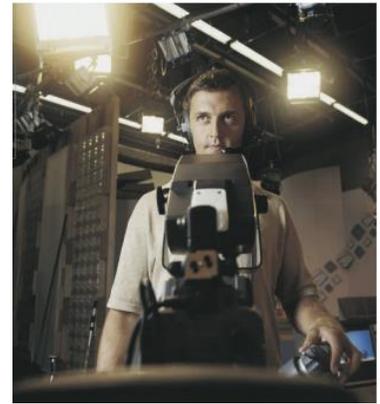


**Do all you can to avoid exposing your computer to a virus. Think of the precautions you take against catching biological infections. You wash your hands and avoid contact with sick people. Extend the same care to your computer. Consider investing in antivirus software. And whatever you do, avoid opening emails with potentially infected files. You may just save your computer from contracting a nasty illness, and yourself from suffering a terrible headache.**

## **9. A Brief Overview of the History of Television**

Television was not invented overnight by a single person. The work of many people over a number of decades contributed to its evolution.

In the early days, two distinct schools of thought in technology influenced different researchers and the course of their investigation. The first one was based on the technology of Paul Nipkow's rotating disks that supported a mechanical television system, and the second one on an electronic television system that used a cathode-ray tube developed independently by two inventors, Campbell-Swinton and Rosing.



Paul Nipkow (1860-1940), who invented the Nipkow disk in 1884, was the first person to discover the scanning principle that allowed small portions of an image to be analyzed and transmitted. However, it is unclear whether Nipkow actually built a working prototype of his television system.

Electronic television is based on the development of the cathode-ray tube, which can still be found in modern television sets. Philo Farnsworth (1906-1971) was the first inventor to transmit a television image, a dollar sign, using the dissector tube which is the basis of all current electronic televisions. The American engineer started experimenting with electricity when he was 12, when he built an electric motor and produced an electric washing machine. He was still in high school when he conceived of his ideas for television.

A lot of people wrongly believe that color television is a recent idea. In actual fact, the earliest proposal for color television was patented in 1904, while in 1925 Zworykin filed his proposal for an all-electronic color television system. Commercial broadcasting, however, started in the early 50s, a quarter of a century later.

John Baird (1888-1946) is a researcher who is best remembered for inventing a mechanical television system, based on Nipkow's scanning disk idea. Actually, his work included a number of technological milestones in the history of television. He created the first televised pictures of objects in motion (1924), the first televised human face (1925), color television (1928), stereoscopic television, and television by infra-red light that were presented and demonstrated before the 1930s. Vladimir Zworykin (1889-1982), the inventor of

the iconoscope, a transmission device, as well as the kinescope, i.e. the cathode-ray tube, in 1929, was one of the first to demonstrate a television system with all the features of modern television, otherwise called “the tube.” Most people in Britain that use the word tube to refer to television, fail to make the connection between the television set and the cathode-ray tube. Nor do people stop and think about the meaning of the word television, which refers to the transmission of images over a distance. In 1929 Zworykin became the director of electronic research at Radio Corporation of America (RCA), and was later promoted to vice-president in 1947. Zworykin invented many devices including the scintillation counter, a device for measuring radioactivity. He held more than eighty patents and received numerous awards for his work.

Louis W. Parker patented the “intercarrier sound system” in 1948, which is now used in all television receivers in the world. Without it, televisions would probably have been too costly for most people.

The plasma display monitor was invented in July 1964 by professors Bitzer and Slottow and their graduate student Robert Wilson. However, successful plasma television only became feasible later, after the development of digital and other technologies. A factor that delayed the commercial development of plasma display was connected with LCD or liquid crystal displays which made flat screen television possible. This minimized one of the advantages of plasma television in terms of a flat screen with an improved image. So it has taken a lot longer for plasma display to become more widely acceptable and accessible. Until recently, a plasma television screen was regarded, to some extent, as a symbol of affluence or status along with other possessions.

Now a new development is affecting communication and media further, namely that of web or Internet television. When Internet access is available along with adequate hardware, more and more viewers appear to be switching over to their laptops or desktops to watch films and other programs. Television sets are connected, allowing access to digital channels. The key word seems to be access. It is quick access and options that determine the popularity and, consequently, the commercial success of a medium. Television has so far been fairly well-established; it remains to be seen how digital technology will affect its evolution in the future.

## 10. A Terrifying Adventure on Water

**Moby Dick (1956), directed by John Huston and starring Gregory Peck, Richard Basehart and Leo Genn, is a TV fantasy film adapted from the bestselling novel by Herman Melville.**

**The story takes place in 19th century England on a whaling ship. The captain of the ship is Captain Ahab. Ahab has a fantastic story to tell about a “great white whale” which mutilated his body and almost killed him on a previous voyage. Now the captain leads his men back into the sea to take revenge. However, Ahab becomes so obsessed with vengeance that he makes some very bad decisions.**

**The TV film takes us on a grand adventure over the waves as Captain Ahab and his crew seeks out the great sea mammal. As Ahab becomes more and more consumed by hatred, his doomed men are flung into dangerous situations. Does Captain Ahab eventually find the big whale? To find out you will have to watch the film!**

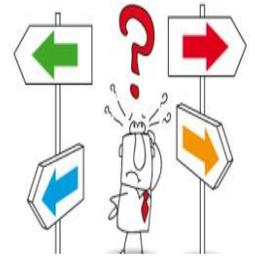
**If you choose to watch one film version of the novel Moby Dick, you should choose this 1956 version. The acting is good, it is well-directed and the use of color and imagery is superb. I think it is far superior to more recently released TV film versions.**

**Everyone who read the book and those who enjoy adventure and tales of great battles between man and beast should see this TV film. I definitely recommend it as one of the best of our times. It is staggeringly good.**



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# Dialogue



## 1- Asking for Directions

A: Good morning. How can I help you?

B: I'm trying to figure out the best way to get to Washington D.C.

A: Are you driving or flying?

B: I'm driving. My car's parked outside.

A: You have two options.

A: The first one is to take interstate 85 north.

Through Georgia, south .Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia.

B: What's the other option ?

A: You could also take 1-75 north Georgia into Tennessee.

A: In Tennessee, you pick up 1-81 which will take you into Virginia.

A: You then take 1-66 to Washington.

B: Is there a difference in the distance between the two?

A: 1-85 is somewhat shorter, but it's not as scenic.

A: And there's usually lots of traffic .

B: How do I pick up 1-85 in Atlanta?

A: Just head north on the freeway until you reach the 1-285 beltway. Then follow the signs.

B: By the way, do you have any information about the Washington, D.C. area?

A: Sure. Here's a packet of brochures.

A: Do you need a hotel reservation?

B: No, thanks. I've already made one.

## 2- At the Dentist 's Office



**Dentist:** My assistant said you have a \_\_  
toothache \_.

**Dentist:** \_\_\_How long \_\_\_ have you had it?

**Patient:** \_\_\_For about \_\_\_ twenty- four hours.

**Patient:** I've had trouble with this tooth before?

**Patient:** My dentist at home said that it would eventually have to be removed.

**Dentist:** \_\_\_Let me take \_\_\_ a closer look.

**Dentist:** Hhh....I concur with your dentist. The tooth has to come out.

**Patient:** \_\_\_When will you \_\_\_ remove it?

**Dentist:** It should come out \_\_\_right now \_\_\_.

**Patient:** All right. Go ahead.

**Patient:** What a way to end my stay in the U.S!

**Dentist:** When are you \_\_\_leaving \_\_\_?

**Patient:** I have to see an attorney in the morning.

**Patient:** My flight home is late tomorrow afternoon-around  
6 p.m.

### 3- At the Doctor's Office



**Doctor:** \_\_\_ How are you \_\_\_ today?

**Patient:** Not so good. I think I have flu or something.

**Doctor:** What are the \_\_\_ symptoms \_\_\_?

**Patient:** I have a fever, chill, and a sore throat.

**Doctor:** Let's take a look. Open wide.

**Doctor:** Hmm, your throat is pretty red.

**Doctor:** \_\_\_ How long have you \_\_\_ had a fever?

**Patient:** \_\_\_ Since last night \_\_\_. It comes and goes.

**Patient:** What's wrong with me?

**Doctor:** You have some sort of \_\_\_ bacterial infection \_\_\_.

**Doctor:** \_\_\_ I'm going to write you some prescription.

**Doctor:** Take it to any drugstore, and they'll give you some pills that you'll need to take five days.

**Doctor:** \_\_\_ You should be \_\_\_ completely well by then.

**Patient:** Thanks. I sure wish I felt better.

**Patient:** I guess \_\_\_ I'll go home and rest \_\_\_.



## 4- At the Laundry

A: **How does this** washing machine work?

B: You have to put four quarters in the slot, and then add the **detergent**.

A: I don't have any change. **Where can I get some** \_\_\_\_\_?

B: There's a coin machine over there. It takes dollar bills.

B: **Do you have** \_\_\_\_\_ any detergent?

A: OH, no! I forgot to buy some at the supermarket.

A: **Can I** \_\_\_\_\_ borrow **a cup** \_\_\_\_\_?

B: **Sure**. **Take as much as** \_\_\_\_\_ you need.

B: I've finished using the dryer, and there's still some time left if you want to dry your clothes.

A: **That's very kind** \_\_\_\_\_. Thanks a lot.

B: Don't mention it. Here's my business card if you need anything for yourself or your apartment.

B: I manage a department store in the mall.

B: **We are having** \_\_\_\_\_ a big sale this week. Why don't you stop by sometimes?

A: Thanks, I'll try to.

## 5- Dining Out



**Receptionist:** Hi, will you be having lunch?

**Customer:** Yes, but I'm not very hungry.

**Customer:** It's too hot outside.

**Receptionist:** I know what you mean. It's a scorcher today.

**Customer:** I'm not used to this kind of weather. I'm glad that everything is air-conditioned here.

**Waitress:** Hi, my name is Karl and I'll be serving you today.

**Waitress:** Can I get you something to drink?

**Customer:** Just water, please, with ice.

**Waitress:** Of course, I'll be back in a moment.

**Waitress:** Would you like to hear our house specials?

**Customer:** I think, I'll just have a salad, bread, and glass of juice.

**Waitress:** O.K. What kind of juice? Our house juice is quite good.

**Customer:** Fine, I'll have a glass of that.

**Waitress:** I'll be right back with your juice.

**Waitress:** Would you like to have some dessert? We have a delicious chocolate cheesecake.

**Customer:** I don't think so. I'm on a diet.

**Customer:** Just bring the check, please.

## 6- Finding an Apartment



**Client:** Hello, I'm calling about an apartment. I'd like to rent a furnished two-bedroom place.

**Office 1:** We have one furnished apartment left.

**Office 1:** It's air-conditioned and rents for 565\$ per month.

**Client:** Are the utilities included?

**Office 1:** The water is, but not the gas and the electricity.

**Client:** That's a little more than I wanted to pay. Thanks anyway.

**Office 2:** Hello. Breezeway manor apartment. How may I help you?

**Client:** Do you have a furnished, two-bedroom apartment in the 400\$ range?

**Office 2:** Why yes, you're in the luck. One just came open today.

**Office 2:** It goes for 350\$ per month, including water.

**Client:** Is it on the first or second floor?

**Office 2:** The first floor. It's very close to our swimming pool. Shall I hold it for you?

**Office 2:** I'll need one month's rent as a deposit as soon as possible.

**Client:** Yes, please do. I'll be right over there.

# General Conversations Term-1

## Conversation-1



**Listen and practice reading the conversation in pairs. Then act it out.**

**Librarian:** Can I help you?

**Hashim:** Could you please tell me where I can find biology books and research documents?

**Librarian:** What exactly are you looking for?

**Hashim:** It's about a science project and I need to gather information, in order to create a timeline for biological research over the last 60 years or so.

**Librarian:** I see. That must be interesting. It can't be easy to collect all the information and choose the key items you need but I'm sure you'll manage. Go to aisle 5 and look up the biology section. I'm sure you'll find what you need.

**Hashim:** I hope so. Thanks for your help.

**Librarian:** One more thing! The research documents are in the reference section. You have to sign and get a key. You can look up what you need and read documents in the reference section, but you mustn't take anything out.

**Hashim:** Can I photocopy any pages?

**Librarian:** You'll have to check with me first. You are not allowed to photocopy old manuscripts.

**Hashim:** I understand. Thanks again.

**(an hour later)**

**Ali:** I've noticed you have to use a whole pile of books. Are you doing research?

**Hashim:** Yes, I'm trying to. But I'm not sure I can do it within the deadline. I'll need to spend days in the library, reading and making notes.

**Ali:** Don't you worry! Of course, you'll make it. It seems impossible at first but you get used to it. Would searching online or using eBooks help?

**Hashim:** That would be awesome but all the computers are taken.

**Ali:** No, not really. How about using this one? I'm just about to leave.

**Hashim:** Are you sure?

**Ali:** Absolutely. I'll let the librarian know on my way out. You'd better move over right away before someone else **takes it. Here, I'll help you move your things.**

**Hashim:** Thanks a lot. I owe you big time!

**Ali:** Not, at all. I'm sure you'd do the same!

*Your Turn: Role-play a conversation like the one above with a partner. Use phrases from the box below.*

## Conversation-2



### Listen to the conversation and answer the questions.

1. *What is the relationship between the speakers? Are they friends, sisters, other?*
2. *How do you know?*
3. *Listen and practice the conversation in pairs.*

**Ola:** You'd better have your eyes checked if you don't want to get into serious trouble.

**Iman:** Yes, I know they feel all dry and puffy.

**Ola:** Have you been sleeping well?

**Iman:** As well as possible! I've been staying up trying to finish my project and spending a lot of time in front of the computer.

**Ola:** Do you take breaks? You need to take a break every hour.

**Iman:** I'd never get to the end of it that way.

**Ola:** Well, you won't have the eyesight you need to get to the end of it if you don't have breaks! Another reason for taking breaks is to prevent damage to your back from endless hours of sitting at your desk.

**Iman:** But I'm young. Older people tend to have back problems.

**Ola:** You're wrong there. People can cause themselves damage at any age. What has saved you so far is the fact that you work out and do sports.

