

NOUNS

A noun represents a name of anything. It represents a name of a person, an animal, a bird, a thing, a place, etc. A noun also represents a quality, or a state or an action, which is observable to the human eye, which can be heard, smelt, tasted or visualised.

For example: student, Nazar Farez, girl, fish, house, camera, Melaka, kindness, bicycle, Lintang Pekaka, happy, Naza Ronda, beauty, etc.

Nouns are divided into Common Nouns and Proper Nouns. In general, nouns are either Countable or Uncountable. A Common Noun is a name given which is common to all things or persons of the same kind or class. It is a name given to one example, or more, or a class of things or to the class as a whole.

For example, the name 'boy' or 'friend' does not tell us which boy or friend. It is a name that belongs to or is shared by all boys or friends. It does not give the own name of the person we are talking about. The words boy and friend are therefore called Common Nouns. Other examples of Common Nouns are car, man, lecturer, hotel, river, college, teeth, cousin, etc.

A Proper Noun is a name that belongs to a special or a unique thing. It always begins with a capital letter. The Proper Noun pertains to a particular person, place, festival, religion, month, nationality or thing.

For example, 'boy' is a Common Noun. It is given to all boys. But 'Aziz' is a name that does not belong to all boys. It is the name of one boy. Therefore, Aziz is a Proper Noun. In the same way, 'Kuala Lumpur' is the name of only one city, not all cities. So, Kuala Lumpur is a Proper Noun. Other examples of Proper Nouns are Yelena, Ministry of Higher Education, Proton Savvy, Friday, Citi Bank, April, The Zouk, etc.

Exercise A

Identify and underline the **Nouns** in the sentences below.

1. The baby loves to suckle his thumb.
2. Tomok from the One in a Million reality show is a very talented singer.
3. The lecturer left his file in his car.
4. Linguistics is the study of language.
5. Oprah Winfrey had replied my e-mail.
6. My mother has a very strong will.
7. Dana likes to drink hot chocolate with cookies.
8. Our college was officiated by the Minister of Education.
9. Many people attended Adela and Aziz's garden party.
10. The man was killed by a ferocious tiger.

Exercise B

Examine the sentences. Underline the **Nouns**.

1. Ramli has two daughters and a son.
2. The word 'noun' has four letters.
3. Teoh has many friends in Kelantan.
4. In his plantation, Azman grew bananas, papayas, guavas and mangoes.
5. My brother has a Pajero and a Kancil.
6. Hang Tuah and Hang Jebat are famous Malay heroes.
7. There are seven days in a week and twelve months in a year.
8. Two toddlers were burned to death in the pre-dawn fire.
9. I like to frequent KFC and Pizza Hut.
10. My cousin has a girlfriend who studies in USM.

Exercise C

Underline the **Nouns** in the following exercise.

1. My father and brother went to the circus on Friday.
2. Amira, Adam and Indra acted in the play.
3. I am going to the zoo on Sunday with my classmates.
4. Nadhra is using the computer in the study for her project.
5. Gorillas, chimpanzees and orangutans are apes.
6. Susilla and Pek Tao have finished their homework.
7. This coffee is too bitter.
8. Yusoff looked up the dictionary for words which he didn't know.
9. The author of 'Lovers and Strangers' is Robert Raymer.
10. We went to the MIHAS Expo at the World Trade Centre.

Exercise D

Identify and underline the **Nouns**.

1. This woman wants to see her son.
2. I have to wash my blouse.
3. The thief was caught by the policeman.
4. The cat is chasing the mouse.
5. The kite is caught up in that tree.
6. The box in that room is too small.
7. The boy pushes the cart.
8. Fill in the blanks with the correct answers.
9. That man is my uncle.
10. Return this book to the librarian.

COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

English nouns can be divided into two groups, those which we can count and those which we cannot count. The nouns which we can count are called Countable Nouns. We can use numbers and a/an with countable nouns, and they have plurals.

For example: a house, three houses, a chair, two chairs, an apple, four apples.

The nouns which we cannot count are called Uncountable Nouns. Uncountable Nouns are mainly:

- a. the names of materials, liquids, and other things which we do not see as separate objects, e.g. water, air, sand, food.**
- b. abstract nouns, e.g. advice, information, honesty, beauty.**

We cannot use numbers or a/an with uncountable nouns, and they have no plurals.

For example, water NOT a water or two waters.

