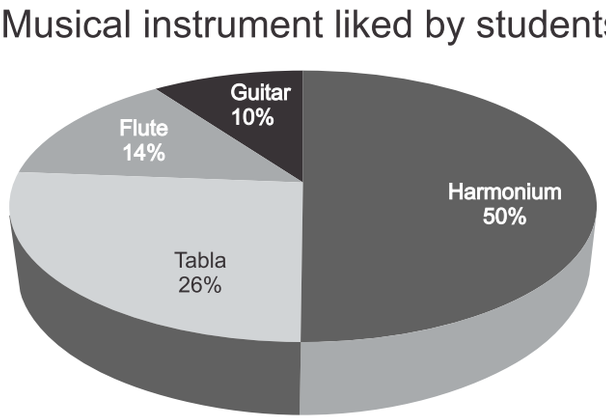
UNIT 3

MOHAN AND HIS VEENA

B8D5D9

Pre-task

Study this pie chart and write a paragraph by answering the questions.



Que. 1. Which is the most popular musical instrument?

Que. 2. Which is the least popular musical instrument?

Que. 3. How many of the students like the flute?

Que. 4. What is the difference between the popularity of flute and that of tablas?

Que. 5. Which instrument is liked by half of the students?

Read

Mohan was born in a family of musicians. Music was in his blood. He grew up with musicians. Like his father and other family members, he was initially trained in vocal music and then he tried his hand at the violin. When he was about ten, he started liking sitar. He was also trained in it and played it for about three years.

A German lady came to stay with Mohan's family to learn music from his father. It was then that the guitar entered his life. He began his experiments with that beautiful instrument. "No other instrument now in my life. I want to play the guitar only," said Mohan to himself. Guitar took all his time.

"Guitar! The whole day guitar! Ours is a family where sitar, vocals and classical violin are practised. The guitar does not have the effect which our instruments do and moreover, it's not from India." said one of the family members. "Do you know your father does not approve your love for the guitar?" said his aunty. But his mother came to help him. "Let him follow his heart's desire." she



declared. Then his father started supporting him. He was overjoyed and decided to modify this western instrument. He tried to make it suitable for playing pure Indian classical music. He spent two more years with guitar only.

One evening there was a gathering of close family friends. In this small gathering Mohan's brother, sister and nephews (who were also performing artists) played music on their classical instruments. There was a great appreciation. Mohan, too, expressed his wish to perform. He played on guitar.

After his performance, a relative said, "You need to work very hard with the new instrument.'' one of the relatives said, ''If it were the sitar, you would have been in competition with your brother and sister. You have already spent two years on it, but still this instrument needs more.''

After his performance someone said, "The sitar's sound is like a flowing stream. Your instrument doesn't have that depth."

Yet another said, "Your brother plays the violin; his sur and tal are so beautiful. What are you doing with this instrument?"

Mohan was depressed and cried for the whole night. He had already given two years of his life to this instrument..

"But from the heart, I am made for guitar. There is no instrument for me but the guitar." He thought.

This instrument will become my face to the world. I am sure, I am going to make it big, very big." he was determined.

This experience took place when Mohan was only 16 years of age. It was the turning point of his life. Mohan doubled his riyaaz and practised for about ten hours a day. He also studied other aspects of the guitar. He decided to incorporate the speciality, technique and sound of every instrument into the guitar. He wanted to invent something which gave the sound and tune of the western guitar but could be played like an Indian Veena.

"Not only the sound that my instrument produces is important, but it must also express my vision; what I want to say through the instrument," he said to himself and finally with untiring efforts and understanding of ragas he created the wonderful Mohan Veena. Today, the world knows Mohan as Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, winner of a Grammy award.

I just followed my heart's passion and here I am", said Mohan at the award ceremony in 1993.

