



PLANETSPARK

Grade 9

English NCERT Solutions Words and Expressions -1

Unit 8: Reading Comprehension



LET'S BEGIN

Activity 1:

Explanation:

Collect information on judgments related to river Ganga being given legal/living entity status (similar to New Zealand's Whanganui River judgement). Discuss the findings in class about why such legal protection matters for rivers.

Activity 2:

Explanation:

Discuss how Vikram Seth describes the Bagmati river in Kathmandu as a polluted and dirty river, flowing through the heart of the city, yet considered sacred by the local people.

READING COMPREHENSION

TEXT I

- 1 (d) All of the above
- 2 (a) taking a long distance walk in abandoned areas
- 3 (a) a large ship that carries people on voyages of pleasure.

- 4 Tourists engage in various activities such as sightseeing, visiting friends and relatives, taking vacations, engaging in sports, sunbathing, talking, singing, taking rides, touring, and reading. They also participate in conventions, business conferences, professional activities, study tours, and scientific research.
- 5 Tourists use all forms of transportation including hiking on foot, flying in jets, taking chairlifts, travelling on cruise ships, cars, motor coaches, campers, trains, motorbikes, and bicycles.

TEXT II

- 1 (a) because the much awaited Saturday has come when the voyage has to start.
- 2 (d) They are tourists on a leisure trip.
- 3 The mood of the people on the ship was gloomy, droopy, and disheartened. The passengers looked miserable and sad, like molting chickens, moping about in drizzling rain. Even the flag hung limp and dispirited, reflecting the low spirits of everyone on board.
- 4 The author was looking forward to a pleasure excursion — a voyage that the program had announced as a leisure trip. Despite the dull and confusing atmosphere at the pier, he was eager for the journey to begin and was hopeful of the adventure and enjoyment that the trip promised

Match the words/phrases in Column A with pictures in Column B.

Column A	Column B
Pier	
deck	
carriage	
valise	
mast	

VOCABULARY

1. Match the phrasal verbs (Column A) with meanings (Column B):

- Look for — search
Look up to — having a great deal of respect for a person
Look forward to — await eagerly
Look up — to try to find a piece of information

2. Rewrite the following words by removing the suffix 'age':

- (a) carriage — carry
(b) coverage — cover
(c) hermitage — hermit
(d) marriage — marry

3. Rewrite the following words by adding the suffix 'ful':

- (a) beauty — beautiful
(b) colour — colourful
(c) duty — dutiful
(d) revenge — revengeful
(e) help — helpful
(f) mouth — mouthful
(g) mercy — merciful

GRAMMAR

Tenses identified and named in the passage:

Sentence: "This is a good place to enrich ourselves about plant species which are environment friendly."

Tense: Simple Present Tense

Sentence: "The residents could gather a lot of information about horticulture at the event."

Tense: Past Tense (Modal — could + base verb, referring to past possibility/ability)

Sentence: "Several states from north India are represented at this event."

Tense: Simple Present Tense (Passive)

Sentence: "The florists showcase the best of their horticulture at the show."

Tense: Simple Present Tense

Sentence: "The organisers said that several events are lined up for Sunday."

Tense: Simple Past Tense (said) + Simple Present Tense (are lined up)

Sentence: "As many as 85 stalls have been put up by florists, gardening equipment wholesalers and seed retailers."

Tense: Present Perfect Tense (Passive)

Sentence: "Entry to the show has been made free for all."

Tense: Present Perfect Tense (Passive)

Sentence: "It was established in a study conducted by NASA back in 1989 that some indoor plants could be extremely useful in controlling the air pollution."

Tense: Simple Past Tense (Passive)

Sentence: "Detox plants, which act as 'vacuum cleaners' inside the house, are a hit in the ongoing event."

Tense: Simple Present Tense

Sentence: "Nature enthusiasts are preferring them for pollution control as well as interior decoration."

Tense: Present Continuous Tense

EDITING

1. Punctuated passage:

Kathmandu is vivid, mercenary, religious, with small shrines to flower-adorned deities along the narrowest and busiest streets, with fruit sellers, flute sellers, hawkers of postcards, shops selling western cosmetics, film rolls and chocolate or copper utensils and Nepalese antiques. Film songs blare out from the radios, car horns sound, bicycle bells ring, stray cows low questioningly at motorcycles, vendors shout out their wares.

LISTENING

(Passage: A Visit to Bhitarkanika)

1

The author was going to the Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha.

