

## PRACTICE EXERCISE - II

Link Unit : Humour

### I. Read the following.

Aunt Jane: Good heavens! And how much do you earn?

Jack: As a matter of fact—er—that is—six pounds.

Aunt Jane: But that's absurd! How can you pay seven pounds eight and eight pence out of six pounds?

Jack: Oh, that's easy. You see, all you have to do is to borrow the rest of the money for the payments from the Thrift and Providence Trust Corporation.

Jill: They're only too glad to loan you any amount you like, on note of hand alone.

Aunt Jane: And how do you propose to pay that back?

Jack: Oh, that's easy, too. You just pay it back in instalments.

Aunt Jane: Instalments!

*(She claps her hand to her forehead and sink back weakly into the chair. Then realises that she is sitting on Mr. Sage's piece and leaps to her feet again with a little shriek.)*

Jack: Aunt Jane! Is anything the matter? Would you like to lie down?

Aunt Jane: Lie down? Do you suppose I'm going to trust myself in a bed that belongs to Mr Sage, or Marks and Spencer, or somebody? No, I am going home.

Jill: Oh, must you really go?

Aunt Jane: I think I'd better.

Jack: I'll drive you to the station.

Aunt Jane: What! Travel in a car that has only one tyre and two thingummies! No thank you—I'll take the bus.

Jack: Well, of course, if you feel like that about it...

Aunt Jane *(relenting a little)*: Now, I'm sorry if I sounded rude, but really I'm shocked to find the way you're living. I've never owed a penny in my life—cash down, that's my motto and I want you to do the same. *(She opens her handbag.)* Now look, here's a little cheque I was meaning to give you, anyway. Suppose you take it and pay off just one of your bills— so that you can say one thing at least really belongs to you.

Jill *(awkwardly)*: Er—thank you. Aunt Jane. It's very nice of you.

(An extract from *The Never-Never Nest*)

**1. Answer the following questions.**

- i. How much does Jack earn? How much does he pay towards each instalment?
- ii. How does Jack manage to pay each instalment ?
- iii. Does Aunt Jane like the way Jack manages his money?
- iv. Why doesn't Aunt Jane want to travel by car?
- v. How did Jill and Jack feel when Aunt Jane gave them a gift of money?

**2. Here are some pairs of words which sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings.**

check/ cheque

tyre/ tire

peace/ piece

**Fill in the blanks with these words.**

- i. Aunt Jane gives Jack a \_\_\_\_\_ so that he can pay off one of his instalments. Jack will have to \_\_\_\_\_ whether he is now spending less than he earns.
- ii. Aunt Jane says that Jack's car has only one \_\_\_\_\_ because he does not own it completely . If Jack continues to buy things on instalments, the burden of the loan is certainly going to \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- iii. Aunt Jane wants Jack to live in \_\_\_\_\_. She does not want him to own just a \_\_\_\_\_ of the things he buys.

**3. Read the following lines carefully and rewrite the poem as it would be you can choose the words from the given box :**

Nothing to comb but air,  
Quick as a flash 'tis gone;  
Nowhere to go but off,  
Nowhere to fall but on.

The earth, do, shed breath, take
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Nothing to \_\_\_\_\_ but air,  
Nowhere to sleep but \_\_\_\_\_  
Nothing to \_\_\_\_\_ but tears  
Nothing to \_\_\_\_\_ but work.

**4. Tick (✓) the correct options in these sentences.**

- i. Aunt Jane *hate/ hates* to owe money to anybody.
- ii. Jack and Jill *like/ likes* to buy things on instalment.
- iii. The Corporation *lend/ lends* money on a note of hand.
- iv. Both Jack and Jill *do/ does* not agree with Aunt Jane.
- v. Some people *buy/ buys* things only if they have money.
- vi. Everyone *is/ are* not a spendthrift.

**5. Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.**

- i. What time \_\_\_\_\_ (do) the shops open here?
- ii. It \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) since morning.
- iii. We \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) a film last evening.
- iv. He \_\_\_\_\_ (reach) the station by the time the train arrives.
- v. She \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to New York many times.