**Iman:** Yes, my parents have said the same thing!

#### Asking for and Giving Information / Instructions

Could you please tell me where I can ... / where the ... is? Go to (aisle 5) and ... / walk down (aisle 3) and turn right ...

Can I photocopy ...? / Am I allowed to ...? / Is it all right if I ...?

#### Obligation / Ability / Prohibition

What exactly are you looking for?

You have to/need to sign ...

Information / data ... / It's a project that I need ...

You mustn't take anything out/touch anything ...

Asking permission

You are not allowed to...

#### Warning / Advice

**You'd better ... if you don't want to get into serious trouble.**

**You 'll do a better job/have a better ... if you ...**

**You won't ... if you don't / You need to ... or else ...**

## Conversation-3



### Complete the sentences with the correct forms of do, have, and be.

**Leila:** Do you still make your own jewelry?

**Ana:** Yes, I do. In fact, I have turned my hobby into a business.

**Leila:** Really? Are you selling your jewelry now?

**Ana:** Yes, I am. I have sold more than 50 pieces of jewelry online this year. My jewelry was bought by people all over the world. Right now, I am making a bracelet for a woman in Shanghai!

**Leila:** Did you make that necklace you're wearing?

**Ana:** Yes, I did.

**Leila:** It's lovely. Do you have time to make one for me?

**Ana:** Of course.

**Leila:** How much does a necklace like that cost?

**Ana:** I will not accept money from friends! I'll make you a necklace, but do not even think about paying me for it!



## Conversation - 4

← 4

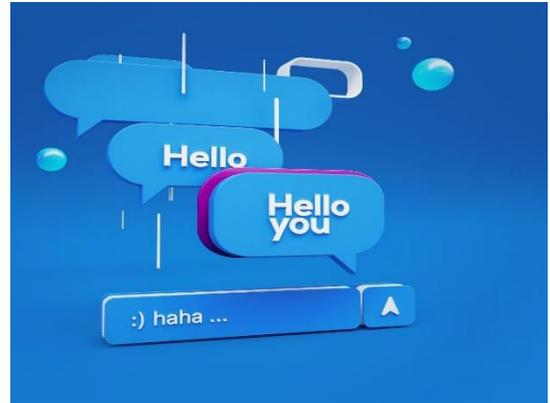
**Grandma:** What are you doing, Cara?

**Cara:** I'm texting Maria. I haven't seen her all week, so I'm just saying "hi."

**Grandma:** What's that beep?

**Cara:** It's Maria. She just sent a text message back to me.

**Grandma:** I don't understand. How on earth do you type what you want to say so quickly?



**Cara:** You don't actually type the words out. You use abbreviations and acronyms. Hold on. I'll show you. Right now I'm asking if she wants to come over and hang out.

**Grandma:** That's a lot to type.

**Cara:** Right. So instead I type "DYWT come over." Does that make sense?

**Grandma:** DYWT? What does that mean?

**Cara:** DYWT means "Do you want to." It's the first letter of each word.

**Grandma:** Oh. OK. Now what?

**Cara:** She'll respond in a second. (beep) There.

**Grandma:** What did she say?

**Cara:** (spelling it out) Gr8. B ovr n 10 mins.

**Grandma:** I think I get it. She's saying, "Great. Be over in ten minutes."

**Cara:** Now you've got the hang of it, Grandma!

### Texting Acronyms

WU? What's up?  
LOL laughing out loud  
B4N bye for now  
ASAP As soon as possible  
BTW by the way  
TTYL Talk to you later

#### Asking For Clarification and Confirming

I don't understand.	How do you...?
Can you explain it?	What does that mean?
Does that make sense?	I get it.

## Conversation- 5

*Complete the conversation.*

*Use the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.*

*Then practice the conversation with a partner.*



**Khulud:** I am having this car for six months, and it gives me all kinds of problems.

**Jana:** What is it this time?

**Khulud:** It doesn't start in the mornings.

**Jana:** Maybe it's because of the cold, or the battery might be low. It probably needs recharging.

**Khulud:** It isn't that. I have just put in a new battery, and it still won't start. I think the starter needs to be repaired.

**Jana:** Is there anything else wrong with the car?

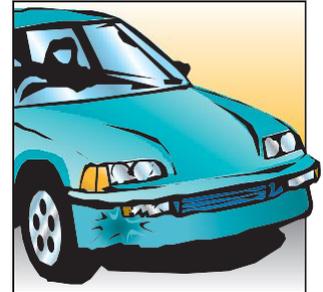
**Khulud:** Yes, the exhaust pipe keeps falling off, and the radiator is leaking. They both need to be fixed.

**Jana:** Is your car under warranty?

**Khulud:** Yes, it is.

**Jana:** Then you shouldn't worry. We'll have everything fixed for you.

**Khulud:** That's what you said the last time.



## Conversation - 6



**Albert:** When traveling in cities, I used to worry about being pickpocketed. Then I learned how pickpockets do it. That taught me how to prevent it from happening to me.

**Ali:** So how do they do it?

**Albert:** Well, to begin with, they look for someone on the street who has stopped to look at buildings or people. That's one of the reasons tourists are an easy mark.



**Ali:** Then what happens?

**Albert:** The pickpocket will often pretend to bump into the victim by accident. He might act as if he's dizzy. He may ask where you're from, act really friendly, and try to shake your hand.

**Ali:** Then what?

**Albert:** At this point, he might pretend to lose his balance and fall against you. Like this (falling over).

**Ali:** Then what?

**Albert:** That's it. You've let your guard down, and consequently, he's nabbed your wallet.

**Ali:** Are you kidding? Come on. My wallet couldn't possibly be stolen that easily.

**Albert:** Are you sure?

**Ali:** I'm positive.

**Albert:** Then what's this in my hand?

**Ali:** My wallet!

### Ordering

To begin with...  
Once...

At this point...  
Consequently...

*Your Turn:* Role-play with a partner. Think about a process for doing something. Explain the steps in the process to your partner. Use the phrases for ordering from the box.

## Conversation -7

*Complete the conversation. Use the past tense of the verbs in parentheses.  
Then practice with a partner.*

**Fahd:** What happened to you yesterday?

**Iman:** I went to the Falcon's football game and a pickpocket stole my wallet.

**Fahd:** Oh no! Did you call the police?

**Iman:** Yes, and they caught the thief!

**Fahd:** That's great! How did they catch him?

**Iman:** There were security cameras everywhere.



## Conversation-8

*Read the interview between the policeman and Mr. John Wilkinson. Complete the paragraphs with the simple past tense or the past progressive form of the verb in parentheses.*

**Policeman:** What were you doing at 3 pm yesterday, Mr. Wilkinson?

**John:** I was in the 'Supermarket.' I was buying milk.

**Policeman:** Who were you shopping with at that time?

**John:** I wasn't shopping with anyone. I was alone.

**Policeman:** At 3 pm, a security guard saw you outside the 'Ski and Snow' store. You were parking your car. Is that true, Mr. Wilkinson?

**John:** Oh yes, that's right. At 3 pm I was parking my car. But I went to the 'Ski and Snow' store to buy a ski mask. I was going to the 'Supermarket'...

**Policeman:** What were you buying at the 'Supermarket' Mr. Wilkinson?

**John:** I was buying some cheese.

**Policeman:** Why were you taking the license plate off your car when you were parked next to the 'Snow and Ski' store, Mr. Wilkinson?

**John:** Ermmmm... I .... don't know.

**Policeman:** Why were you saying that you were buying a ski mask at the 'Snow and Ski' shop, Mr. Wilkinson?

**John:** Ermmmm... I..... didn't say that. Did I say that? I meant .....

**Policeman:** Were you robbing the Stanton Drug Store yesterday, Mr. Wilkinson?

*Your Turn: With a partner, discuss if you think John Wilkson is guilty or innocent. Give some reasons why based on the interview in exercise*



## Conversation-9

← 9

**Attendant:** Flight C458 is ready for takeoff. Please ensure your seatbelts are fastened and your seats are in the upright position.

**Passenger:** Excuse me?

**Attendant:** Yes? Can I get something for you?

**Passenger:** No, but I wonder if I can ask you a question?

**Attendant:** Certainly.

**Passenger:** I see that there's an empty row near the front of the plane. I was wondering if it would be possible to change seats. I usually try to get some sleep during **red-eye** flights, and it would be much easier if I could spread out.

**Attendant:** Unfortunately, that won't be possible. It's against our policy for passengers to leave their assigned seats on this airline.

**Passenger:** Well, that's a **crummy** policy. I **don't get it**. Other airlines allow it. Why should passengers be crammed together when there are open seats on the flight?

**Attendant:** Please try to understand. The problem is that if we gave you the seat, it wouldn't be fair to other passengers who might also want the open seat.

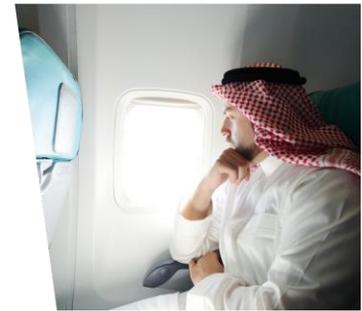
**Passenger:** That's a **drag**. Especially since I requested a window seat at the front of the plane, and they put me on the aisle near the back!

**Attendant:** Could I see your ticket, please?

**Passenger:** Sure, why?

**Attendant:** Sir, the empty window seat at the front of the plane *is* your seat! Your seat is number 3, not 33.

**Passenger:** Oh! **Awesome!**



### **Your Turn**

**Role-play with a partner. Imagine you are at a shopping mall, making a special request of the sales clerk or assistant. Use phrases for making and declining special requests.**

### Making and Declining Special Requests

**I wonder if it would be possible...**

**That won't be possible...**

**Do you think it would be possible...?**

**I'm afraid (we) can't...**

**Unfortunately, that's not possible...**

**We can't do it because...**

**I wish it were possible, but...**

**The problem is...**

## Conversation-10

← 10

**Asma:** What are you watching?

**Noura:** That game show with the teams of cooks. You know, the one where contestants need to prepare a 4-course meal as a team, plate it and serve it to the judges.

**Asma:** Why would anyone want to compete in this kind of show? What do they get out of it? I don't know how you can watch this stuff. It's boring!



**Noura:** I get a kick out of it. Look! He's going to decorate that dish with flowers.

**Asma:** I can't believe he's going to put flowers on a meat dish. That's crazy. Why don't we turn off the TV and do something else?

**Noura:** No way! Don't touch that remote!

**Asma:** It bugs me to watch this. They pretend to be top chefs. But I'm positive they won't be allowed to do more than fry a couple of eggs after the end of this show. And they also pretend to be all friendly with each other.

**Noura:** I don't know. Some of them seem to know what they're doing.

**Asma:** I'm telling you, that contestant, there, is waiting for a chance to show off. He doesn't care about his teammates. He's in it to win for himself.

**Noura:** Relax. It's just a TV show.

**Asma:** C'mon. We're wasting our time watching this stuff. Don't be such a couch potato. What do you say we go shopping?

**Noura:** Nah. There's another game show on right after this.

**Your Turn:** Role-play with a partner. Discuss a current TV or game show. Talk about what will happen next on the show and who will win. Use phrases for expressing certainty from the box.

9<sup>th</sup> POEMS

Term-1

## POEM-1



# Everyone you meet

Be thankful for every person you meet  
No matter what their desire  
Some walk into your life to disappoint  
Whereas others appear to inspire

Some people are nothing but mistakes  
So that lessons can be learned  
Others come with ideas and hope  
So new pages can be turned

One may break your heart to pieces  
But someone else will be the glue  
All these people, good or bad  
Have molded the perfect you

## POEM-2



# Cheep cheep little bird

You made yourself really proud

Cheep cheep little bird  
You are upset I have heard  
Is that because you can't fly?  
Is not hard, you have to try

Don't just wonder in your nest  
Be brave and try your best  
Flap your wings fast in the air  
The wind will help you to make it fair

Cheep cheep little bird  
You are happy I have heard  
You can fly and sing so loud  
You made yourself really proud

You can fly and sing so loud!

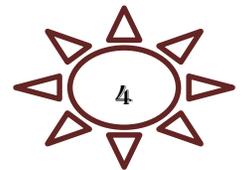
### POEM-3



## **Time is your friend, not your enemy**

Time is your friend  
Not your enemy  
Try to run at a slow pace  
Together with time, you see  
Act your age  
Is what I mean!  
Don't rush out for  
Anti-wrinkle cream  
Don't you panic  
When your hair fades away  
Don't rush out to dye it  
When it starts to turn grey  
In a nutshell  
Don't be frightened to be told  
That you are slowly starting  
To get a bit old

### POEM-4



## **My Mother – Alliteration**

My mother motivates me,  
Making most moments magical  
My mum manages to  
Mend my mistakes mildly  
Making me merrier  
Magnificent memories are mostly  
Memorized in my mind  
My mum and I make  
Marvelous mates

## POEM-5



### **Stay Humble**

When the sun rises  
And the waves crumble  
They never show off  
And always stay humble

When animals develop  
And the silver linings bend  
They respect each other  
And never dare to offend

When the roots need water  
Then the heavens pour  
They don't abandon each other  
When they are needed more

Just like the sun  
We are nature's gifts too  
What gives us the right  
To behave as we do

## POEM-6



### **Spring**

The flowers start to come out  
The birds sing and shout  
Oh it's so wonderful  
It's not boring at all  
The weather cannot be that nice  
But it is better than being as cold as ice  
The day's become longer  
And the plants become stronger  
The trees are not bare  
And everything is in good care

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Reading Passages**  
**Term-2**

## 1. What Do You Do for a Living?

When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up? Perhaps a doctor, a teacher, or a firefighter? You probably didn't consider becoming a greeting card writer or a snow researcher (a person who collects ice crystals in snow to analyze the effect of pollution on an area of snowfall). Yet thousands of people around the world earn a living performing unusual jobs that most people have never even heard of.



Take Lily Martinez, for example. She has a job that girls around the world would dream about doing— if they only knew about it! Martinez is a doll fashion designer. She remembers, “As a girl, I would design one-of-a-kind outfits for my dolls.” Her work is very similar to the work of regular fashion designers. She analyzes fashion trends, chooses fabrics, draws design sketches, and keeps a close eye on the styles of Paris and New York. Only she does all this to create clothing for 11 ½-inch (29-centimeter) dolls!