Exercise A

Say if the noun is **Countable** or **Uncountable**.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. oil | 11. plate |
| 2. car | 12. money |
| 3. rice | 13. rain |
| 4. music | 14. picture |
| 5. bread | 15. traffic |
| 6. wind | 16. hair |
| 7. bottle | 17. salt |
| 8. telephone | 18. computer |
| 9. shirt | 19. violin |
| 10. work | 20. button |

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the correct **Uncountable Nouns** from the words given.

sugar	water	food	gold	fire	sand
smoke	lightning	butter	coffee	ice	oil
rice	noise	wood	milk	flour	music

1. Father asked Janina for a cup of _____.
2. Swee Yan ate a bowl of _____ for lunch.
3. She kneaded some _____ to make bread.
4. I was so thirsty that I drank three glasses of _____.
5. Sheila must have added too much _____ . The drink is too sweet.
6. Mother poured some cooking _____ into the frying pan.
7. This table is made of solid _____.
8. The children scooped the _____ from the beach.
9. Alicia spread some _____ on her toast.
10. It is relaxing to listen to soothing _____.
11. Thick _____ came up from the burning building.
12. We made a _____ in the middle of the camp to keep warm.
13. Dennis wanted some _____ because his drink was not cold enough.
14. The jeweller explained that the necklace was made of real _____.
15. Mother warned us not to make too much _____ because the baby was sleeping.
16. Ghani gave the cat a bowl of _____.
17. Lilian packed some _____ for the picnic.
18. The tree was struck by _____.

Exercise C

Underline the **Countable Nouns** found in the following sentences.

1. That cup contains coffee.

2. She likes to eat durians and ice-cream.
3. He passed the baton to the last runner.
4. We passed the test with high marks.
5. She poured the water into the pail.
6. How many hours did you take to read the book?
7. I have finished writing the letter.
8. His words were heard loud and clear.
9. I spread some butter on the bread.
10. Mother handed me the food on a plate.

Exercise D

Underline the **Uncountable Nouns** found in the following sentences.

1. Rats like cheese.
2. She scooped up the sand into a bucket.
3. This air-conditioner uses up lots of electricity.
4. The children played with the cotton from that torn pillow.
5. The body of that car is made of aluminium.
6. The knob on the door is made of brass.
7. He uses a brush to comb his hair.
8. She bought some cloth to make a dress.
9. We heard the news on the radio.
10. Hang the clothes outside while the sun shines.

SINGULAR AND PLURAL NOUNS

Most nouns have an –s or –es added for the plural, but some are changed in other ways. These are called Irregular Plural Nouns. Some common examples are:

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
child	children	goose	geese
man	men	thief	thieves
woman	women	wife	wives
knife	knives	foot	feet

Exercise A

Underline the **Singular** or **Plural Nouns** in the brackets.

1. Rashid likes (orange, oranges) and (apple, apples).
2. The naughty (child, children) was scolded.
3. She took a (bite, bites) from that (apple, apples) and fainted.
4. Delilah has interest in many (subject, subjects).
5. I saw a (cat, cats) up on that tree just now.
6. One of the (boy, boys) cheated in the examination.
7. Kamaliah wants to celebrate the (New Year, New Years) with her family.
8. Dewi's (brother, brothers) are in Government Service.
9. The (soldier, soldiers) have returned from the war.
10. A few (people, peoples) were injured in the accident.
11. The two (thief, thieves) were caught in the raid.
12. The group consists of a number of men and (woman, women).
13. There is a (knife, knives) found under the bed.
14. She is only four (foot, feet) tall.
15. My five (kitten, kittens) are hiding behind the piano.

Exercise B

Write the **Irregular Plural Form** of the nouns below.

1. calf _____

2. leaf _____
3. life _____
4. self _____
5. shelf _____
6. wolf _____
7. half _____
8. policeman _____
9. loaf _____
10. ox _____

Some nouns have the same form for the singular and plural. Some common examples are:

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
sheep	sheep
deer	deer
fish	fish
Chinese	Chinese

Exercise C

Complete the sentences with the **singular** or **plural** form of the nouns given.

1. The _____ which he caught was delicious. (fish)
2. The two _____ ran away as we approached. (deer)
3. Many _____ left their country as a result of the war. (Vietnamese)
4. The gardener swept up the fallen _____. (leaf)
5. A _____ of bread costs RM 2.20. (loaf)
6. The _____ are mainly Hindus. (Balinese)
7. This bench is five _____ long. (foot)
8. _____ are used a lot by farmers in Asia. (ox)

9. Tomoko is a _____ from the island of Hokkaido. (Japanese)
10. It is often said that New Zealand has more _____ than people. (sheep)

Exercise D

Fill in the blanks with the proper form of the words in brackets.