**6. Use appropriate punctuation mark sand capital letters wherever necessary in the following passages. (You may look at the table giving details about punctuation marks in the Unit Adventure.)**

- i. a woman went inside a shop and said to the man behind the counter why are the signs in your shop window full of spelling and grammatical mistakes the man replied so that people think that im a fool and come inside expecting to get the best of me since i put up those signs business has boomed.
- ii. a man walking along the road said to a woman working in a field excuse me how long will it take to get to the next village the woman didnt answer so the man kept walking he hadnt gone far when he heard the woman call out it ll take you about 30 minutes why didnt you tell me when i asked you asked the surprised man the woman replied then i didnt know how fast you were going to walk did i

iii. hari walked into a pet shop and asked the shop owner if he could buy the following items 391 beetles 17 mice and 10 cockroaches the shop owner said im sorry sir but we can only supply the mice why do you want all these creatures i have been asked to vacate my flat said the young man and my landlord says that i must leave the place exactly as i found it

iv. Aunt Jane: Good heavens And how much do you earn

Jack: As a matter of fact—er—that is—six pounds

Aunt Jane: But thats absurd How can you pay seven pounds eight and eight pence out of six pounds

Jack: Oh thats easy You see all you have to do is to borrow the rest of the money for the payments from the Thrift and Providence Trust Corporation

Jill: Theyre only too glad to loan you any amount you like on note of hand alone

Aunt Jane: And how do you propose to pay that back

Jack: Oh that's easy too You just pay it back in instalments

## Conjunctions

Read the following sentences.

- **Although** they earn very little, they have a piano, a fridge, a home **and** a car.
- Jack earned six pounds **but** paid seven pounds a month towards instalments.

The words in bold in these sentences join two sentences or clauses. Such words are known as conjunctions.

## Coordinating Conjunctions

Words such as **and, but, or, nor, for, yet, so, not only...but also, neither...nor, either...or** join sentences or clauses of equal rank.

7. Complete these sentences by using suitable coordinating conjunctions.

- i. We can \_\_\_\_\_ start right now \_\_\_\_\_ wait for him to come.
- ii. She got a bit late \_\_\_\_\_ it took her a while to find a parking space.



- iii. I am Batman \_\_\_\_\_ that's the Batmobile.
- iv. For him, it was \_\_\_\_\_ a matter of pride \_\_\_\_\_ a matter of shame, \_\_\_\_\_ simply a matter of fact.
- v. She forgot her spectacles at home \_\_\_\_\_ she sat in the front row.
- vi. They weren't too excited about the event \_\_\_\_\_ they didn't want to miss it either.

### Subordinating Conjunctions

Words such as **because, since, after, before, though, till, while, when, why** come at the beginning of subordinate or dependent clauses, and join them to the main or independent clauses.

### Types of Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions (in bold below) express different meanings. These meanings are mentioned in brackets.

- i. You must take this medicine **after** you have your meals. (time)
- ii. He was disappointed **because** the result was not as expected. (cause/reason)
- iii. She worked in the afternoon **so that** she could play in the evening. (purpose)
- iv. The ball was **so** quick **that** it went sailing past the wicketkeeper. (result /consequence)
- v. **If** I don't leave now, I shall be very late. (condition)
- vi. We managed to reach right on time **although** we were stalled in the traffic. (concession)
- vii. We are better **than** our rivals. (comparison)

### 8. Complete these sentences using suitable subordinating conjunctions and write their types after the sentences.

- i. What would have happened \_\_\_\_\_ he hadn't come on time?
- ii. Don't forget to consider all points of view \_\_\_\_\_ you give your opinion.
- iii. She opened the window \_\_\_\_\_ the room was all hot and stuffy.
- iv. \_\_\_\_\_ they still are in disagreement over some points, the major issues of conflict have been resolved.
- v. \_\_\_\_\_ we had finished dinner, we went out for a stroll.
- vi. He borrowed the phone \_\_\_\_\_ he could play the game on it.

**9. Listen to the poem and tick (✓)the things that distract the speaker from doing his/her homework.**

Cricket commentary

Songs on the radio

An sms

Videos

Playing games

Emails

A party at home

Watching a TV show

Computer

Visitors' noise

**10. Work in groups and practise the following conversation between Nasruddin and his friends. Choose the characters for the role play.**

One day, Nasruddin was chatting with his friends.

He began to boast, “No one can match my skill in archery. I string the bow, take aim, and shoot the arrow... Wh..o...o..sh. The arrow is sure to hit right on target.” Hearing this, one of his friends immediately brought a bow and some arrows. Giving them to Nasruddin, he said, “Here, Nasruddin! Take this bow and Arrows.” Then pointing towards a Target, he said, “Aim at That target and shoot an arrow.” Nasruddin held the bow in his hands, strung it, Aimed at the target and shot an arrow.

Wh..o...o..sh. The arrow didn't hit the target! Instead it fell down somewhere in the middle. “Ha..ha..ha..ha...” His friends started Laughing. They said, “Hey, Nasruddin! Is this your best aim?” “Oh, no! Not at all,” said Nasruddin, defending himself. “This wasn't my aim. It was Azad's aim. I just showed you how Azad shoots an arrow.” Saying this, Nasruddin picked up another arrow.

Once again, he strung the bow, aimed at the target, and shot the arrow.

This time, the arrow fell a little further from where it had fallen before.