- 2 The forest rest-house (Dangmal forest rest-house) was located in the heart of the mangrove forest. Since the steamer could not negotiate the creeks at low tide, the group hired a motorboat to ferry them to the rest-house
- 3 The first creature they saw was a large crocodile basking in the sun, spotted from the motorboat.
- 4 By 'the magnificence of nature', the author means the extraordinary beauty, diversity, and grandeur of the natural world — the colourful birds with remarkable plumage, the crocodiles, the chital deer, and the wild boar — all existing undisturbed in their natural habitat, filling the visitors with awe and wonder.
- 5 The kingfishers are described as the stars of the show among the birds. The open-billed storks are described as standing sentry-like, high above, following the group's progress through the forest as if guarding their kingdom.
- 6 The chital deer were delicately browsing on fresh outcrops of leaves when the motorboat went past. The wild boar were searching for succulent roots in the ground.

SPEAKING

1. Speech on Travelling:

Explanation:

Students are required to prepare and deliver a short speech in the school assembly based on the given quotes about travelling by Ibn Batuta and Mark Twain. The speech should reflect on how travel broadens the mind, removes prejudices, builds empathy, and transforms a person into a storyteller.

Students may use personal experiences or examples from the lesson 'Kathmandu' to support their speech.

2. Speech on Tourism and Sustainable Development:

Explanation:

Students are required to prepare a short speech discussing how the tourism sector can be aligned with the policies of sustainable development — for example, by promoting eco-tourism, reducing carbon footprints of travel, preserving natural and cultural heritage, and ensuring that tourism benefits local communities without harming the environment.

WRITING

1. Advertisement for Tourism:

Explanation:

Students should first read or watch tourism advertisements (e.g., the Kerala Tourism film 'A Reading Room With a View'). Then they must create their own advertisement for their city or state promoting tourism. The advertisement should highlight the unique cultural, natural, or historical features of the place and be creative, persuasive, and visually descriptive.

Sample Advertisement (for reference):

"Discover the Heart of India — Visit Rajasthan!

Where golden deserts meet royal palaces, and every sunset tells a story.

From the majestic forts of Jaipur to the serene lakes of Udaipur, Rajasthan welcomes you with colour, culture, and warmth.

Come, travel light, and carry back memories for a lifetime.

Rajasthan — The Land of Kings."

2. Paragraph describing a journey:

Explanation:

Students should prepare an itinerary first, then write a descriptive paragraph about an imaginary or real journey they have undertaken. They should use travel-related expressions from the box provided: jetlag, itchy feet, hit the road, time table, on the home stretch, call it a day, book in advance, travel over, travel through, travel light, any port in a storm, stopover, etc.

Sample Paragraph (for reference):

Last summer, my family and I decided to travel light and hit the road to Manali. We had booked our tickets in advance to avoid any last-minute rush. After a long overnight journey, we made a stopover at Chandigarh for breakfast. As we travelled through the winding mountain roads, the breathtaking views of snow-capped peaks left us speechless. By the time we were on the home stretch, tiredness gave way to excitement. We called it a day at a cosy guesthouse by the river — tired, happy, and already planning our next adventure.

PROJECT

1. Class Magazine on Music and Artists:

Explanation:

Students should work in groups to create a class magazine on music and artists. They should:

- Collect information on commonly used musical instruments in Indian classical music, Ghazal singing, Bharatnatayam/Chau/Kathak dance, Folk music, and Jazz.

- Collect photographs of musical instruments.
- Prepare brief biographical sketches of musicians, dancers, costume designers, and artists from books, the Internet, magazines, and newspapers.
- Give a suitable creative name to the magazine (e.g., "Sur Sangam", "The Rhythm Times", etc.).

This project connects with the description of the flute music in the lesson 'Kathmandu' and the mention of the Ney (reed flute) used in Sufi music in Turkey, Iran, and North Africa.

2. Road Trip to North-East India:

Explanation:

Students should plan a road trip to the North-east region of India (covering states such as Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura). They should:

- Explore various route possibilities, distances, and modes of road travel.
- Note important tourist spots, wildlife sanctuaries, cultural festivals, and local cuisine.
- Create a hand-drawn or printed map showing the travel route with key destinations marked.

This project develops research skills and connects geography with the theme of travel in the unit.

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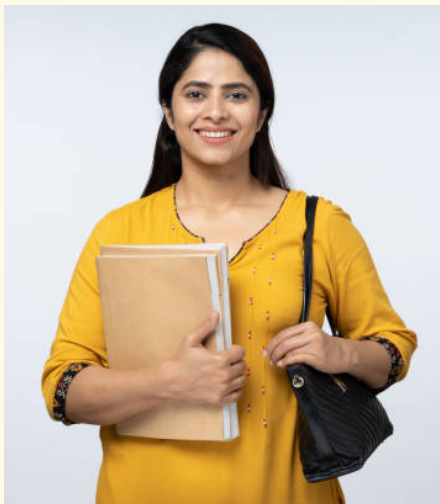
Unit 2 - Reading Comprehension

Unit 3 - Reading Comprehension

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