1. The rich man has a few large _____ (house) in the country.
2. She gave all her _____ (money) to the trickster.
3. Balan borrowed two _____ (book) from Renuga.
4. Adida helped that blind _____ (man) across the street.
5. Norita received a beautiful _____ (necklace) on her birthday.
6. The _____ (policeman) are always alert.
7. She accidentally broke those _____ (vase) just now.
8. Diba's _____ (answer) were correct.
9. The _____ (sheep) are grazing in the meadow.
10. The seven _____ (teacher) had to attend a course in Sepang.
11. There are a large number of rape _____ (case) involving teenagers nowadays.
12. The illegal _____ (immigrant) were found murdered in the plantation last night.
13. The _____ (Kelantanese) are known to have very enterprising minds.
14. I have three _____ (cousin) who are staying in Kuala Lumpur.
15. The hunter managed to trap two _____ (mousedeer) and three _____ (squirrel).
16. My friend's two _____ (niece) have moved to a new apartment.
17. This language center provides numerous _____ (service) related to language learning.
18. The three little _____ (duckling) had strayed away from their mother.
19. Zarina adopted the two Bosnian _____ (baby) when she was a MERCY volunteer.
20. Nirmala was informed not to touch the _____ (handphone) on the shelf.

9. I invited my friends to dinner and *my friends* came.
10. We couldn't get any seats in the bus as *the seats* were all taken.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

We use **Personal Pronouns** to refer back to someone or something that has already been mentioned.

There are two types of **Personal Pronouns**:

- **Subject Pronouns**
- **Object Pronouns**

Subject Pronouns

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
I	we
you	you
he, she, it	they

A subject pronoun is used as the subject of a sentence or a clause.

For example,

He kicked the ball.

subject pronoun object

We do not normally use a personal pronoun if the verb already has a subject.

For example,

My sister is sleeping. (correct)

subject

My sister she is sleeping. (wrong because it's redundant)

subject subject pronoun

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with the proper **Personal Pronouns**.

1. "May _____ help you, Sir?" asked the receptionist.
2. "It looks like _____ are lost," said the leader to his men.
3. He asked me, "Where are _____ going?"
4. The little girl cried because _____ was hungry.
5. Look at that cat! _____ is so cute!
6. _____ are going to their grandparents' house.
7. My brother did not go to school today. _____ is not feeling well.
8. _____ have to make sure that our work is the best.
9. The man was angry because _____ could not find his glasses.
10. Kate Winslet is an actress. _____ has acted in many movies.
11. Karina and Cheng See are here. _____ are waiting for you.
12. "_____ should not make such careless mistakes," the teacher told Kamal.
13. _____ am reading a news magazine.
14. _____ are going to the Pesta with our parents.
15. The boy was late because _____ had missed his school bus.

Exercise B

Each sentence contains an unnecessary **Pronoun**. Identify it and correct the sentence.

1. The children they are very noisy.

2. The kitten it is sleeping on the sofa.

3. Shafinaz she is having lunch at the canteen.

4. Gunasamy and his wife they are convocating this year.

5. My brother he was involved in the accident at Balik Pulau.

6. Maliki he is always hungry.

7. Nina she married her childhood sweetheart.

8. He complained that the flight it was delayed.

9. The durian it smells awful.

10. Jansee and I we are in the same class.

Object Pronouns

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
me	us
you	you
him	them
her	them
it	them

An object pronoun is normally used as the object of a verb in a sentence or a clause.

For example,

I advised him to work hard.

verb object pronoun

Object pronouns are used after a preposition.

For example,

There was a message for her.

preposition object pronoun

Exercise C

Underline the correct **Pronouns** in the sentences.

1. The little boy was terrified to see the mascot. He/Him screamed loudly.
2. You've given I/me a brilliant suggestion.
3. She/Her was rudely awakened by the blasting alarm.
4. Daniel invited we/us to his house warming party.
5. Could you please return this watch to she/her?
6. We/Us are very thankful to he/him for helping we/us.
7. They/Them are our next door neighbours.
8. I have known they/them since they were young.
9. This is Dr Badrul. He/Him is one of the best lecturers in USM.
10. Ramayah was so tired that she/her fell asleep in the bus.

Exercise D

Fill in the blanks with the proper **Personal Pronouns**.