Glossary

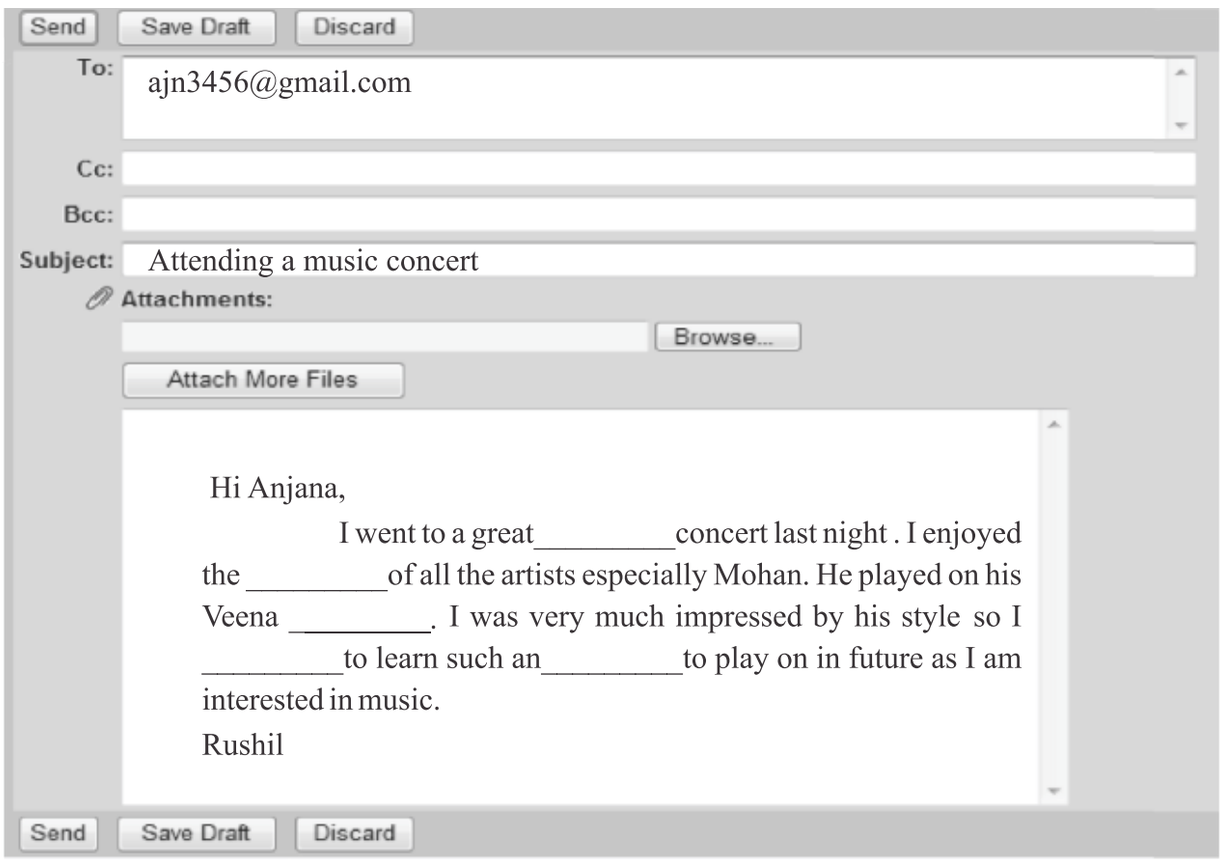
musical of music **expressed** show feelings by words **experiment** trial **instrument** device **perform** to do something, present before people **vocal** uttered by voice **incorporate** make something part of a whole, include **suitable** appropriate **approve** accept and appreciate **appreciation** understanding and enjoyment **determined** with one's mind made up, firmly decided **depressed** sad and without enthusiasm **beliefs** feeling that something is true **depth** deepness **aspects** particular feature

Vocabulary

V. 1 Make meaningful pairs of words or phrases from X and Y and write a sentence using X and Y in your context .

X	Y	**Example :** I tried my hand at the violin.
1. tried hand	a. his vision	_____
2. played/practised	b. life	_____
3. gathering of	c. at the violin	_____
4. turning point of	d. guitar	_____
5. shaped	e. family members	_____
6. expressed	f. the belief	_____

V. 2 Complete the e-mail using words in the bracket. Also fill in other details.
(determined, instrument, musical, melodiously, performances)



V. 3 Underline the word with the nearest meaning.

1. incorporate : include, associate, cooperate, coordinate
2. aspect : frame, feature, side, inspect
3. depressed : encouraged, expressed, rejected, sad
4. approve : appreciate, like, prove, appear
5. experiment : take trial, experience, expert, perform
6. instrument : device, utensil, bowl, spanner

Comprehension

C. 1 Mark the statements whether they are true or false.

(1) Mohan liked guitar when he was 10 years old.	T	F
(2) Mohan's father did not approve his love for guitar.	T	F
(3) Mohan's brother, sister and nephew were praised in the gathering.	T	F
(4) According to one remark, sitar has depth of sound.	T	F
(5) Mohan stopped playing guitar after the remark.	T	F
(6) Mohan Veena is not invented by Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt.	T	F
(7) Mohan followed his heart's passion.	T	F

C. 2 Arrange these sentences in proper order. Put the number in the boxes.

☐ Mohan was depressed and cried.

☐ He was attracted to guitar.

☐ He decided to work hard and make the instrument his face.

☐ He was not appreciated well in a family concert.

☐ Mohan got a Grammy award.