Do you have an artistic flair and an interest in science? Do you have a strong sense of taste, smell, and imagination? Then you might make an ideal flavorist. A flavorist is a person who creates natural and artificial flavorings that go into foods. Their work entails first identifying the individual chemicals found in nature. Then they recreate the flavors using different chemical combinations. Such manufactured flavors often last longer, have a stronger flavor, and smell better than flavors found in nature. These flavors can also avoid the allergens sometimes contained in natural flavors.



According to Carol Militescu, a senior flavorist, there is not one single way to create a flavor. “Different chemical combinations can make the same flavor. You might think the flavors are identical, but how you put the chemicals together makes them very different.” Militescu says that to be a successful flavorist, it is essential that you “think outside the box.”

But perhaps you would prefer a job working with animals? If so, you might consider a career as an elephant pedicurist. It may sound silly, but keeping elephants' nails clean and trim is critical to their health. Like human nails, elephant nails grow continuously. Elephants in the wild wear down their nails

naturally, but captive elephants have fewer opportunities to roam. Elephant pedicurists scrape the bottom of the elephants' feet to get rid of calluses, dirt, and embedded rocks that can cause infection. They also trim, file, and shape the elephants' nails. Mike Hayward, the elephant pedicurist for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus®, loves his job. He gives pedicures to his twelve elephants every five weeks. The elephants generally cooperate with Hayward, waiting patiently through the two-hour process. Says Hayward, "It's almost like not going to work because the elephants are like my family."

So, the next time you mull over your future career path, you might want to consider some non-traditional career options. After all, there just may be a new flavor waiting to be discovered, or an elephant whose feet will benefit from your expert care.

## **2. The Job of an Arborist**

Although my parents would like me to become a doctor or a lawyer, I am interested in a very different kind of job. I would like to be an arborist, a sort of doctor for trees.

To become an arborist, it is essential that you have a related bachelor's degree, for example in forestry, as the more you know about trees the better you will be able to do what is expected of you.

Arborists are hired by individuals or organizations to keep trees healthy and attractive. They fertilize, prune, plant, and cure trees. In other words, they are a kind of official "tree carer." They are considered experts in their field. For this reason, they need to attend workshops and seminars throughout their career in order to keep up with developments.

I think it's perfect for me. I am interested in working in nature and taking care of things. I like trees. I am patient, methodical, and hard working. Finally, given current trends towards greener alternatives.



### **3. Living Off the Grid**

Imagine heating your home without relying on the local power plant. Wouldn't it feel good to meet your need for electricity without harming the environment? For a growing number of people, these ideas have become reality. Out of concern for the environment and a desire for self-reliance, these people have made the bold decision to live off the grid.



What exactly is “the grid”? The grid, short for “the power grid,” is the linked system that supplies electricity to most homes and buildings in developed nations. Homes that are off the grid are not hooked up to the local power supply. Instead, they produce all of the energy they consume. As a result, people living off the grid avoid the environmental and financial costs that come with on-grid living.

The key to getting off the grid is replacing electricity supplied by a power plant with a renewable energy source, like wind or solar power. Buildings that use solar power have solar panels on the roof or near the building. When the sun's light hits the panels, the panels collect the energy. Wind power is collected by turbines, also known as windmills. When the wind blows, the blades move, producing energy which is turned into electricity by a generator.

Some people go even further off the grid. In addition to setting up a renewable energy source, they also have an independent source of water. They dig wells to access ground water or use a cistern, a type of tank, to collect rainwater. Those most committed to living off the grid may even lack garbage service. These people generally live a life that creates very little waste, growing their own organic fruits and vegetables, and raising chickens and goats for eggs and milk. By avoiding the consumption of packaged foods, they greatly reduce paper and plastic waste.

As challenging, as it may be to live off the grid, most off-gridders feel that the benefits far outweigh the difficulties. Jorge and Ella Alvarez, off-gridders in Northern Arizona say, “We love being off-grid. It's definitely hard work, but it puts everything in life into perspective. It's surprising to find just how much you can do without. Many people think we have a harsh and depressing

**lifestyle. Nothing could be further from the truth. We see living off the grid as a gift that has allowed us to be more in touch with nature and each other.”**

**This view is shared by Wendy Johnston, a mother of three, living off the grid with her family in Ontario, Canada. Wendy recalls, “In the house I grew up in, we would leave lights on all day, the thermostat up at night, and water running without a second thought. I wanted my children to be raised with more respect for the environment and an awareness of the impact that they have on it. My children don’t take energy for granted. I love the fact that they are learning how to take care of the earth while, at the same time, learning to be self-sufficient.”**

**Wendy admits that living off the grid has its difficulties. For example, the Johnstons’ power usually goes down a few times a year. However, Wendy reflects, “The funny thing is that these often turn out to be some of our best times as a family. The power outages have an unexpected way of bringing us closer together. We read books and play games by candlelight, or we get together and tell stories.”**

**Living off the grid entails sacrifices, and is certainly not for everyone. But for the thousands of people who have made this bold choice, life off the grid is filled with rewards that can’t be matched by the conveniences and luxuries of life on the grid.**

#### **4. Going Green**

I realized how sensible “going green” was when I started noticing the amount of waste accumulated from all the packaging. We’re a family of three and we manage to accumulate a bagful of recyclable waste every day. We are careful to use a special disposal unit for recyclable materials, but we are not sure it is always effective. Is it actually recycled?

We decided to search for options. We found out that there were many stores near the central market that sold goods by weight out of large canisters or burlap bags. Rice, beans, flour, sugar, oil, butter, cheese, and a lot more are available off the counter, free of packaging. When we compared prices, we decided to never look back.

A lot of time, money, and resources are invested in packaging as a way of making the product more attractive for consumers. Glossy wrappers, beautifully designed boxes, vacuum wrapped coffee, plastic containers, colorful lids, and a lot more, have a magnetic effect on buyers. We, on the other hand, have to label and fill our own containers, before we can put away our shopping. But we make better use of cupboard space, spend a lot less, and protect the environment. You should try it!



## **5. The Psychology of Color**

I want you to imagine yourself in a room painted a light blue color. Now, imagine yourself in a vibrant red room. Do you think you would feel differently in each of these rooms? If you are like most people, you would feel calmer in the blue room and more energized in the red room. Why is this? Psychological studies have found that different colors can have different effects on mood and behavior.



People have a tendency to associate colors with where these colors appear in nature. So, for example, without realizing it we associate soft shades of blue with the sky and sea. These associations make blue a calming color for most people. Asuka Obata runs a spa in Kyoto, Japan. All the walls of the salon are blue. Obata says, “It is essential that we create a sense of peace and tranquility. The color blue helps us achieve this.”

Red, however, is associated with fire and blood. So red is also associated with danger and vitality. The color red has even been shown to raise blood pressure! Adrian Vilas of Cordoba, Argentina, painted his office red. He says, “I like being surrounded by a color that gives me energy and inspiration.” On the other hand, have you ever wondered why traffic lights and stop signs utilize the color red? To warn of danger, of course.

While we all share natural associations with certain colors, the same color may have a very different meaning to people of two different cultures.

The colors black and white provide a good example of how people can have different cultural responses to colors. In many cultures, black symbolizes death and mourning, and so black is the traditional color worn to funerals. However, in Asia it is not black that represents mourning, but white. So in Asia, white is the color people usually wear when they attend funerals.

In most other cultures, far from being associated with funerals, white represents purity, innocence, and goodness. For this reason, white is traditionally worn by brides in these cultures. However, in China, since white is the color of mourning, it is important that a bride not wear white. Instead, the traditional color worn by a bride in China is red. In Chinese culture, red represents happiness and good luck, and so Chinese celebrations are full of red. During the Chinese New Year, people prefer wearing red to any other color and older family members give money in red envelopes to younger members of the family.

Clearly the way we respond to color is a complicated business. You may think you are choosing a red shirt just because you like the color. But the truth is, you are probably responding to it based on what your brain, the environment, and your culture tell you about the color!

## **6. Reading: There is No Place Like Home**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is blessed with a significant wealth of natural resources, an Islamic, family-oriented society and extraordinary opportunities for economic growth. The nation's Islamic faith, national identity, culture and heritage make it special and provide limitless potential for development.

The nation is honored to welcome and serve an increasing number of pilgrims and visitors, from across the globe, every year. The expansion of the Two Holy Mosques and the upgrading of services and facilities had helped to cater for 15 million visitors from its development until 2020. These improvements will continue to ensure that all pilgrims are well looked after when they visit.

### **The People**

Saudi Arabia's 2030 vision is largely based on the ambition, determination and talents of its people and their Islamic values. It is important, therefore, for the members of the Saudi society to be supported by social, health care and educational systems in order to cultivate and nurture its children in the best way possible to prepare them for a promising future.

Cultural and entertainment projects will include the establishment of libraries, galleries, museums and the organization of different types of events and activities. Housing and community development projects will provide a pleasant, secure and sustainable environment for the citizens of the Kingdom.

An updated educational system will provide high quality learning and develop available talent and potential. Graduates will have the knowledge and skills required by the job market and access to many opportunities for professional development.

### **The Economy**

The Kingdom's economy has great growth potential. A diversified and renewed business environment will offer employment opportunities to all citizens and attract new investors. Improved and updated services and facilities will attract small and large companies, interested in participating actively in a dynamic economy. Telecommunications and information technology will be updated and made available in urban and rural areas.

The Kingdom's strategic position that connects the waterways of three continents, Europe, Africa and Asia, will make it a leading trading and transportation port for cargo from different countries across the globe. Streamlined government services will facilitate the introduction of new business sectors and partners and support growth. Investment opportunities will be increased through privatization of state-owned assets and agencies.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will be a leading business hub with limitless opportunities for the development of new talent and creative enterprises.

*\* Adapted from the text of the Vision Programs at <https://vision2030.gov.sa/en> and from the text that was drafted by the Council of Economic and Development Affairs as instructed by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman.*

## 7. Narrative Reading: A Home Over the Canyon

When people talk about unusual homes, I think of our friends' dream home in New Mexico, on which they spent all their savings building it.

On the outside, the house looks like most adobe homes of the area. Adobe is made from sand, clay, water, and organic material that are shaped into bricks and left to dry in the sun. Our friends' house is a beautifully-designed, large adobe home with a drive and a large cactus tree near the entrance. It has soft lines, and is less angular than conventional urban homes.



When you go through the door, you find yourself in a beautiful, spacious room with large windows and sunlight streaming in. Large windows are unusual for adobe homes. But this is no ordinary home. Part of the house juts out of the adobe shell that can be seen from the street and stretches to the end of a cliff. You walk past a kitchen fitted with a cast-iron stove and hand-made wooden cabinets that give off the most enticing smells of cumin and chilies and herbs. It is so real; you can almost taste the food.

The spacious room that you step into when you enter the house stretches in all directions. You walk towards the sitting area. When you get closer, you need to brace yourself as the most spectacular view imaginable unfolds before your eyes. All of a sudden, you are no longer stepping on wood, the floor is hard, and your footsteps make a strange resounding sound. You look down and wonder whether you have been transported in space and time; you are looking into the gaping canyon. You think you are falling into it; you can almost feel the air whooshing past.

Part of the floor is made of thick custom-designed glass. You might like it or hate it, but however you feel you have to admit it is unique. This is the way I feel about this house and the day I spent there. It was a unique, unforgettable experience even if I wouldn't choose to live with a glass floor over a canyon for the rest of my life. Would you?

## **8. Reading: The Sporting Life**

### **Fascinating Olympic Facts**

The marathon is an event named after the run of a Greek soldier, Pheidippides. In 490 B.C.E., Pheidippides ran from Marathon to Athens (about 26 miles, or 42 kilometers) to deliver news about the Greeks' success in a battle against the Persians. Running through the mountains and rocky land was extremely difficult. After Pheidippides arrived in Athens and delivered his news, he fell down and died. The first modern Olympics in 1896 included a race of 26 miles (42 kilometers), called a marathon, to commemorate Pheidippides' run.



Dropping sports from the Olympics is not uncommon. In fact, many popular sports have been dropped through the years, including rugby, golf, baseball, and softball. Adding a new event can only happen if another one is dropped.

Because the Greeks originated the Olympics, the Greek team always leads the procession of athletes during the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games. They are followed by the other teams in alphabetical order. The hosting country goes last.

## 9. Reading

Norway, a small country of 4.7 million inhabitants, has won more Winter Games medals than any other nation. It became the first country to win 100 Olympic gold medals, and reached the 300-medal milestone in the Winter Games of 2010.



Norwegians go cross-country skiing, ski-jumping, or downhill skiing on weekends, on holidays, and after work. When the snow starts melting in spring, they move it up to the mountains. And if there is no access to snow, they skate on ice. 2,500 lit tracks all over the country make it possible for people to ski in winter, although it gets dark early.

Norwegians have enjoyed skiing for thousands of years. A rock carving in Nordland County in the north provides evidence that the use of skis dates back to the Stone Age. Until about a century ago, skis were the only means of transport in winter and essential for hunting.

Skiing did not become a mass sport until the mid- 1880s when the first competitions were arranged. Sondre Norheim, who is considered the father of modern skiing, was the originator of the Telemark skis, which are narrower in the middle than at the front and back and have stiff heel bindings. The shape made turning easier, and the heel binding allowed skiers to jump from rooftops or over rocks without losing their skis.

Polar explorers made skis known internationally and demonstrated their unique merits on terrain that could not be crossed any other way. Roald Amundsen was the first man to reach the South Pole in 1911, on skis. Fridtjof Nansen crossed the Greenland interior on skis in 1880. Other explorers have followed the routes used by these two famous explorers and skied to both the North and South Poles.

Annual cross-country events are organized throughout Norway, attracting a great number of participants. Such events are not restricted to athletes, but include “keep fit” categories that allow more people to participate. Enjoying the exercise and nature is as important as achieving the fastest time and winning prizes in these events. Biathlon was first included in the Winter Olympic program in 1960. It is a cross-country skiing race interspersed with shooting contests. Norwegians are very strong cross-country skiers and have won most of the cross-country skiing medals in the Winter Olympics over the years. Alpine skiing has also gained a lot of followers, as has freestyle, which is a relatively newer sport. Norwegians are among the world’s best in freestyle.