1. My father brought _____ to the dentist this morning because I had a toothache.
2. Please give this letter to Sheila when you see _____.
3. This is Mr Kwok's calculator. Return it to _____.
4. I can't find Ghani anywhere. Have you seen _____?
5. The dog wants the ball. Let _____ have the ball.
6. "Tell those boys not to come. We don't want _____ here anymore."
7. "This is not your property. Do not touch _____!"
8. "Mak Leha gave _____ the money," said Samad.
9. Soo San and Caroline have taken the camera. It is with _____ now.
10. "I have bought the books for _____," said Tam to Cheah.

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

‘Possessive words’ with a following noun.

For example,

Murali took his son to the Cineplex.

PP N

Note: PP - possessive Pronoun

N - noun

Singular

Plural

my

our

your

your

his, her, its

their

Exercise A

Complete the sentences with appropriate **Possessive Pronouns**.

1. My father found _____ wallet in the washing machine.
2. You should take good care of _____ health while you're still young.
3. My niece hurt _____ knee in the accident.
4. The cow shook the flies away with _____ tail.
5. We should take pride of _____ college.
6. The boys took _____ shoes off before entering the computer room.
7. I have a problem with _____ choir group.
8. The bird flew to _____ nest to feed the young.
9. The doctor left _____ stethoscope in Room 021.
10. My boyfriend failed _____ driving test three times.

‘Possessive words’ with no following noun.

For example,

Yours is new but mine isn’t.

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
mine	ours
yours	yours
his	theirs
hers	theirs

Exercise B

Simplify the expressions in italics. Follow the example.

Example: Your grades are better than *my grades*.

- Your grades are better than *mine*.

1. This is not my mother. That is *my mother*.

2. Kamal’s brother is younger than *her brother*.

3. The two cars belong to the CEO. They are *his cars*.

4. I will follow my plan, you and your wife will follow *your plan*.

5. You have your opinions, they have *their opinions*.

4. My bag is here, *your bag* is there.

5. My cousin and I won RM 10 000 cash. The money is *our money*.

6. Since she bought the house, she insists that it is *her house*.

7. His company is doing better than *her company*.

8. Her husband is taller than *my husband*.

Exercise C

Underline the correct **Possessive Pronouns** in the brackets.

1. The hamster is (their, they, theirs).
2. I lent (my, mine, I) to a friend.
3. The dress is (hers, her, she).
4. They have removed (their, theirs, they) from the shelf.
5. The headmaster let them go because the fault was not (his, theirs, hers).
6. The clarinet is (their, her, his).
7. He owns a bakery. The bakery is (his, her, me).
8. I am reading a book. The book is (hers, him, me).
9. The toys they were playing with just now are (her, mine, our).
10. Which car is (your, yours, you)?
11. Show me your letter not (her, hers, him).
12. This is where we live. This house is (mine, yours, ours).
13. The typewriter in the bedroom is (mine, her, our).
14. The first name on the list is (your, you, yours).
15. You have lost (you, your, yours), haven't you?
16. They have taken (their, they, theirs).
17. Did she hand in (our, ours, us) as well?
18. The broken chair is (you, her, mine).
19. Those towels on the bench are (theirs, them, their).
20. No, this is not (I, mine, you).

REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

A reflexive pronoun is used when the subject and object are the same person or thing.

For example,

She cut herself accidentally.

subject object

A reflexive pronoun can also be used to emphasise the noun or pronoun it refers to.

For example,

I spoke to the manager myself.

A reflexive pronoun is used after the preposition *by* to mean that a person does something *alone* or *without help*.

For example,

He repaired the television set *by* himself.

Exercise A

Complete the sentences with the correct forms of **Reflexive Pronouns**.

1. I prepared the meal by _____.
2. He gave me the parcel _____.
3. My sister bought _____ a new DVD player.
4. The Lims _____ attended the funeral.
5. We sang to _____ as we stroll by the beach.
6. My uncle hurt _____ with a hammer.
7. The kitten _____ is adorable but I don't like the idea of owning a pet.
8. Are you in the habit of talking to _____?

9. My parents will be coming here by _____.
10. The head prefect _____ leads the debate team.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the correct **Reflexive Pronouns**.

1. You must help _____.
2. They washed _____ in the river.
3. He helped _____ to the good food.
4. We enjoyed _____ at Kassim's party.
5. I tell _____ to study hard.
6. He gave _____ a fanciful nickname.
7. You must present _____ to the dean's office.
8. We remind _____ to play as a team.
9. Cats clean _____ with their tongues.
10. The sick woman cried _____ to sleep.

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS

There are four demonstrative pronouns: this, these, that and those. They are used with countable and uncountable nouns.