C. 3 Find out the sentences from the text having nearest meaning.

(1) He accepted guitar as an instrument of music.

(2) Guitar is not an instrument of Indian style and doesn't have effect like the other Indian musical instruments.

(3) Mohan was inspired to play an instrument because of the appreciation got by his brother, sister and nephew.

(4) Mohan increased the practice for guitar.

(5) Expression of vision about my thought through sound is important.

C. 4 Find out the reactions by different persons against Mohan's love for guitar.

Person	Reaction against Mohan's love for guitar
Mohan's aunty	**Eg: Do you know your father does not approve your love for the guitar?**
Mohan's mother	
Relative 1	
Relative 2	
Relative 3	
Relative 4	
Mohan himself	

C. 5 Answer the questions.

(1) What did Mohan learn in his early age?

(2) What was practised in Mohan's family?

(3) What do you know about the early learning of Mohan?

(4) Make a list of some Indian musical instruments.

(5) Which instrument attracted Mohan most?

(6) What did Mohan do to get success after the comments from relatives?

(7) What did Mohan do to invent Mohan Veena?

(8) Which two great achievements of Mohan are mentioned in this text?

- **Which instrument attracts you more? Why?**
- **Do you remember any incident when you didn't lose courage and succeeded though there were comments against your hobby? Narrate it.**
- **At the end of 'Grammy Award Ceremony' Mohan is answering questions of reporters. Frame questions as if you are a reporter.**

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____

6._____

7._____

Language Practice

L. 1 Read the passage and observe the underlined words.

Eight children were standing eagerly on the track to participate in the running event. With the sound of a toy pistol, all the eight girls started running swiftly. After just ten to fifteen steps, one of the girls suddenly slipped and fell down. When the other seven girls heard this sound, they stopped running, stood for a while and turned back. They all ran back anxiously to the place where the girl had fallen down. One among them bent, lifted and kissed the girl gently. All the seven girls lifted carefully the girl who had fallen down. Two of them held the girl firmly and all seven of them joined hands together and walked together and reached the winning post. Officials were shocked. Clapping of thousands of spectators filled the stadium. Many eyes were filled with tears and perhaps it had reached even God !

Yes. This happened in Hyderabad.

All these special girls had come to participate in this event and they were spastic children.

L. 2(A)Work in pairs. Note down all the underlined words in your book from the above passage. Make pairs of the action and the manner of that action.

Action	standing					
Manner	eagerly					

(B) Match the phrases given in the left column with the appropriate words given in the right column. Write down the correct pairs on separate chits. Give the chits to your teacher. The teacher will use them in sentences.

(A) Description of manner/way of action	(B) Word for manner
1. without making any noise	faultlessly
2. with great pleasure	proudly
3. in a serious manner	confidently
4. with pride	noiselessly/silently
5. with great skill	happily
6. without making a single mistake	naturally
7. in a natural way	seriously
8. with confidence	skilfully

Example : A. The students are reading in the library without making any noise.

B. The students are reading in the library silently.

L. 3 Choose any word expressing manner from the box given below and tell your friend to select the correct sentence to fill in the blanks. You can take help of your teacher to decide whether the sentence is true or false.

badly	smartly	dangerously
angrily	secretly	kindly

(1) When I broke my leg, my friend Rohan_____ offered help to take me school on his bicycle.

(2) We lost the football match by 4-3. I don't think we played _____but the opposite team played really_____.

(3) "You are late," said Sneha _____." Where have you been?"

(4) I am sure that the plan of bank robbery was made _____ by the thief.

(5) You drive the car quite _____. I won't be surprised if you meet with an accident one day.

L. 4 Practise the conversation selecting the words expressing frequency from the table and fill in the blanks. Work in pairs.

never	always	usually
occasionally	often	sometimes

A: What do you do on Sunday?

B: Nothing much. I _____ sleep until 9:00.

A: Do you go to bazaar on Saturday evening?

B: Yes, I do. I _____go for playing volley ball or I _____ go to the garden.

A: Do you drive to school?

B: No, I _____drive to school. I _____ take the bus.

A: What do you do after class?

B: I _____talk with friend or I _____go home.

A: Do you like new friends?

B: Yes, I _____like but I love my old friends too.

L. 5 Place the word expressing manner frequency at the correct place. Indicate the place by the sign ||.

(1) The new boy || waited outside the principal's office. (quietly)

_____

(2) We go to the zoo and stay for an hour or two there. (often, usually)

_____

(3) Mahesh fell down yesterday. He drove his new bicycle. (carelessly)

_____

(4) Everyone should be kind to animals. (always)

_____

(5) All the students were surprised when he cried in the class. (loudly)

_____

L. 6 Here is a game. Let's play.

Select the pair of words expressing action and manner which you can enact in the classroom. The teacher will ask the question to the class.