But it certainly didn't hit the target! They asked Nasruddin, “And this must be how you shoot an arrow!”

“Of course not,” argued Nasruddin. “Even this aim was not mine. It was the chief guard's aim.”

Now somebody remarked, “Well...

Now who's next on the list?



Hearing this, all the friends burst out laughing.

Nasruddin didn't say a word.

He quietly picked up one more arrow.

and again....

And this time Nasruddin was really lucky! The arrow hit right on the target!

Everybody started at Nasruddin, their mouths agape in amazement.

Before anyone could say anything,

Nasruddin said triumphantly, "Did you see that? It was my aim!"

**11.(a) Imagine that your family wants to purchase a house. You need to take a loan from the bank for this. Write an application to the Branch Manager, Bank of India, requesting him to grant you a loan of Rs. 20 Lacs.**

Hints:

Type of house (flat, bungalow, single-storeyed, etc, location (address), Cost of the house, amount you need to borrow from the bank, type of loan - housing loan.

Here is the format for writing a formal application.

*Writer's address*

*Bank Manager's Address*

*Date*

*Greeting/ Salutation*

*Subject*

*Body of the letter*

*Closing expression like 'Sincerely yours / yours thankfully'*

*Writer's name/ signature*

**(b) Read the jokes given below.**

- Son: Dad, what is ‘an idiot’?

Dad: An idiot is a person who tries to explain his ideas in such a strange and long way that another person who is listening to him can’t understand him. Do you understand me?

Son: No.

- A boy asks his father, “Dad, are bugs good to eat?”

“That’s disgusting — don’t talk about things like that over dinner,” Dad replies.

After dinner the father asks, “Now, son, what did you want to ask me?”

“Oh, nothing,” the boy says. “There was a bug in your soup, but now it’s gone.”

- My friend thinks he is smart. He told me an onion is the only food that makes you cry, so I threw a coconut at his face.

**Write a humorous definition about ‘an idiot’.**

**Write two jokes from your classroom.**

**12. Make notes on the following passage. Use abbreviations (eg. mnts. for minutes) wherever necessary. Also provide a suitable title. (You may consult the Unit Adventure for making notes.)**

Our body converts the calories in food into energy by burning them. We use this energy for our daily activities. Even at rest, our body needs energy to perform vital functions like breathing and pumping of the heart. The number of calories our body burns to perform these functions is the metabolic rate or metabolism.

Different factors like body size, age, gender, and physical activity determine metabolism. People with more muscle or a large body frame burn more calories even at rest. On growing old, while our energy needs don’t change, our muscles tend to decrease. So, the calories burn much slower. Among men and women with the same age and weight, calories burn much faster for men as they tend to have more muscle and less fat. The amount of calories burnt during a physical activity depends on its nature, intensity, and duration.

While we cannot entirely control metabolism, we can follow a healthy lifestyle to avoid becoming overweight. We should avoid oily, sugary, and fatty foods, and eat whole grains, pulses, low-fat dairy, fruits, and vegetables. Along with eating healthy food, we also need to be physically active. We should avoid a sedentary lifestyle, and perform some physical activity on a regular basis for at least 30 to 45 minutes.





## II. Read the following poem.

### Messy Room

Whoever room this is should be ashamed!  
His underwear is hanging on the lamp.  
His raincoat is there in the overstuffed chair,  
And the chair is becoming quite mucky and damp.  
His workbook is wedged in the window,  
His sweater's been thrown on the floor.  
His scarf and one ski are beneath the TV,  
And his pants have been carelessly hung on the door.



by Shel Silverstein

#### 1. Answer the questions given below.

- i. Pick out the line(s) that indicate(s) the season.
- ii. What is wrong with the chair?
- iii. What do these lines suggest about the character of the person who owns the room?
- iv. Make a list of the clothes mentioned in the poem.
- v. What items other than the clothes are mentioned?
- vi. What does the word 'messy' suggest? Think of some other situations where you may use this word.

#### 2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words from the list given below:

carelessly, beneath, hang, damp, ashamed, overstuffed

- i. If you can't clean your room, you should be \_\_\_\_\_ of yourself.
- ii. I have eaten too much, I feel \_\_\_\_\_.

- iii. It is raining outside, and the table inside is\_\_\_\_\_.
- iv. Our cats sit\_\_\_\_\_the TV.
- v. We do not even have a nail in our room to \_\_\_\_\_ a picture.
- vi. You spend\_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Your little brother spilled his glass of milk on your drawing copy and made a mess of the room. Discuss in groups about some situations where you or your friends made a mess of things. Each group can tell the class about one messy incident.**

**4. Write five Do's and five Don'ts to keep yourself and your home neat and clean. One each has been done for you.**

Do's	Don'ts
1. Wash your vest daily.	1. Don't wear dirty shoes.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.