***This* (singular) and *these* (plural) are used with nouns which are *near* the speaker or writer.**

For example,

This purse belongs to Erin. (The speaker is holding the book.)

***That* (singular) and *those* (plural) are used with nouns which are *far* from the speaker or writer.**

For example,

Put *those* plates away before your mother comes home. (The speaker is far from the plates.)

Exercise A

Choose the correct **Demonstrative Pronouns**.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. that/those chairs | 8 . this/these problems |
| 2. this/these child | 9 . that/those campus |
| 3. this/these pages | 10 . this/these food |
| 4. that/those people | 11. that/those geese |
| 5. this/these months | 12. that/those bachelor |
| 6. this/these CDs | 13. this/these cubes |
| 7. that/those furniture | 14. this/these contestants |

Exercise B

Read the clues. Complete the sentences with the correct **Demonstrative Pronouns**.

1. _____ bicycle belongs to Anna. (The bicycle is near the speaker.)
2. _____ old man is the owner of this hypermart. (The old man is far from the speaker.)
3. Is _____ your camera? (The camera is near the speaker.)
4. _____ students over there are my coursemates. (The students are far from the speaker.)
5. We enjoyed _____ holiday very much. (The holiday was over.)
6. Can you please help me to load _____ books into the van? (The books are near the speaker.)

7. _____ rambutans were really sweet. (The rambutans have been eaten.)
8. I hope you would consider _____ suggestion. (The speaker is about to make a suggestion.)
9. I would like to buy some of _____ oranges. (The oranges are far from the speaker.)
11. Did you find _____ lecture interesting? (The lecture is over.)

Exercise C

Fill in the blanks with the correct **Demonstrative Pronouns** “this” or “these”.

1. We can take _____ road to the beach.
2. She has watered _____ plants.
3. Please clear _____ desk for me.
4. He sent me _____ postcard from India.
5. Jalaludin took _____ pictures while on vacation.
6. Hamimah gave me _____ bookmark.
7. Goon Siew bought _____ necklace for me.
8. They placed _____ advertisement on Tuesday.
9. The manager asked _____ men to report here.
10. Mr Lee bought _____ car last month.

ADJECTIVES

An adjective appears before the noun that it describes.

For example,

Sarimah is wearing a new dress.

(Adj) (N)

Two or more adjectives can occur together.

For example,

Sarimah is wearing a beautiful, new dress.

(Adj) (Adj) (N)

Order of opinion and fact adjectives

Adjectives like new, old, large, round and wooden are **Fact Adjectives**. They give us objective information about something. For example, its age, size, shape, colour, etc.

Adjectives like beautiful, ugly, attractive and interesting are **Opinion Adjectives**. They tell us what someone thinks of something. For example, its quality, appearance, etc.

Notice the order when opinion and fact adjectives are used together. Opinion adjectives usually appear before fact adjectives.

For example,

A beautiful, new dress.

(opinion) (fact)

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate adjectives.

1. The _____ boy cried loudly when he fell into the _____ drain.
2. The _____ actress won numerous _____ awards that night.
3. My _____ cousin is really looking forward to go to Canada.
4. The _____ car was rammed by an _____ van.
5. My _____ friend could read the _____ book in just one day.
6. The _____ weather has prompted her to go for a _____ stroll down the beach.
7. The _____ movie was given a _____ review.
8. I fell asleep in the _____ bus during the _____ journey.
9. The _____ kittens were put into a _____ box.
10. My _____ sister cut her _____ finger when slicing the _____ cake.

Exercise B

Put the adjectives in the correct order.

1. a _____ _____ man. (old, grumpy)
2. an _____ _____ car. (Malaysian, economical)
3. a _____ _____ rose. (beautiful, blue)
4. a _____ _____ table. (wooden, cheap)
5. a _____ _____ city. (developed, industrial)
6. an _____ _____ duckling. (ugly, black)
7. a _____ _____ curry. (fish, hot)
8. an _____ _____ book. (amusing, history)
9. a _____ _____ story. (love, popular)
10. a _____ _____ boy. (young, naughty)

Comparative and Superlative Forms of Adjectives

Most adjectives can have a comparative and superlative form. Note how the comparative and superlative forms of regular and irregular adjectives are formed in the examples.

REGULAR ADJECTIVES

	Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
One-syllable words	old	older	oldest
Two-syllable words ending in -y, -er, -ow, le, etc.	pretty clever yellow stable	prettier cleverer yellower stabler	prettiest cleverest yellowest stablest
Other two-syllable words and words with three or more syllables	careful intelligent interesting	more careful more intelligent more interesting	most careful most intelligent most interesting

IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
much	more	the most
many	more	the most
little	less	the least
good	better	the best
bad	worse	the worst

The comparative form of an adjective is used to refer to the one that stands out when two persons, things or situations are compared. Use than after the comparative adjective.