Speed skating used to be a large spectator and participation sport on a par with cross-country skiing. Cross-country skiing, ski jumping, and Alpine skiing seem to have taken over and overshadowed speed skating, although Norwegian speed skaters are among the best in the world.

In winter in Norway, every sheet of ice is covered with children playing hockey or skating. Indoor rinks are also used for skating and ice hockey. While other Scandinavians huddle around fireplaces, Norwegians bundle up and go out skiing. This could explain the reason why they have won such an astounding number of medals in the Winter Olympics.



**Dialogues**  
**TERM-2**

## 1. At the Hospital

### a) Changing an Appointment Time:

**Sara:** Good morning, I made an appointment with Dr. Smith, but I have to change it.

**Doctor's Assistant:** When was your appointment?

**S:** My appointment was at 4:00 in the afternoon, on Wednesday.

**A:** I can see your appointment. What day do you need to change to?

**S:** I want to change it to next Tuesday.

**A:** What time would you prefer?

**S:** I would prefer three o'clock in the afternoon.

**A:** I will put you down for that time. Thank you.

### b) A Medical Emergency

**Emergency operator:** Hello, how may I help you?

**Sara:** It's my stomach. It's killing me!

**O:** Where does it hurt the most?

**S: operator:** It's mostly on my right side.

**O:** How long has it felt like this?

**S:** I felt OK when I woke up, and then, suddenly, I had this really sharp pain.

**O:** I think that we are going to have to get you to an emergency room right away.

**S:** Thank you for helping me.

### c) At the Pharmacy

**Sara:** I need to get my prescription filled.

**Doctor:** You may pick it up in twenty minutes.

**S:** Can I renew it online?

**D:** Yes, you can renew this prescription by phone.

**S:** Are there any special instructions about this medication?

**D:** Take it three times a day.

**S:** Can I take it with food?

**D:** You should take this medicine with food.

**S:** Are there any side effects of this medication?

**D:** You might get a little dizzy, but that is it.

## 2- Making a Phone Call

🔊 How may I \_ help you?

🔊 I'd like to make an international call, please.

🔊 You can dial directly from your room if you like.

🔊 I'm sorry. I don't understand what to do.

🔊 Just hang up. Then dial 011. Your country and city codes and your number.

🔊 O.K. Thanks for your help.

🔊 You're welcome. Would you like to charge \_\_\_\_ the call to your room or pay with a credit card?

🔊 To my room.

🔊 All right. I'll take care of it \_ for you.

🔊 Have a nice evening.

### 3- Moving Day

- ▶▶ Good Moring. Are you ready to see the apartment?
- ▶▶ Yes. Let's go inside.
- ▶▶ We'll start with the kitchen and dining room.
- ▶▶ Oh good, a refrigerator and stove.
- ▶▶ Is there a dishwasher, too?
- ▶▶ It's over here. Next to the sink.
- ▶▶ There's also a garbage disposal and trash compactor.
- ▶▶ I'd like to take a look at the bedrooms and bath.
- ▶▶ Here're the bedrooms. They are connected by the bathroom.
- ▶▶ There's also a half both off the living room.
- ▶▶ Which bed room will you use?
- ▶▶ I like the one facing the pool.
- ▶▶ I'll use the other one for my study.
- ▶▶ Can I get a desk and chair for my study?
- ▶▶ I'll call the office and see if there are any in storage.
- ▶▶ I don't have a car. Is there a grocery store nearby?
- ▶▶ You are luck. There's a supermarket down the street.
- ▶▶ It's about a ten-minute walk.
- ▶▶ Let's go back to my office and talk about your lease.

## 4– Recycling

**Jouri:** That was a great garden barbecue! But there are soda cans everywhere. I'll help you clean up. Where do you keep your recycling bins?

**Hana:** Nowhere. We don't recycle.

**Jouri:** You don't recycle! Why not?

**Hana:** I don't know. It's just always seemed like it would be a **hassle**.

**Jouri:** Don't you think it would be a good idea to make the effort?

**Hana:** I **guess**. I do feel kind of guilty about it. But then again, does it really make that much of a difference?

**Jouri:** Are you kidding? Recycling reduces energy consumption, lessens air and water pollution, and saves landfill space. It's a **no-brainer**.

**Hana:** I just don't have the patience. It seems like a lot of extra work. It's so much easier to just **chuck** everything in the garbage than to sort it by material for recycling.

**Jouri:** That's a **lame** excuse. Recycling is a **piece of cake**. It becomes automatic before you know it.

**Hana:** I suppose you're right. OK, OK. I'll start to recycle.

**Jouri:** Great! Hey, why are you throwing that can in the garbage?

**Hana:** Whoops! Old habits are hard to break!

## 5- House for Sale

**Dad:** Did you see that the Johnsons' house is for sale?

**Son:** Cool. I've always loved that house!

**Dad:** I know, but (1) **hold on**. Don't get too excited.

**Son:** OK. Why?

**Dad:** They're asking (2) **megabucks** for it.

**Son:** Really? How much?

**Dad:** Over \$500 (3) **grand**.

**Son:** For that (4) **tiny**, old house? That's (5) **an arm and a leg** !  
We can't afford that!

**Dad:** I know. They need a (6) **reality check**.

**Son:** That's true. They must be (7) **out of touch** if they think that anybody will pay that much.



# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Conversation

## TERM -2

## Conversation: 1



Read the two extracts from the TV show 'Festivals in and around Saudi Arabia.'  
Complete the paragraphs with a, an, the, or no article (-).

**TV show host:** When did you first hear about the Jazan Mango festival?



**Visitor:** Well, I first heard about the Jazan Mango Festival three years ago from a business colleague in Dubai. He told me that every year in May, Jazan holds a Mango Festival to coincide with the harvest of the mango. So, I decided to come and see for myself, and I wasn't disappointed! The festival is very popular and many people attend, including investors in agricultural products and families. There are lots of entertainment . . .

**TV show host:** Every year in Saudi Arabia, the Janadriyah national heritage and culture festival opens with much excitement and high expectations. Many people from all over the country and from abroad attend.



The Janadriyah festival takes place in a village near Riyadh, and it is normally held between November and March when the heat is less extreme. It lasts for two weeks. The festival celebrates symbols of Saudi identity. There are camel and horse races, displays of regional costumes, cuisines, and crafts such as carpet weaving, and pottery. There are donkey rides for the children ...

## Conversation – 2

← 2

**Asra:** Hey, Ruba. I'm **in a bind**. Can you **help me out**?

**Ruba:** What's the problem?

**Asra:** I'm supposed to work tomorrow, but there's something I've got to do. Could you **cover** for me?

**Ruba:** You just asked me to cover for you on Monday. What's so important that I have to keep doing your job?

**Asra:** OK, I'll tell you, but I'd appreciate it if you would **keep it to yourself**. I'm interviewing for another job, and I'm really close to getting it.

**Ruba:** You were just hired here a few weeks ago. I can't believe you're thinking about leaving already.

**Asra:** Yeah, I know. But the job I'm interviewing for is a dream job. I'd be a tester at a video game development company.

**Ruba:** **No kidding?** Wow. Well, I still don't think it's right for you to **jump ship** like that, but all right. I'll cover for you.

**Asra:** Thanks a lot. I'm going to **take off** now.

**Ruba:** Hey, Asra?

**Asra:** Yeah?

**Ruba:** If you get the job, do you think you could ask them if they need anyone else?

**Asra:** **Will do.**

Your Turn: Role-play with a partner. Ask your partner for a favor. Your partner is unwilling to grant the favor until understanding why it is necessary. Use the phrases for asking for favors.

### ASKING FOR FAVOURS

Do you think you could...?  
Do me a favor and...  
I'd really appreciate it if you would...  
Would it be possible/too much trouble...?  
What are the chances you could...?  
I hate to ask, but...



## Conversation- 3

← 3

**Jouri:** That was a great garden barbecue! But there are soda cans everywhere. I'll help you clean up. Where do you keep your recycling bins?

**Hana:** Nowhere. We don't recycle.

**Jouri:** You don't recycle! Why not?

**Hana:** I don't know. It's just always seemed like it would be a hassle.

**Jouri:** Don't you think it would be a good idea to make the effort?

**Hana:** I guess. I do feel kind of guilty about it. But then again, does it really make that much of a difference?

**Jouri:** Are you kidding? Recycling reduces energy consumption, lessens air and water pollution, and saves landfill space. It's a no-brainer.

**Hana:** I just don't have the patience. It seems like a lot of extra work. It's so much easier to just chuck everything in the garbage than to sort it by material for recycling.

**Jouri:** That's a lame excuse. Recycling is a piece of cake. It becomes automatic before you know it.

**Hana:** I suppose you're right. OK, OK. I'll start to recycle.

**Jouri:** Great! Hey, why are you throwing that can in the garbage?

**Hana:** Whoops! Old habits are hard to break!



### **Your Turn:** Role-play with a partner.

What is something you do that is good for the environment?

Suggest to your partner that he/she do this, too.

Give reasons and use phrases for making suggestions.

### **Making Suggestions**

**You might want to consider + gerund...**

**How about + gerund...?**

**Don't you think it would be a good idea + infinitive...?**

**If you..., I think you'll find...**

**If you don't mind, I'd like to suggest + gerund...**

## Conversation- 4



**Presenter:** We're at the edge of the desert, waiting for the falcon hunters to arrive. And here they come... I thought their car was white... This must be them. They must have been on the road longer than expected ... Welcome back. It's great to see you again Ms Nadia.

**Ms Nadia:** Thank you. Good to see you too! I wasn't sure you'd be here.

**Presenter:** Of course I'm here. I can't wait to hear about your exploits. Have you had a successful hunt?

**Ms Nadia:** Have we, indeed! We have been more fortunate than we could have ever expected. This has been the best trip ever! I wish we could have gone on for another two weeks!

**Presenter:** But you must be exhausted! And you must have been in the sun a lot...

**Ms Nadia:** You can tell, can't you? Oh, well, we must be looking the part. What can you expect after weeks of camping in the desert, but that's the way we like it!

**Presenter:** And, now? What's next?

**Ms Nadia:** Now, we are going to see our clients. My falcons are spoken for, so I won't have to look around for buyers. This is also important in our business...having good clients and keeping them happy! And of course we're going to have our truck cleaned and serviced before we do anything else!

**Presenter:** Do you think of the financial gain while you're hunting?

**Ms Nadia:** No, not really. I only think of the hunt. You can't catch falcons if all you think about is how you are going to sell them. Falcons deserve respect and admiration! I often feel we have the best of both worlds; making a decent living while doing something we genuinely enjoy. There can't be too many people who can claim that!

**Presenter:** You're quite right! I wish you continuing success in your endeavor and hope to catch up with you next year.

**Ms Nadia:** You're very welcome. It's really good to have the opportunity to talk about our trade and know that more people will hear about it.

## Conversation- 5

← 5

Complete the conversation with the words and phrases from the box.

an arm and a leg	grand	megabucks	reality check
Cool	hold on	out of touch	tiny

Dad: Did you see that the Johnsons' house is for sale?

Son: Cool. I've always loved that house!

Dad: I know, but (1) \_\_\_\_\_ hold on \_\_\_\_\_. Don't get too excited.

Son: OK. Why?

Dad: They're asking (2) \_\_\_\_\_ an arm and a leg \_\_\_\_\_ for it.

Son: Really? How much?

Dad: Over \$500 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ megabucks \_\_\_\_\_ .

Son: For that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ tiny \_\_\_\_\_ , old house? That's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ grand \_\_\_\_\_ !

We can't afford that!

Dad: I know. They need a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ reality check \_\_\_\_\_ .

Son: That's true. They must be (7) \_\_\_\_\_ out of touch \_\_\_\_\_ if they think that anybody will pay that much.

## Conversation- 6



### **Real Talk**

*Cool! = Great!*

*Hold on! = Stop for a moment!*

*out of touch = don't have a realistic idea*

*reality check = an assessment of how realistic something is*

*an arm and a leg = a large amount of money megabucks = a large amount of money grand = thousand*

**Iman: Where are you going to live when you start college in the fall?**

**Hind: I don't want to live on campus. There's too much noise when you're trying to study, and there aren't enough places to go when you want to socialize. So, I'm going to get an apartment off campus.**

**Iman: Cool! What kind of apartment do you have in mind?**

**Hind: Well, I'm hoping to find a large, modern place with an extra bedroom for visitors. It has to have parking. And, of course, it has to have a washer and dryer.**

**Iman: Hold on! Do you have enough money for an apartment like that?**

**Hind: Why? Do you think it would be very expensive?**

**Iman: You are clearly out of touch with rental prices! You need a reality check. An apartment like that will cost an arm and a leg.**

**Hind: Like how much?**

**Iman: We're talking megabucks—maybe two grand a month.**

**Hind: Two thousand dollars? I had no idea. I thought it would be a lot less than that.**

**Iman: Only if you want to live in a tiny apartment way outside of the city.**

**Hind: Well, maybe I shouldn't be in such a rush to move out. I could live at home with my parents just for the first year...**

### **About the Conversation**

- 1. What kind of apartment is Hind looking for?**
- 2. Why does Iman tell Hind that he needs a reality check?**
- 3. What decision does Hind make at the end of the conversation?**

### **Your Turn**

**Role-play with a partner. Tell your partner about something you are looking for, such as a university or a new computer. Use phrases from the box. Your partner will ask questions to find out more information.**

## Conversation- 7



Look at the map and read the conversation. Then answer the questions.



**Maria:** Excuse me. How do I get to the park?

**Jehan:** Take the Number 20 bus. There's a bus stop over there. Get off at the Bookstore. The park is on the next block. You can't miss it.

**Maria:** Is it far from here?

**Jehan:** No, it's about 15 minutes away.

**Maria:** No, no. Take the F line on the subway, and get off at Main Avenue Station. Walk down Broadway and take a left after the bank. The park is right across the street. Trust me. I live in that neighborhood.