Words for action:

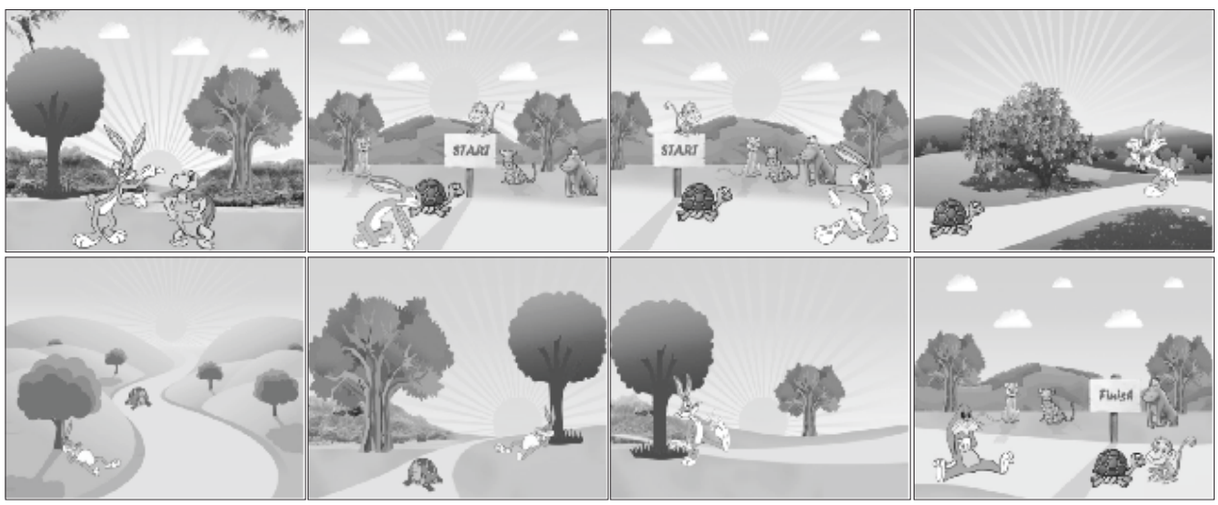
read, sit, shout, behave, cry, dance, walk, laugh, write

Words of manner:

quickly,	slowly,	angrily,	joyfully,	quietly,	loudly,
fearfully,	proudly,	secretly,	silently,	childishly,	painfully

Eg: Teacher: What is s/he doing?
Student: S/he is reading.
Teacher: How is s/he reading?
Student: S/he is reading silently/loudly.

L. 7 Write the famous story of the rabbit and the tortoise using the words showing the manner of action.



(proudly, calmly, silently, swiftly, lazily, steadily, hurriedly, slowly, etc.)

Once upon a time, a rabbit said proudly to a tortoise," You can't beat me _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Writing

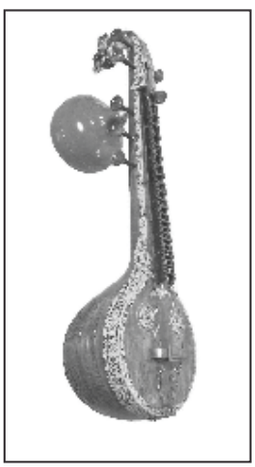
W. 1 Write a paragraph on 'My Hobby'.

W. 2 Here is a picture of a musical instrument with some information about it. Write a few lines about it.



- a keyboard-instrument similar to an organ.
- blows air through the air vessels reeds, producing musical notes.
- sounds like an accordion.
- two sorts of harmonium- a foot-pumped harmonium, and a hand-pumped harmonium
- used in music of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Afghanistan and in other Asian countries.
- used as an accompanying instrument in classical Hindustani music, Sufi music, Bhajan singing, musical renditions of the classics.

W. 3 Look at the musical instruments and write about them.



Veena



Guitar



Mohan Veena

DAYS OF THE WEEK

All round the world the seven days of the week are named, directly or indirectly, after the Sun, the Moon, and the five planets visible to the naked eye: Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus and Saturn.

Sunday	Day of the SUN
Monday	Day of the MOON
Tuesday	TRY'S day (Try is the Norse god of war; like the Roman god MARS)
Wednesday	WODEN'S day (Woden, or Odin, was identified with MERCURY)
Thursday	THOR'S day (Thor, the god of thunder, was identified with JUPITER, the god of Jove)
Friday	FREYA'S day (the goddess Freya is the Norse equivalent to the Roman VENUS)
Saturday	SATURN's day