For example,

Aishah is older than Mustafa.

comparative
adjective

The superlative form of an adjective is used when more than two persons, things or situations are compared. It refers to the one that stands out against all the others. Use the before the superlative adjective.

For example,

Muthusamy is the fastest runner in his team.

Exercise C

Use the comparative form of the adjectives given and *than*.

1. Zara is _____ Nazri. (old)
2. My bag is _____ your bag. (big)
3. Mike Tyson is _____ Ed Lewis. (heavy)
4. The writing course is _____ the public speaking course. (enjoyable)
5. This small bar of chocolate is _____ that big packet of potato chips.
6. The cake which my mother baked this morning was _____ the one she baked last week. (sweet)
7. My brother's hair is _____ chalk. (white)
8. Monkeys are _____ kittens. (playful)
9. Mak Limah's nasi lemak is _____ the one sold by Mak Temah across the street. (tasty)
10. Dr Ariff Ross is _____ Dr Aishah. (lenient)

Exercise D

Use the superlative forms of the adjectives given and *the*.

1. Ramalingam is _____ boy in class. (tall)
2. The little girl in pony tail is _____ dancer from Group B. (graceful)
3. Aminah has _____ skin I've ever touched. (soft)
4. The Korean movie I saw was _____ film produced in the year 2003.
(expensive)
5. Roszalina is _____ catwalk model I've ever seen. (short)
6. Cliff Richard is _____ bachelor in the UK. (eligible)
7. This rendang is _____ rendang I have ever tasted. (bad)
8. The old man has _____ fingernails ever recorded. (long)
9. Cheetah is _____ animal in the world. (fast)
10. The librarian has _____ number of international awards received. (much)

Exercise E

Choose between the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives.

1. Hazri's mother is the *better/best* cook in the competition.
2. Malini is *fair/fairer* than her sister.
3. The English teacher enters the class *latest/later* than usual.
4. Mr Bean is the *funniest/funnier* man in the world.
5. TV3's Majalah 3 has the *higher/highest* number of viewers according to the recent SMS votes.
6. Since the computers in this office were upgraded, my colleagues and I are able to work *better/best* than before.
7. For this coming Hari Raya, my family will be heading back east *earliest/earlier* than my brother's family.

8. Cinderella has a *more/most* interesting storyline than Snow White.
9. This transparent umbrella is the *cheaper/cheapest* one that I could find in the hypermart.
10. My mother gave me the *most/more* beautiful pendant for my 21st birthday last April.
11. Brosnan is *more/most* handsome than Cruise.
12. Beckham is the *more/most* popular footballer and he is greatly admired by all his fans.

ARTICLES

The words *a*, *an* and *the* are called Articles, but it is more correct to class them as Demonstrative Adjectives. *A* and *an* should be used before a noun in the singular number. *The*, on the other hand, is used with uncountable, singular and plural countable nouns.

For example,

a house, a chair, an orange, the woman, the boys, the food, etc.

There are two types of Articles:

1. Definite Articles
2. Indefinite Articles

The is called Definite Article because it points to a particular person or thing, not to any person or thing.

For example,

This is the woman who won the Reader's Digest Grand Prize.

(meaning, one particular woman, not any woman)

This is the watch which I have misplaced.

(meaning, only this watch, not any watch)

1. We use *the* when it is clear from the situation which person or thing we mean.

For example,

The mechanic is late. (You know which mechanic: Ah Chuan, the mechanic who repairs your car.)

2. We use *the* to talk about things and people we have already mentioned.

For example,

He bought a towel. The towel cost RM 15.

A or An is called the Indefinite Article because it refers to any one person or thing, and not to a particular person or thing.

For example,

Give me a scissors.

(meaning, any scissors)

Call a nurse.

(meaning, any nurse)

An elephant is a big animal.

(meaning, all elephants are big)

- 1. The indefinite article *a/an* means ‘one’. We use *a/an* with a singular countable noun to talk about just one member of a class of people, things, ideas, etc.**

For example,

I bought a recipe book. – It could be any one of the several recipe books available. The reader doesn’t know which one.