**Maria:** Thanks a lot.

**Jehan:** You're welcome.

- *Where is Maria going? .*
- *What's the bus number to the park? .*
- *How far away is the park? .*
- *What's the subway line to the park? .*

## Conversation- 8



### **Real Talk**

*up for = ready for*

*mess up = make a mistake*

*down pat = at the point of perfection*

*You bet! = Of course!*

*guts = courage*

*psyched = excited and psychologically prepared*

**Coach:** After two years of training, we're finally at the regional skating competition! How does it feel, Bayan?

**Bayan:** Actually, not so good. I'm not sure I'm up for this.

**Coach:** What are you talking about?

**Bayan:** What if I mess up?

**Coach:** You're not going to mess up. You've been practicing day and night. You have your routine down pat. Skating in front of those judges is going to be a piece of cake.

Now, I want you to take a deep breath and exhale.

Trust me. You're going to knock their socks off.

**Bayan:** Do you really think so?

**Coach:** You bet! I have total confidence in you. You have the guts and the talent to win this competition. There's no doubt in my mind that you can do it.

**Bayan:** OK. I feel better. I'm psyched.

**Coach:** You'll be on in a few minutes. You should get your skates on. Where are your skates?

**Bayan:** My skates? Oh no! I left them in the car!

### **About the Conversation**

1. *Where are Bayan and her coach?*
2. *How does Bayan feel at first?*
3. *How does her coach help her?*
4. *What's the problem at the end?*

### **Your Turn**

*Role-play with a partner.*

*Pretend you are about to do something you are nervous about, such as take an important exam, or give a presentation in front of the class. Your partner will offer encouragement and express confidence in you.*

## Conversation- 9



### *Real Talk*

*To tell you the truth = To tell you exactly how I feel*

*getting to = annoying or bothering*

*cheer you up = make you feel happier*

*killer = great, amazing*

*blow me away = really impress me*

**Sara:** Hi Fatima. How are you doing?

**Fatima:** Oh. I don't know. To tell you the truth, I'm feeling a bit down. I think the weather is getting to me. I'm tired of all this rain.

**Sara:** You know what you need to cheer you up? A few good laughs. I've got a couple of killer jokes for you.

**Fatima:** I don't know, Charlie. I'm not a big fan of jokes.

**Sara:** Just listen. Here's a good one. A cowboy rides into town on Sunday, stays for three days, and leaves on Sunday. How is this possible?

**Fatima:** I don't know. How?

**Sara:** Because his horse's name is "Sunday"! Well, what's the matter? Don't you get it?

**Fatima:** Yeah. I get it. Though it didn't exactly blow me away.

**Sara:** How about this one. Why is six afraid of seven?

Because seven ate nine. Get it? "Ate" like the number "eight"?

**Fatima:** Yeah, I get it. I just don't think it's funny. But, I do feel better.

**Sara:** If you didn't think they were funny, why do you feel better?

**Fatima:** Because you're trying to cheer me up. You're a good friend, Sara—even if you do tell terrible jokes.

**Sara:** No, I don't! Hey, did you hear the one about...

### *About the Conversation*

- 1. Why is Sara telling Fatima jokes?*
- 2. What is Fatima reaction to the jokes?*

### *Your Turn*

*Role-play with a partner.*

*Tell your partner a joke. Use some of the phrases for telling and responding to jokes.*

9<sup>th</sup> POEMS

Term-2

## POEM-7



# To A Butterfly

*William Wordsworth 1770 (Wordsworth House) – 1850 (Cumberland)*

I've watched you now a full half-hour,

Self-poised upon that yellow flower;

And, little Butterfly! indeed

I know not if you sleep or feed.

How motionless!---not frozen seas

More motionless! and then

What joy awaits you, when the breeze

Hath found you out among the trees,

And calls you forth again!

This plot of orchard-ground is ours;

My trees they are, my Sister's flowers;

Here rest your wing when they are weary;

Here lodge as in a sanctuary!

Come often to us, fear no wrong;

Sit near us on the bough!

We'll talk of sunshine and of song,

And summer days, when we were young;

Sweet childish days, that were as long

As twenty days are now.



## Positive Attitude Poem

Positive Attitude Poem – Short Poem

### **Never say you're too powerless**

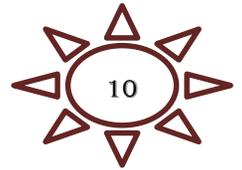
Some like the idea that to have money  
Means you instantly have power  
To me, that proves their mentality  
Is simply petite and sour  
As power is the ability  
To plant a smile on someone's face  
Or give a few pounds to the homeless  
As your kindness, they embrace  
Power is dragging someone out of the wrong  
And bringing them into the right  
Or giving a hug to someone blue  
Leading them to delight  
Power is teaching a child  
Something they'll remember forever  
Or letting someone know they're appreciated  
With a card; as light as a feather  
So never say you're too powerless  
To make a change for good  
It's not a matter of what you should do  
It's a matter of what you could



## The Sun Has Long Been Set

**William Wordsworth** 1770 (*Wordsworth House*) – 1850 (*Cumberland*)

The sun has long been set,  
The stars are out by twos and threes,  
The little birds are piping yet  
Among the bushes and the trees;  
There's a cuckoo, and one or two thrushes,  
And a far-off wind that rushes,  
And a sound of water that gushes,  
And the cuckoo's sovereign cry  
Fills all the hollow of the sky.  
Who would go `parading'  
In London, `and masquerading',  
On such a night of June  
With that beautiful soft half-moon,  
And all these innocent blisses?  
On such a night as this is!



## **Her mouth speaks no words**

Through her veins flows no blood

Only liquid gold

Her mouth speaks no words

Just prophecies to be told

Her hands don't just touch

They cure, soothe and heal

Her body is never weak

Made of solid steel

Her eyes aren't just to see

They also travel time

Her scent is not ordinary

A fragrance that's sublime

She has a heart that is rare

Diamond inside out

Her soul is so exquisite

Heavens send no doubt

Her mind solves problems

Like the mind of no other

We must never undermine

The value of our mother

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**Reading Passages**  
**Term-3**

## **1. Reading: Laughter Really Is the Best Medicine**

*Read the passage and underline important details about laughing.*

HA! HA!

Are you feeling run-down? Stressed? Do you get sick easily? The solution to your problems may be surprisingly simple: Try laughing. Countless research studies have shown the amazing number of ways that laughter positively impacts both our mind and body.

Laughter has an immediate beneficial effect on our mood and sense of well-being. Generally speaking, the harder you laugh, the better you feel. But why is this? Research has found that laughter offers some of the same benefits as exercise. When you laugh, that laughter stretches, tones, and strengthens muscles in your face and body. It increases your heart rate and causes you to breathe faster, which increases oxygen levels in your body. According to William F. Fry, M.D., Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Stanford University, “Laughing 100–200 times per day is the cardiovascular equivalent of rowing for 10 minutes.”

One study even found that laughter can help people lose weight. Researchers discovered that laughing out loud for 10–15 minutes a day can burn up to 50 calories. However, this certainly doesn’t mean you should give up a visit to the gym for a hearty laugh. At the rate of 200 calories per hour, it would take over 17 hours of non-stop laughter to lose a single pound (450 grams)!

People who laugh often have other physical advantages as well. They tend to have lower blood pressure and lower stress levels. They tend to get sick less often because laughter has been shown to increase infection-fighting antibodies. Laughter has also been found to help fight disease and to help people recover from illness. This has led many hospitals to create programs designed to make patients laugh. For example, it is quite common to see a red-nosed clown joking with young patients in the pediatric ward. Hundreds of hospitals also provide patients with “humor carts,” loaded with humorous cartoons, DVDs, comic books, and funny props.

Laughter has also been found to make people alert, stimulate the brain, and enhance learning. It also helps people to be more productive, to communicate more effectively, to sleep more soundly, and to form friendships more easily. In the mid-1990s, a doctor from India was struck by these benefits and brainstormed a way to bring more laughter into his patients’ lives. The doctor, Madan Kataria, gathered a group of people together in a local park to practice laughing as part of a “laughter club.” During the club meetings, Kataria would prompt members to laugh in a variety of ways.

### **What is Sitcom?**

A sitcom is a situation comedy without an ending. It consists of episodes, but the situation goes on. The television sitcom was born in the 1940s and 1950s. It had originally existed as a radio show that listeners would tune into every week to spend some time with familiar characters they grew to know and liked.

When television arrived in the late 1940s, shows were filmed in front of a live studio audience, with three cameras recording everything for later editing. In the 60s sitcoms combined fantasy with comedy and used a laugh track instead of a live studio audience. In the 70s social issues were included, but in the 80s there was a return to the original family concept, the most important success factor behind sitcoms.

Nowadays shows are filmed with a single camera, on location or on studio sets, with no laugh track or live audience.

## 2. Reading: Playing Tricks

In many countries around the world, the first day of April is a day for playing tricks and pulling pranks. Many of the most amusing and memorable tricks that have been played on this day have been perpetrated by the media.

Perhaps one of the funniest pranks to have ever been pulled off happened on April 1, 1957. On this day, a well-respected British news show called Panorama aired a segment focusing on a supposed spaghetti harvest in southern Switzerland! The anchorman explained that the mild winter had resulted in a huge spaghetti crop. As the anchorman gave details about the “spaghetti crop,” video footage was shown of Swiss people pulling fresh, long strands of spaghetti off of “spaghetti trees” and putting them in baskets.



in a  
about  
people  
trees”

Convincing viewers wasn't very difficult. Apparently, this segment was realistic enough to fool a huge number of people. Hundreds of fascinated viewers called into the television station wanting to find out how they could grow their own spaghetti tree. They were told, “Place a sprig of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best.” As one studio worker remembers, “The more people called, the harder we laughed.”

Another nationally broadcast prank occurred in Sweden in 1962. At the time the country had only one television channel, and it broadcast in black and white. The station had their technical expert announce to the viewers that a new technology had been created. Astonished viewers listened as he explained that this technology would make it possible to see color images on their black and white television sets. Accomplishing this was easy, he assured the audience. He explained that all that viewers needed to do to convert their black and white televisions to color was to pull a nylon stocking over the screen. He also advised moving one's head very carefully back and forth to see the best picture. Many viewers got excited, and thousands tried it. Today many Swedes still recall family members running around the house trying to find nylon stockings to place over their television set.



### 3. Reading: The Story of Chocolate

Chocolate comes from the cacao tree, a tree that grows in the tropical rainforests of a number of countries, including Brazil, Indonesia, the Ivory Coast, and Ghana. The first step in turning cacao into chocolate candy is the harvesting of cacao pods. Unlike many modern crops, cacao pods must be harvested by hand, instead of machine. After workers pluck each pod by hand, they open the pods with a long knife called a *machete*. Then the workers take out the cacao beans and throw away the husks.



Workers place the beans in large piles, and cover them with banana leaves. The beans are left there for about a week.

During this time, the beans turn a deep, rich color and the cocoa flavor and aroma develop. This process is called fermentation. After fermentation, the beans are scooped into sacks and shipped to chocolate manufacturers.

Once the manufacturers receive a shipment of beans, they get down to the business of processing the cocoa into chocolate. The manufacturing process involves many steps including roasting the beans at extremely high temperatures, separating the shell from the inside of the bean, and getting rid of the shells. The broken bean bits that remain are called nibs. The nibs are then crushed up into cocoa mass and melted.

Manufacturers blend the melted cocoa mass with milk and sugar. These ingredients are churned until they become a brown powder called crumb. Cocoa butter is added to the crumb. This mixture becomes a thick liquid called chocolate paste. The paste is put into a machine that will make it smooth. The liquid chocolate is then poured into molds. Finally, the chocolate cools down, is taken out of the mold, and becomes a chocolate bar.

## 4. Reading : Accidental Food Discoveries



Can you imagine a world without cool, creamy ice-cream cones? Isn't it depressing to imagine life without chewy, delicious, chocolate chip cookies? And who could get by without salty, addictive, crispy potato chips? Yet all these treats are fairly recent inventions that may never have come into existence if it weren't for lucky accidents.

Have you ever enjoyed the cool refreshment of a popsicle on a hot, summer day? If so, you have an 11-year-old boy named Frank Epperson to thank. One winter day in 1905, young Epperson was making soda pop by mixing powdered soda and water. He accidentally left the mixing bucket outside with the mixing stick in it overnight. That night, the temperature reached freezing. In the morning, Epperson discovered that the fruit-flavored liquid had frozen to the stick. Although he tried and liked his invention, it wasn't until eighteen years later that it occurred to him to turn his invention into a

business. Epperson's children referred to this treat made by their pop as a popsicle. That name stuck and eventually became the official name. Today popsicles are enjoyed by millions of people around the world.

But, perhaps your dessert of choice on a hot day is an ice-cream cone. If so, you should be glad for the unexpected event that brought two men together at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. An ice-cream vendor named Charles Menches was doing such booming business that he ran out of bowls to put the ice cream in. The vendor next to Menches was a young Syrian immigrant named Ernest Hamwi. Hamwi was selling a Syrian treat called zalabia, a crisp, wafer-like pastry. Hamwi came up with a solution to Menches' quandary. Hamwi rolled some of his warm pastry into a cone so that Menches could put ice cream inside. In that instant, a favorite international hot weather treat was born.



Of course, not everyone is a fan of frozen treats. Some prefer the indulgence of delicious freshly baked goods, like chocolate chip cookies. These people should be grateful for an accidental discovery made by an American



housewife in 1930. One day Ruth Wakefield was making chocolate cookies when she realized that she had run out of baker's chocolate. Wakefield decided to substitute broken-up pieces of a chocolate bar she had on hand. She assumed that the small pieces of chocolate would melt and mix into the batter. However, after taking the cookies out of the oven, Wakefield discovered that the chocolate hadn't melted. Instead, there were little chips of chocolate throughout the cookie. Much to Wakefield's delight, the chocolate chip cookie proved to be a great success with her family and

guests. Wakefield sold the recipe to the chocolate company Nestlé® in exchange for a lifetime supply of chocolate chips. It wasn't long before the chocolate chip cookie became a world-famous treat.

But, if crunchy, salty treats like potato chips are your preference, then you owe a debt of gratitude to a cranky chef and a picky diner who lived over 150 years ago. On August 24, 1853, George Crum was working as a chef in a restaurant when he became frustrated with a customer. The customer had repeatedly sent back his French fries, complaining that they were too thick and soggy. Fed up, Crum decided to teach him a lesson. Crum sliced the potatoes as thinly as possible and fried them in grease. To Crum's astonishment, the customer thought the chips were delectable. They became a regular item on the restaurant's menu and, in time, became a staple of the global fast-food industry.

Clearly not all accidents are bad. Some have made our lives richer, sweeter, and tastier!

## 5. Reading: Too Much Seafood

A few years ago, we were at a famous seafood restaurant. A friend of ours went overboard and proceeded to order almost everything on the menu. Soon, immense amounts of seafood started arriving on large platters. We ended up with a feast that could have fed twenty starving people, not six. It was all delicious but there was too much of it. Three of the group were determined to clear everything, so they continued gobbling down fish, seafood, salad, French fries, anything that was still on the table.



Three hours later, we split an exorbitant check among us and walked back to our hotel, feeling unpleasantly full. As expected, we all got sick. Our extravagant friend, who had eaten most of what he had ordered, was taken to hospital. The rest of us were given strict orders to only consume liquids and stay in bed for the rest of our stay.

### Narrative Reading: Pepper Sauce and Truffle

I was flying back home from France. I had been given a first-class seat because the plane was overbooked and my seat had been given to someone else. I did not, of course, mind the change one bit.

I had been traveling on a very tight student budget, and had been trying to cut down on expenses, so I tended to skip meals quite often. After the plane took off, I realized that I was famished. Appetizing smells wafting my way from the galley did nothing to reduce my hunger. Fortunately, we were served very soon. I tasted the food and was truly amazed. It consisted of the most succulent, tastiest bon filet in pepper sauce that I had ever had. It was served with truffles and baked baby potatoes with herbs. The pepper sauce was delicious as were the truffles. I decided that I rather liked flying first class!



### Narrative Reading: A Memorable Holiday Dinner

I'll never forget a meal I had during my freshman year of college. Most students went home for the holidays, but some, like me, who came from different countries, stayed on campus.

Although I had always looked forward to the big holiday dinner at home, this year I figured I would make do with a sandwich. But then I talked with a few other students who had stayed, and we came up with a plan to whip up our own holiday dinner...



## 6. Reading

One day in 1969, John Rendall and Anthony Burke saw a real live lion cub in a London department store window. Feeling that a lion should not be kept this way, they bought him and took him home to live in Rendall's basement. The lion, whom they named Kristyan, is said to have been an affectionate and extremely cooperative cat who even used a giant kitty litter box. Kristyan was pampered. He was brought on drives, strolls through the neighborhood, and even to restaurants. But when Kristyan grew to almost 200 pounds (90 kilograms), it was decided that he should be released into the wild. Kristyan was brought to Africa where he adapted to life in the wild and eventually became the leader of a group of lions. A year later, Rendall and Burke traveled to Africa to say goodbye. They were warned that Kristyan would not remember them. However, when Kristyan saw his old friends, he ran towards them, stood on his back legs, and joyfully gave each of them a long and loving embrace.

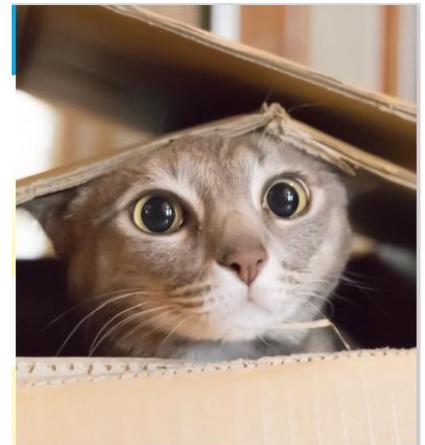


### Before Reading

*In what ways do people benefit from animal companionship?*

### Animal Heroes

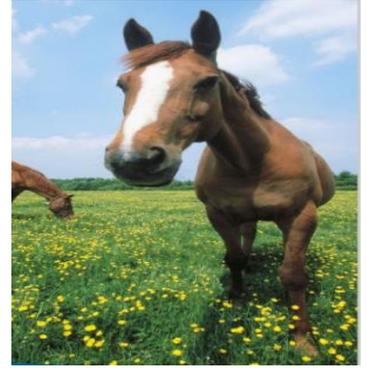
One night, Pilar was in a deep sleep when she was woken by her cat Inti. Inti was meowing wildly outside Pilar's bedroom and throwing himself against the closed bedroom door. When Pilar opened her eyes, she saw that her bedroom was filling with smoke. As she escaped her house with Inti in her arms, she saw that a fire was blazing in her kitchen. Pilar could easily have lost consciousness from breathing in the smoke, but Inti would not let that happen. Even though Inti could have escaped the house through a cat door, he wouldn't leave Pilar. A fireman at the scene said, "Without question, that cat is responsible for saving his owner's life. He should be honored as a hero."



As amazing as this story is, it is not as uncommon as you may think. There are countless stories of animals coming to the aid of humans in life-threatening situations. Animals are said to have a sixth sense for danger. Often, they are alert to danger before humans are and have used this awareness to protect humans from harm.

Take the example of Charlotte Lee and her horse, Thunder. One warm, summer night, the whole family was asleep with the windows open. It was normally very quiet where they lived.

There were only a few farm houses scattered about the area and hardly any traffic. All of a sudden, there was a loud crashing noise from the stable. Charlotte woke up with a start, and her heart pounding, as the noise continued. She was so frightened, she froze; no matter how hard she tried she could not move. The noise stopped as suddenly as it had started, and she heard a horse galloping towards the house. The next thing she saw was Thunder standing outside her window, neighing and shaking his head as he stomped on the wooden porch. She knew enough about horses to know that Thunder was disturbed for a reason, and wasted no time speculating. She quickly got everyone out of the house before the earthquake hit. Part of the roof caved in and crashed into her room. Thunder had deliberately saved her life.



Yet it is not only domesticated animals who have acted heroically. There are also stories of wild animals coming to the rescue of humans. One animal known to be a friend and protector of humans is the dolphin. Dolphins are considered to be among the most intelligent of animals. On dozens of occasions, they have used this intelligence to come to the aid of humans in dangerous situations. One such story involves a surfer named Todd Endris. Todd was surfing with his friends when he was attacked by a 13-foot (4-meter) shark. In the middle of the attack, a group of dolphins came to his rescue by forming a protective ring around Endris until he could get safely to shore. Without the help of the dolphins, there is little chance that Todd would have survived.



At times, even animals commonly considered aggressive and dangerous have come to the aid of humans. One famous case involves Binti Jua, an eight-year-old female gorilla who lives at the Brookfield Zoo in Illinois, U.S.A. Binti was celebrated as a hero when she protected a three-year-old boy who fell into the walled gorilla area. Binti picked up the unconscious boy, carefully cradled him in her arms, and brought him to the zookeeper's door so that he could be taken out. After four days in the hospital, the boy recovered completely.



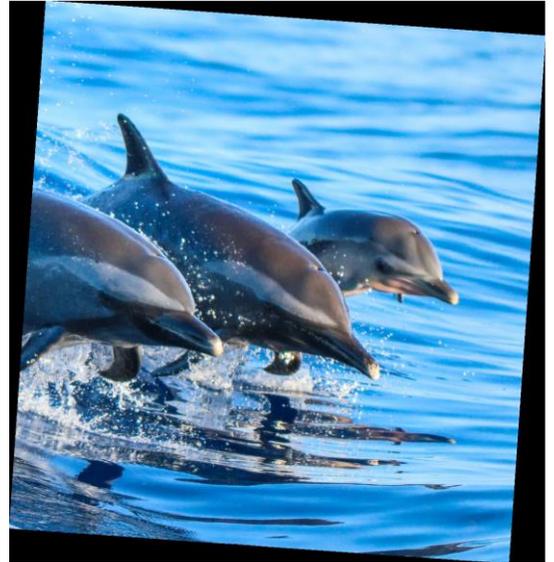
No one is sure why animals have so often come to our aid. However, it is clear evidence of the deep and powerful bond between humans and animals. It is important that we respect this bond by treating animals with the care and compassion that they often show us

## 7. Reading: All about Dolphins

Dolphins are marine mammals that are claimed to have evolved from land mammals some 50 or 60 million years ago! Studies indicate that they are the closely related to hippos, camels, and cows! There has been an unending debate on the exact origin of dolphins and whales that is likely to continue for years to come. There are 32 types of dolphins that live in salt water. Dolphins eat about 20 to 25 kilos of fish per day. Their eating habits vary depending on the area and the time of year. If there is an abundance of fish, they will happily consume as much as they need. Interestingly, dolphins regulate their food intake according to the fat content of the fish available, and their hunger! In this sense, they can probably control their food intake more efficiently than humans! Did you also know that their brains weigh more than ours?

Dolphins can:

- recognize themselves in a mirror
- scan objects in the water using sonar
- sleep with one eye closed
- whistle and recognize each other by their whistles
- go to a depth of about 260 meters



There is mutual interest between dolphins and people. They are as interested in observing us as we are in them. Dolphins love having fun, communicating, and playing. They are also keen on helping and supporting their own kind and other species that are in danger. The bottlenose dolphin is the most studied and familiar to people, with a life expectancy of about 40 to 50 years. Bottlenose dolphins show an extraordinary connection with humans and have rescued injured divers repeatedly. These wonderful creatures deserve our admiration and respect and need to be protected.

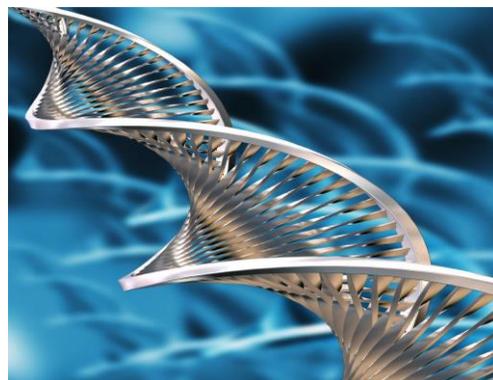
### **Narrative Reading: The Peregrine Falcon**

I've always liked falcons. I think their speed, marksmanship, and strength are unmatched. I have particularly admired Peregrines for their speed and hunting skills, but was not sure about their origin and habitat. It wasn't until I researched these incredible hunters that I discovered they could be found anywhere in the world. The Peregrine is the world's most widespread bird of prey. The name of the species means "wandering falcon"

## 8. Reading: Peeking into Our Medical Future

Did you know that a drop of your blood can predict diseases you may develop in the future? This is possible through genetic testing—testing that analyzes the genetic information found in the cells of your body. Each cell contains a sample of DNA. The information in DNA can help determine a person’s risk of developing certain diseases years from now.

The most common type of genetic testing is called “newborn screening.” The goal of newborn screening is to identify treatable genetic disorders in newborn babies. In many countries, infants are screened in the hospital shortly after they are born. Although it is rare to find that a baby has a genetic disorder, those that do have a disorder start receiving treatment right away. This early diagnosis and treatment prevent physical and mental problems, and sometimes even death.



Another type of genetic testing is called “predictive gene testing.” This is used to predict an adult’s risk of developing certain diseases later in life. People who undergo this type of genetic testing are usually from a family in which many members have had a particular inherited disease, like certain cancers or Alzheimer’s disease.

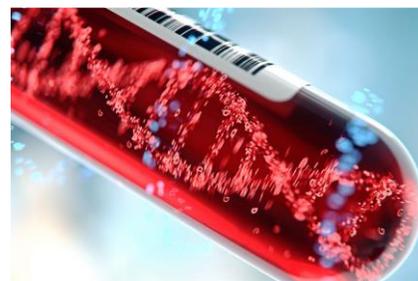
There are many obvious benefits to this kind of testing. A negative test (a test that says a person is not likely to develop a disorder) can bring a tremendous sense of relief. Jen Thomson, who recently underwent predictive gene testing for colon cancer, explains, “So many people in my family died of colon cancer, I worried constantly. When the test came back negative, I felt as if someone had lifted an enormous weight off my shoulders.” A positive test has benefits as well. It warns of the need for preventative care, like frequent checkups, dietary changes, medicines, or even the option of surgically removing the part likely to develop the disease. For example, if Thomson’s test had been positive, she might have chosen to have her colon removed.



There are also some controversial downsides to genetic testing. The value of genetic testing is particularly questionable when testing for a disease that is untreatable. For example, Alzheimer’s disease runs in An Lee’s family. An has decided to get genetic testing to see if she is likely to develop it. Her husband Bao is not happy about her choice. Bao explains, “If the result is positive, how will it help to know that she will probably develop the disease?”

If I had the Alzheimer’s gene, I wouldn’t want to know.” Another issue is that even if someone tests positively for a disease, it doesn’t mean that they will definitely develop the disease. So, a person could spend years worrying about something that never ends up happening.

Genetic testing has the potential to impact millions of lives in the future. Many are excited about the future of genetics, while others have deep concerns about it. But for better or for worse, soon we may all have the ability to peek into our medical future.



## 9. Reading: Mind over Matter

Imagine yourself sitting on the couch, exhausted after a long day, wishing you had the TV remote control. Wouldn't it be great if, instead of getting up to pick it up from the coffee table, you could use your mind to turn the TV on and flip through the channels? This idea may sound like science fiction, but it may not be as far-fetched as it sounds.

The ability to move objects with the mind is known as telekinesis. It has long been speculated that people use only a small portion of their brains. It is said that if we used the full potential of our brain, we would discover that it has amazing abilities, including the ability to move objects without touching them.

One person famous for her alleged ability to use her brain this way was Nina Kulagina. Kulagina, a Russian housewife born in 1927, caused a sensation in the 1960s and 70s with her alleged mental powers. Kulagina demonstrated her ability in a number of experiments, many of which were filmed. In one experiment, she separated the yolk and the white of an egg dropped into a tank of water. In her most incredible experiment, Kulagina used her mind to slow a frog's heartbeat until it stopped completely.