- 2. We do not use *a/an* with a plural or uncountable noun because *a/an* means ‘one’.**

For example,

Everybody needs a friends. (Wrong)

I love to eat a Chinese food. (Wrong)

- 3. In choosing to use *a* or *an*, remember that the form to use depends on the sound of the word which follows it, not its spelling. Use *an* if the word begins with a vowel and *a* if it begins with a consonant sound.**

For example,

an apple, a ball

Exercise A

A or An?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. arrangement | 8. instrument |
| 2. entrance | 9. usher |
| 3. exit | 10. bus conductor |
| 4. orchestra | 11. musician |
| 5. trumpet | 12. M.P. (member of Parliament) |
| 6. harmonica | 13. e-mail |
| 7. pianist | 14. university |

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with **a** or **an**.

1. Linda is _____ arrogant person.
2. Miss Pillay is _____ very senior teacher.
3. Abdul Malek is _____ optimistic swimmer.
4. My brother is not _____ thrifty person.
5. Adidas is _____ famous brand name.
6. Jeya is _____ honest girl.
7. He left half _____ hour ago.
8. The bald man has _____ low self-esteem.
9. Leftenan Adnan was _____ national hero.
10. Nordin is _____ goalkeeper in the football team.
11. Sharmini is _____ annoying spoilt girl.
12. That competition was _____ challenging one.
13. The Night Safari is _____ new tourist attraction in Taiping.
14. The Disney Channel has _____ variety of programmes for home entertainment.

Exercise C

Say whether articles are necessary or unnecessary in the sentences. Add articles if necessary, remove articles if they should not be there.

1. Robert bought motorcycle.
2. I eat rice everyday.
3. Jansee posted letter which she wrote last night.
4. I prefer to drink a water.
5. Would you like sandwich?
6. Mun Cheong usually wears necktie to work.
7. Anida enjoys listening to a music.
8. Flowers in the pot are very pretty.
9. When she had chicken pox, she had to be on leave for a days.
10. His father is army.

Exercise D

Read the clues given after each sentence. Then choose *a*, *an* or *the* to complete the sentences.

1. He is ____ waiter at the Eden Restaurant.
(There are many waiters at the restaurant.)
2. ____ moon is very bright tonight.
(You know which moon – there is only one.)
3. This is ____ photo of my mother taken last year.
(My mother had several photographs taken of her last year.)
4. Could you ask ____ teacher over there?
(The speaker points to one of the teachers.)

5. Would you like ____ apple or ____ orange?
(There are two apples and three oranges in the basket.)
6. This is Nadir. He is ____ good friend of mine.
(I have several good friends.)
7. How long does ____ journey take?
(We have been talking about driving from Penang to Kuala Lumpur.)
8. He is ____ M.P.(Member of Parliament) for this town.
(Each town has only one M.P.)
9. She is ____ Australian who married my brother.
(The speaker points at one woman near the window.)
10. I feel like seeing ____ movie tonight.
(There are several movies being shown tonight and I haven't made up my mind which one to see.)

PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions of Positions

A preposition is a word that is placed before

a. a noun

Example: The party is *at* Gurney Hotel.

b. a noun phrase

Example: The cat is sleeping *on* the sofa.

c. a pronoun

Example: I can't carry this box. There is something heavy *in* it.

1. at, in, on

We can use the prepositions *at*, *in* or *on* to say where we live. We use *at* when we state the address. We use *in* when we state the town, city or country where we live. We use *on* when we state the floor or level of the apartment we live in.

For example,

I live *at* 4 Lintang Pekaka 4, Taman Pekaka, 11700 Penang.

I live *in* Penang.

Salleh lives *on* the second floor of University Height.

2. at, in

We use *at* when we want to show that a person or thing is at an exact location or a particular point. We use *in* when we want to show that a person or thing is inside something or in an enclosed area.

For example,

My mother is *at* the market. (not the post office)

My mum is *in* the market. (not outside it)

3. *in, on*

We also use *in* to show a person or thing below or partly below the surface of something.

We use *on* when we want to show that a person or thing is just touching a line or the surface of something.

For example,

Mariamah is *in* the pool.

There is a paper boat floating *on* the water.

4. *beside, besides*

We must not confuse *beside* with *besides*.

Beside means 'next to'.

For example,

The museum is *beside* the railway station.

Besides means 'in addition to'.

For example,

She owns another restaurant in Taiping *besides* the one in Ipoh.

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with *at, beside, in* or *on*.

1. Hashim lives ____ 159, Changkat Minden. Shamsiah lives ____ the house next to his.
2. He stood ____ a ladder. He hung a picture ____ the clock.
3. Puteri is ____ her grandmother's apartment. She and her grandmother often chat ____ the balcony in the evenings.