Many in the scientific community are skeptical about whether Kulagina's powers were real or just a trick. However, many of these same people believe it is entirely possible for the brain to move an object—with the help of technology. For decades, scientists have been working on finding a way to make it possible for disabled people who do not have use of their hands to control devices with the brain. Recently, great progress has been made in this effort.

In 2004, a paralyzed 25-year-old man named Matthew Nagle became the first person to benefit from such technology. Nagle had a chip that could read his mind implanted in his brain. Wires connected to both the chip and a computer fed the information from the chip into the computer. The computer analyzed this information, and converted it into computer commands. The computer then sent these commands to various devices in Nagle's home.

As a result, Nagle was able to do things like turn the lights in his home on and off, and open email, just by thinking about doing these things. The hope is that one day this technology will make it possible for people like Nagle to regain the use of their arms and legs.

Recent research has focused on making this technology simpler by replacing the computer chip with a cap. Brain waves can be picked up by the cap and sent to a computer, which then carries out the commands. The advantage of this approach is that the cap is wireless and does not require surgery. However, further research is needed to make this wireless technology as effective as the brain chip.

While this technology has the possibility of dramatically improving the lives of disabled people, there are also many less dramatic, commercial uses for it. For example, one company is developing a remote control that can be controlled with thoughts. So the next time you are feeling too lazy to get off the couch to get the remote control, take heart—soon you may indeed be able to stay on the couch and turn on your TV without lifting a finger!



# Dialogues

## TERM-3

## 1- Shopping at the Groceries

- ▶) Good morning. Can I weigh those for you?
- ▶) Yes. And how much are the tomatoes?
- ▶) Eight cents a pound. How many do you like?
- ▶) Three will be enough. I also want this head of lettuce.
- ▶) How much do I owe you?
- ▶) Oh, you don't pay here. You pay at the check-out counter when you leave.
- ▶) Sorry about that.
- ▶) Can I help you ?
- ▶) I'd like a chicken, please.
- ▶) Would you like it whole or cut up?
- ▶) Whole fryer please. I'll cut it up myself, thanks.
- ▶) Yes, sir?
- ▶) I'd like a loaf of bread, please.
- ▶) Do you want rye, whole wheat, or white bread?
- ▶) I'll take the rye bread.

## 2- Shopping at the Mall

- ▶ Are you being helped?
- ▶ No, I'm not.
- ▶ I'm looking for gifts for my children, possibly t-shirts.
- ▶ For a girl or a boy?
- ▶ Both. I have a son and a daughter.
- ▶ What sizes do you need?
- ▶ I guess I'll need a large for my son and medium for my daughter.
- ▶ How about the color?
- ▶ I think I'll get a light green shirt for my daughter and navy blue one for my son.
- ▶ Are they easy to take care of?
- ▶ Yes, they're machine-washable and shouldn't fade or shrink very much.
- ▶ Fine. I'll take the two shirts.
- ▶ How about something for your wife?
- ▶ Not right now. I'm going to look some more.
- ▶ Where's the fine jewelry?
- ▶ Right over there, to the left.

### 3- Dialogue

**Maya:** Are you hungry?

**Lisa:** A little.

**Maya:** I can make a snack. How about some nachos?

**Lisa:** Oh, thank you, but I don't want to (1) . Come to think of it , you're busy with other things.

**Maya:** It's no trouble at all. I can (2) whip them up! Really, I make them all the time and it's very fast.

**Lisa:** Thanks, I'd love some, but to tell you the truth, I (3) have a sweet tooth. How about something sugary?

**Maya:** Oh, no problem. (4) in no time, I baked cookies this morning. I almost forgot! I also have some cake that I made yesterday and leftover pie from two days ago. Please help yourself to any of it.

**Lisa:** Wow! This is a huge (5) spread! There are so many choices! You're (6 quite the cook, aren't you? I'm impressed.

**Maya:** Oh, thank you! I just hope you'll save room for dinner!

**Lisa:** Well, I'll try, but I can't make any promises.

## 4- Dialogue

**Nawal:** Thank you so much for this wonderful meal! It must've taken all day to make such a phenomenal spread.

**Fadwa:** My pleasure. It was no hassle at all. I whipped it up in no time.

**Nawal:** You are quite the cook. I don't think I've ever had such a gourmet meal.

**Fadwa:** I'm so glad you're enjoying it. Can I give you some more of the chicken?

**Nawal:** Oh, no thanks. I'm absolutely stuffed.

**Fadwa:** Would you like to try the grilled asparagus?

**Nawal:** No, really, I couldn't possibly eat more.

**Fadwa:** Are you sure?

**Nawal:** Absolutely. Honestly, I couldn't eat another bite.

**Fadwa:** Oh, that's a shame. I made two different desserts. One is a chocolate raspberry layer cake and the other is almond crème brûlée.

**Nawal:** Did you say chocolate raspberry cake? I'm sure I could fit in a bit of that. And maybe I'll have a bite of crème brûlée as well. I have a sweet tooth, you know.

## 5- Dialogue

**Alya:** Well, I think the first thing we need to do is decide when we're going on vacation. I mean, if we don't decide soon, we won't be able to make reservation.

**Fadia:** Oh, yes.

**Alya:** So, I have, Uhhh, five vacation days left.

**Fadia:** Really? I thought you only had four.

**Alya:** No, no. I have five, and you have five too, don't you?

**Fadia:** Yeah. You know, I'd like to go to Malaysia again and go to the beach. What about you?

**Alya:** Ok, I think I'd like that too. We could go back to that hotel on the beach, I mean, The Big Blue.

**Fadia:** Great! Let's make a reservation.

## 6. Daily Routine of a College Student

Sara has been the topper of her college for two consecutive years! She is being interviewed by the media.

**Interviewer:** Sara congratulations once again. How does it feel to be the topper for two consecutive years?

**Sara:** Well, It feels great. I feel all my prayers and hard work were totally worth it.

**I:** We would love to know what your morning routine is as a college student.

**S:** My routine as a college student is quite simple. I make sure that I get up at 5:00 a.m. Firstly, I make my ablution and pray. Then, I exercise for thirty minutes. After that, I take a quick shower and head straight to the kitchen. I make myself a cup of strong coffee and breakfast. Next, I check my mail and messages while I am eating. Then, I get ready by 7:00 a.m. Last but not least, I go through my notes and assignments for half an hour because it gives me a quick recap of my lessons and leaves me well-prepared.

**I:** Do you think that studying on a daily basis is a must?

**S:** Of course, I strongly believe that studying on daily basis is the key to success. Not only it gives you good grades, but also raises your self-esteem. You feel more confident and less stressed.

**I:** Tell us about your study daily routine as well?

**S:** Sure, my studying routine starts right from the morning as I have said. I recap my lessons before heading to my college. Once I am in college, I put my phone on airplane mode and carefully listen to the lecturer. While I listen, I make sure to take down running notes. Then, I approach my lecturers in their free hours if I need any extra clarification. By the time I am home, I have a clear picture of my lesson and my assignments. I study for three to four hours minimum after I am back.

**I:** So, don't you have any leisure time for yourself?

**S:** Honestly, my leisure time is not more than an hour. During this time, I watch television or spend time with my family. After that, I have to get back to my studies.

**I:** Thank you so much for sharing your routine with us. It is truly inspiring.

**S:** The pleasures are all mine.

## 7. Asking about Universities

**Mona:** Hello Sara, How are you doing?

**Sara:** I am doing great. What about you?

**M:** I am extremely confused regarding my career choices.

**S:** I have an idea. Why don't you take advice from a career counsellor? I did, and it was of great help.

**M:** Thank you. I surely will.

\*(Mona then calls Career Solutions, a place which helps students make good choices about future studies)\*

**Tanya:** Hi there! Welcome to Career Solutions. I am Tanya. Tell me, how can I help you?

**M:** Hello, I am Mona. I needed some assistance regarding my career choices. I am in a quandary and not able to decide what would be the best option for me.

**T:** Sure thing, I will help you in the best way possible so that you can make the best decision for your future.

**M:** Yes, please. I am thoroughly confused.

**T:** Okay. So, are you from the commerce stream or science?

**M:** Commerce stream.

**T:** Let's start. Have you taken the aptitude test?

**M:** Yes, I appeared for it last week only.

**T:** That's great. So I will be asking you a series of question, some of them could be personal. By personal, I mean they would concern your family. Is that okay?

**M:** Yes, it is absolutely fine. Please proceed.

**T:** What made you take the commerce stream after Class Xth?

**M:** I come from a business background. My father deals in imports and exports so he suggested to me that this would the best academic line.

**T:** So this was not your choice?

**M:** I am fine with it. I love mathematics and accounting, and the science field did not interest me.

**T:** That's great. So you are looking to get into the field of finance and accounting?

**M:** I am extremely confused! People have suggested me to go for C.A., while others have recommended going for B.Com, while still others are telling me to do Statistics. I can't do them all!

**T:** I see. We have an interesting dilemma here. But from what you have told me, you love mathematics and accounting, right?

**M:** Yes indeed.

**T:** I would suggest you go for C.A. then because that is core finance and will make you far more adept than doing B.Com or Statistics.

**M:** Oh, that means C.A. is more beneficial? What's the employment situation like for those who do C.A.?

**T:** It is excellent. Firms of accounting and audit offer great packages if you are a C.A. and good at your job.

**M:** That's good to hear. I want to get into my family business only after gaining 10 years of corporate experience.

**T:** I would suggest you start studying earnestly for C.A. Selection; it is difficult, but the rewards are immense if you get through.

**M:** Great. This was really enlightening. I am now clear about what my next step should be. Thanks!

**T:** Happy to help you, Mona. If you found our services useful, would request you to leave a review on our official website!

**M:** I will do that for sure. Thank you once again!

\*(After the call, she meets her friend Sara again)\*

**Sara:** How did the counselling go? Did it solve your confusion?

**Mona:** Yes, thank you so much for your advice. I am no more confused about choosing my career.

**S:** That's great news. May Allah make it easy for you.

**M:** Aameen.

## **8. Planning for Future:**

Lori and Sara are friends. Lori works in an office and Sara works in a toy shop. One day they meet and plan their weekend.

**Lori:** So, what are your plans for this weekend?

**Sara:** I don't know. Do you want to get together or something?

**L:** That sounds like a good idea. Maybe we should go out to eat somewhere.

**S:** It is fine with me. Where do you want to meet?

**L:** Let's meet at Summer Pizza House. I have not gone there for a long time.

**S:** Great! I heard they just came up with a new pizza. It should be good because Summer Pizza House always has the best pizza in town.

**L:** When should we meet?

**S:** Why don't we go to Summer Pizza House at noon?

**L:** My cousin Karen is in town. Can I bring her along? I hate to leave her home alone.

**S:** Karen is in town? Yes, bring her along. We met her at Carla's high school graduation party two years ago right?

**L:** Yes, true that.

**S:** I do not quite remember her. What does she look like?

**L:** She has blond hair, she is kind of slender, and she is about your height.

**S:** Does she wear glasses?

**L:** Yes, and she was playing the piano off and on during the party.

**S:** I remember her now. Yes, do bring her along Sara. She is such a nice person and funny too.

**L:** She will be happy to meet you.

**S:** What is she doing these days?

**L:** She graduated last June, and she will start her teaching career next week when the new school term begins.

**S:** What grade is she going to teach?

**L:** Kindergarten.

**S:** Does she know how to handle young children?

**L:** I think the first few weeks will be tough. However, once the routine is set, it should not be too difficult to teach kindergarten.

**S:** You are right. The kids might even look forward to going to school since they have so many friends to play with.

**L:** There are so many new things for them to do at school too. They do a lot of crafts in kindergarten. I am always amazed by the things kindergarten teachers do.

**S:** Maybe we can stop by the craft store after the pizza. What do you think?

**L:** I will talk to her. I think she will like that. It will help her with school projects. There is Michael's store not far away from Summer Pizza House. I believe it is just around the corner, on Pioneer Avenue. We can even walk over there.

**S:** Michael's is a good store for crafts. It always carries a variety of things, and you can find almost anything there. So, we plan to meet for pizza at noon and shop at Michael's afterward. Right?

**L:** Yes. Bye. See you tomorrow.

**S:** See you too.

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Conversation

## TERM -3

## Conversation: 1



Complete the conversation with the phrases from the box.

cheer her up

getting to

killer

You blow me away

Do you get it

I have a good one

To tell you the truth

Alia: Hey, Farah!

Farah: What's up, Alia?

Alia: Not much. Are you ready to go? It's going to be a (1) killer game!

Farah: I know! I'm so excited! Wait...where's Mona? I thought she was coming with us.

Alia: Nah. Mona didn't feel like going. She's been a bit down lately. She says all the studying is (2) getting to her.

Farah: Oh. That's too bad! Maybe we can go and (3) cheer her up. I'll tell her some jokes.

Alia: That's a great idea!

Farah: Actually, (4) I have a good one.

Alia: OK. Let's hear it.

Farah: Two men are talking. The first man says, "My cat has no nose."

The second man asks, "How does it smell?" and the first man replies,

"Terrible." (5) Do you get it?

Alia: Yeah, of course I get it! That was funny! (6) You blow me away,

Farah! Where do you get these jokes?

Farah: (7) To tell you the truth, I look them up on the Internet.

Alia: Hmm...maybe I'd rather not know. C'mon, let's go cheer up Mona!

## Conversation: 2



Read the conversation. Circle the correct adjectives.

Jamela: Hey Alla'a, what's wrong?

Alla'a: Oh nothing. I'm just ( exhausted / exhausting ). I've been working all week.

It's really (1) ( annoyed / annoying ).

Jamela: That sounds (2) ( depressed / depressing ). Will you get a break this weekend?

There's an (3) ( interested / interesting ) restaurant opening.

Alla'a: I would like to, but I have to take care of my little brother. I'm really (4) ( disappointed / disappointing ) because I need a break.

Jamela: Well, maybe you can do something (5) ( entertained / entertaining ) with your little brother.

Alla'a: Yeah, we'll probably go downtown. The only thing is that I'm (6) ( embarrassed / embarrassing ) to be seen hanging out with a twelve-year-old.

Jamela: Really? That's (7) ( puzzled / puzzling ). I'm sure people will admire you for taking care of your little brother!

Alla'a: That's true. Hopefully I won't be too (8) ( irritated / irritating ) by hanging out with him all weekend.

## Conversation: 3



### *Real Talk*

*spread = an abundant meal laid out on a table*

*whipped it up = made it quickly and easily*

*in no time = very quickly*

*quite the (something) = a very good (something)*

*Come to think of it = Something has just occurred to me*

*have a sweet tooth = love desserts and candy*

**Nawal:** Thank you so much for this wonderful meal! It must've taken all day to make such a phenomenal spread.

**Fadwa:** My pleasure. It was no hassle at all. I whipped it up in no time.

**Nawal:** You are quite the cook. I don't think I've ever had such a gourmet meal.

**Fadwa:** I'm so glad you're enjoying it. Can I give you some more of the chicken?

**Nawal:** Oh, no thanks. I'm absolutely stuffed.

**Fadwa:** Would you like to try the grilled asparagus?

**Nawal:** No, really, I couldn't possibly eat more.

**Fadwa:** Are you sure?

**Nawal:** Absolutely. Honestly, I couldn't eat another bite.

**Fadwa:** Oh, that's a shame. I made two different desserts. One is a chocolate raspberry layer cake and the other is almond cr me br l e.

**Nawal:** Did you say chocolate raspberry cake? Come to think of it, it's rude to turn down food, right? I'm sure I could fit in a bit of that. And maybe I'll have a bite of cr me br l e as well. I have a sweet tooth, you know.

### *About the Conversation*

- 1. Does Nawal assume Fadwa went to a lot of trouble to cook the meal? What does Nawal say?*
- 2. What foods did Fadwa prepare?*
- 3. What change of attitude does Nawal have? What causes this change?*

### *Your Turn*

*Role-play with a partner. Pretend you are hosting dinner for a family member. Act out the meal, using the phrases from the box for offering, accepting, and declining food and drink.*

## Conversation: 4



Complete the conversation with the words and phrases from the box.

come to think of it  
have a sweet tooth  
up in no time

quite the  
put you out

spread  
whip them

Maya: Are you hungry?

Lisa: A little.

Maya: I can make a snack. How about some nachos?

Lisa: Oh, thank you, but I don't want to (1) put you out.

You're busy with other things.

Maya: It's no trouble at all. I can (2) whip them up in no time ! Really, I make them all the time and it's very fast.

Lisa: Thanks, I'd love some, but to tell you the truth, I (3) have a sweet tooth. How about something sugary?

Maya: Oh, no problem. (4) come to think of it , I baked cookies this morning. I almost forgot! I also have some cake that I made yesterday and leftover pie from two days ago. Please help yourself to any of it.

Lisa: Wow! This is a huge (5) spread! There are so many choices! You're (6) quite the cook, aren't you? I'm impressed.

Maya: Oh, thank you! I just hope you'll save room for dinner!

Lisa: Well, I'll try, but I can't make any promises.

## Conversation: 5



Use the phrasal verbs and objects to complete the conversation. Change the order of the words in each item.

Ola: Hey Lama, have you ever (becoming / thought / a vegetarian / about)  
thought about becoming a vegetarian ?

Lama: Not really. I think it would be difficult to (1) (meat / up / give) give up meat .

Ola: It's actually not hard at all, and it's a way to (2) (down / cut / foods / on)  
Cut down on foods that are high in fat and cholesterol.

Lama: I just feel like I would (3) (run / of / energy / out) run out off energy or  
(4) (a cold / down / with / come) come down with a cold if I didn't  
get nutrients from meat.

Ola: Actually, most vegetarians (5) (load / on / up / other foods) load up on other foods , such as vegetables, fruit, bread, and cheese, and those have nutrients in them too.

Lama: That's true. But what if I (6) (turn / a health nut / into) turn into a health nut?

Ola: Well, there's nothing wrong with that! And anyway, I know you can  
(7) (up / lots of delicious foods / whip) whip up lots of delicious foods .

Lama: Well, it might be fun, but I have to (8) (over / think / it) think it over .

## Conversation: 6



***Hang in there! = Don't give up!***

***24/7 = all day and night, non-stop (24 hours a day/7 days a week)***

***get to the point = be direct***

***calling the shots = in charge and making the decisions***

***back to the drawing board = to have to start a process over again from the beginning***

**Jana: I'm interested in speaking to someone about horse training.**

**A friend of mine suggested I come here.**

**Amal: What kind of problems are you having with your horse?**

**Jana: He's a beautiful, strong, and affectionate horse, but he's driving me crazy. He won't follow instructions. He will gallop instead of cantering, he won't turn when I need him to, and if he spots a patch of grass he'll head straight for it and ignore me completely.**

**Amal: I gather you have a young stallion. I will check the schedule and we can arrange training sessions for you and your horse. Hang in there!**

**Jana: OK, but in the meantime, I really need some advice. How should I handle him when he disobeys?**

**Amal: Well, I can try and give you a few tips now. You say he'll head straight for a patch of grass when he sees one. Do you let him do that when you are out riding?**

**Jana: Well, sometimes. But only if I want to stop for a minute or so.**

**Amal: You need to set rules and then stick with them 24/7. If you're not consistent, he's not going to learn.**

**Jana: OK. But when he is all friendly and nice, it's hard not to let him do what he wants.**

**Amal: Look, I'm going to get to the point. It sounds to me like your horse is calling the shots. You need to be firmer.**

**If you train your horse not to do something then suddenly let him do it, you'll be back to the drawing board.**

### ***About the Conversation***

- 1. What problems is Jana having with her horse?***
- 2. What advice does Amal give her 3. How does Jana respond to Amal's advice?***

### ***Your Turn***

***Role-play with a partner. Tell your partner about a problem you are having in school or in your personal life. Describe the situation and ask for advice***

## Conversation: 7



Complete the conversation with the phrases from the box.

24/7

back to the drawing board

calling the shots

get to the point

hang in there

Badria: I found this cat outside our apartment door yesterday.

Mariam: Really? Did you call the building security? You can give them its tag number and they'll tell you who it belongs to.

Badria: I did call them, but they said its tags weren't valid. So it was (1) back to the drawing board.

Mariam: Well, maybe you could call the animal shelter.

Badria: Actually, I already did that too. They said they are very busy because people are finding stray cats (2) 24/7. They will only keep it for three days before they put it to sleep.

Mariam: Really? That's so fast!

Badria: I know. I think so too, but I'm not the person (3) calling the shots at the shelter, so there's nothing I can do about it.

Mariam: Well, if I were you, I'd try to find someone to adopt it.

Badria: Good idea. So, let me (4) get to the point. Are you interested in adopting this cat?

Mariam: Me? Actually, my mom won't let me have a cat. I'm sorry. But (5) hang in there ! Somebody will want to adopt it.

## Conversation: 8



### *Real Talk*

*rotten = bad*

*I wouldn't put it past him. = I believe he would do that.*

*blow the whistle on = to reveal and put a stop to wrongdoing*

*call = decision*

**Khaled:** Can I talk to you about a problem I'm struggling with?

**Majid:** Sure. What's going on?

**Khaled:** Well, I've been working at a clothing store in the mall for a month now. Last week I saw a guy I work with stuffing a shirt into his bag. When I asked him about it, he acted all innocent. Then this week, I caught him taking a pair of pants. This time he promised he wouldn't steal anything again and begged me not to tell the manager.

**Majid:** So what are you going to do?

**Khaled:** That's the problem, I don't know. If I told the manager, he would get fired.

**Majid:** Yeah, but now that you know about it, if you don't tell the manager, you'll be helping him get away with stealing. He's put you in a rotten position.

**Khaled:** I know. What do you think I should do?

**Majid:** The way I see it, if he's stolen twice before, he's likely to steal again. You can't trust him. Do you think he might even steal from the cash register?

**Khaled:** I wouldn't put it past him.

**Majid:** It seems to me that you may get yourself in trouble if you don't blow the whistle on him. Of course, it's your call, but if I were you, I would let the manager know.

**Khaled:** Yeah. You're probably right.

### *About the Conversation*

*1. What problem is Khaled struggling with?*

*2. What is Majid's opinion? 3. What do you think Khaled will do?*

### *Your Turn*

*Create your own conversation.*

*Tell your partner about a situation you are struggling with. Your partner will give his or her opinion.*

## Conversation: 9



Complete the conversation, using the correct form of *used to*, *be used to*, *would*, *was/ were going to*.

Tala: Can I talk to you about a problem I'm struggling with?

Jumana: Sure. What's going on?

Tala: My brother isn't doing very well in his history class. He (1. be) was a really hardworking student and he (2. always/listen) always listened to the teacher. But lately he has become distracted. Anyway, he has asked me to write his history report for him. I (3. not/want) did not want to but I now think that maybe I should. He is my brother after all.

Jumana: I don't know. It seems kind of dishonest to me. If your brother (4. be) was such a good student, why can't he write his own report?

Tala: Well, he really wants to join the school football team and he hasn't been concentrating on his studies. I've written a few papers for him over the last few months ...

Jumana: Oh no, Tala! That's terrible! You should stop writing those papers.

Tala: I know, but I want my brother to do well in school. Mom and Dad (5. be/use) were used to him getting great grades and they will be so disappointed if he fails. If I help him, he will get a better grade in history. Also, he promised that he will do all my chores for the next month, if I write the paper for him...

## Conversation: 10



### Sounding Natural

When you speak in English, it's important to try to sound as natural as possible. Ways of making your English sound natural include fillers, which are words and phrases which don't really mean anything, but which speakers often use to open a sentence or give them a little extra time to think. Other ways of sounding natural are to take turns in a conversation instead of dominating it, and to make sounds which show that you're interested in what the other person is saying.

Fillers	Uhhh... Well... Right... You know... I mean... OK...
Turn taking	What do you think? What about you? And you? Do you agree or...?
Showing signs of interest	Really? Oh, yes. Uh-huh. Is that right?

A. Complete the conversation with appropriate phrases from the box.

Alya: You know, I think the first thing we need to do is decide when we're going on vacation.

Well, if we don't decide soon, we won't be able to make reservation.

Fadia: What do you think?

Alya: So, I have, yes, five vacation days left.

Fadia: Really? I thought you only had four.

Alya: No, no. I have five, and you have five too, don't you?

Fadia: Yeah. yes, I'd like to go to Malaysia again and go to the beach. What about you?

Alya: Well, I think I'd like that too. We could go back to that hotel on the beach, you know, The Big Blue.

Fadia: Great! Let's make a reservation.

B. Practice conversations with your partner on the following topics. Make sure you take turns and show interest in at one another is saying.

1. Planning a graduation ceremony for your class
2. Your favorite TV show
3. Your favorite time of the year
4. Your career plans
5. The best cell phone to buy

9<sup>th</sup> POEMS

Term 3

## POEM-11



### **What is life?**

Have you ever thought what is life?  
Why do we even live?  
Are we alive to take from people?  
Or are we alive to give

Maybe every day is a dream  
And our dreams are a reality  
Or all our life we are trapped in a room  
And when we die we find the key

We may live to benefit others  
And we aim to always make them smile  
Because happy moments we live  
Are very worthwhile

I think life is all about spreading the love  
In every move we make  
Also to give everyday  
And try not to overtake

## POEM-12



### **Everybody has the chance**

Everybody has the chance

To do a good deed

If you are driving near a school

Lower down your speed

Or maybe when you see the homeless

Give them a pound or two

Lower the sound on the T.V

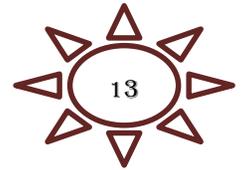
If the elderly live near you

I am not saying that you must

Give away lungs or your heart

But remember it's the smallest things

That play the biggest part



## Appreciate and love

If we are blessed with eyes  
Why do we not see  
Are the ears we are given  
Not capable of you and me

Why do our fingers just  
Touch and not feel  
And our minds hold evil  
Not memories which are real

We should see a child, a baby  
A husband and wife  
And appreciate the amazement  
Of the miracle of life

We should hear the birds chirp  
In the early hours of the day  
And listen carefully for their wings  
As they flutter away

We should feel the heat on our skin  
As the sun rises each morning  
Or the breath we've been blessed with  
As we cover our mouth yawning

We should remember the things people do  
And the desires they've met  
Instead of memorizing their mistakes  
And being too stubborn to forget

Life has been taken for granted  
And stripped of its beauty  
We must appreciate and love  
As this is our only duty



**Inspired to Write Poetry – Finding Inspiration  
Between the line**

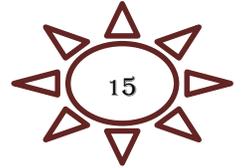
I have beautiful ideas  
But it's not easy to let them free  
Anyway I have the talent of writing poems  
So it's not that hard for me.

But sometimes my ideas don't come out  
It's like there are bars around my skull  
And then the poem I write  
Comes out really dull.

My inspiration sometimes comes out magically  
With the colors of the rainbow  
This is because I am inspired quickly  
And my ideas smoothly flow.

They come like falling hailstones  
And I try to put them on paper before they reach the ground  
I always look around for something inspiring  
And this is how my ideas are found.

I know this may sound easy  
Well it is not, not sometimes  
The ideas are not always there in front of me  
I have to look for them between the lines



## Judgement Poems

Judgement Poems – **Poem** about judgments

‘Narrow-minded people are destroying humanity by far’

It’s strange don’t you think

The way judgment is passed around?

We make our own vision of someone

Without a clue of their background

We assume we’ve got them all figured out

Without even knowing who they are

And half of the time we don’t realize

Their hearts are sweeter than ours by far

That girl in the corner who looks so shy

She isn’t a loser who has lost her tongue

You didn’t think maybe she is afraid to talk

Because she has been bullied since she was young

Or that boy with the anger problems

He doesn’t want to punch people so smugly

He just hopes if they’re afraid of him

So one day they might stop calling him ugly

The beautiful girl who goes missing each lunch

Don’t call her a freak and talk about her each night

Maybe she just doesn’t want you to know

About the eating disorder, she is trying to fight

I am begging you all to stop judging people

And assuming you know who they are

Because it’s the narrow-minded people

Who is destroying humanity by far

**THE END**