4. My father likes to read ____ the garden. Sometimes, he sits ____ the branch of a tree and reads.
5. Isyam and his family are ____ this photograph. Isyam's sister is standing ____ him.
6. The towels ____ the bathroom are dirty.
7. Meng Fatt hung the wet clothes ____ the clothes line.
8. The motorist parked his car ____ shop.
9. Your scarf is ____ the floor.
10. The students are having a picnic ____ a lake.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the prepositions *at*, *beside*, *in* or *on*.

Mariam, her mother and five other people were ____ a lift. The lift stopped ____ the fourth floor of the building but the door would not open. An old lady ____ Mariam began to cry. A girl ____ the back of the lift began to cry too. One of the men banged ____ to get attention. Another man pressed the 'Help' button ____ the switch panel of the lift. Mariam stood quietly ____ her mother and waited.

Suddenly, the lift moved again. It stopped ____ the fifth floor and this time the lift door opened. Some security guards were ____ the door to help everyone out. However, the old lady refused to come out. She stood ____ a corner of the lift and faced the wall. Finally, two of the security guards brought a chair and persuaded her to sit ____ it. Then they carried the chair and the old lady out.

Prepositions of Time

1. *at, in, on*

We can use *at, in* or *on* when we give information about time. We use *at* to point to exact times. We use *in* to point to a period of time. We use *on* to point to a particular day or date.

For example,

at 4 p.m. (exact time)

at breakfast (meal time)

at noon (a point of time within a day)

in the morning (a period of time within a day)

in July (a month)

in 2004 (a year)

on Monday (a particular day)

on Monday morning (the morning of a particular day)

on 12 April (a specific date)

2. *at, on*

We can also use *at* and *on* for specific events and occasions like public holidays. We usually use *on* when the event ends in the word 'day', and *at* when it does not.

For example,

Her sister got married **on New Year's Day**.

Diana threw a party **on her birthday**.

Carmilla visited her family **at Easter**.

He gave a speech **at the prize presentation ceremony**.

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with *at*, *in* or *on*.

1. Labour Day is ____ 1 May.
2. The English Society is meeting ____ 4 p.m.
3. I spent two months in Kelantan ____ 2003.
4. many supermarkets are open ____ Sunday.
5. The train leaves for Kuala Lumpur ____ 1 o'clock.
6. My grandfather often has a nap ____ the afternoon.
7. Malaysia celebrates its Merdeka Day ____ August.
8. Ramli sent Zarina 14 roses ____ Valentine's Day.
9. They usually meet at Wai Leng's house ____ Saturday evenings.
10. Our family always has a meal together ____ dinnertime.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with *at*, *in*, *on* or - (no preposition).

Farah woke up ____ dawn ____ 3 August. She was so excited she could no longer sleep. It was ____ today that her first novel *Dark Moon* ____ *June* would be launched at the Vistana Hotel. Farah lay in bed until the phone rang ____ 8 a.m. It was her absentminded sister Farhana.

"Farah, is your book launch ____ the morning or ____ the afternoon?" she asked.

"It's ____ 10 a.m., Farhana," said Farah. "Please don't be late for it."

"I'll leave the house by 9.30 a.m.," suggested Farhana.

"Please leave earlier. Remember the traffic jam ____ last Friday? We were delayed by two hours," said Farah.

"Don't worry," said her sister. "I'll be there early... Farah, there's someone at the door. I'll have to hang up now. I'll see you tomorrow."

“Tomorrow?” asked Farah.

“Your book launch is ____ 4 August, isn’t it? That’s tomorrow,” said Farhana.

“No, it’s today, Farhana!” cried Farah. “Don’t come for my book launch one day late!”

ADVERBS

1. Adverbs are words which tell us more about verbs, adjectives or other adverbs.
Adverbs are usually placed next to the word they describe.

For example,

- a. adverbs with verbs

He listens carefully to the teacher.

verb adverb

- b. adverbs with adjectives

This house is quite big.

adverb adjective

- c. adverbs with other adverbs

They entered the house very quietly.

adverb adverb

2. We do not use adjectives to describe verbs. We use adverbs. Most adverbs are formed by adding the 'ly' ending to adjectives.

For example,

Azlan played badly in the hockey match.

verb adverb

The van driver shouted angrily at the cyclist.

verb adverb

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with adverbs formed from the words in brackets.

1. The little boy talked _____(rude) to his sister.
2. The bald man gulped down the soup _____(noise).
3. “I’m fine, thank you, “the pretty lady said _____(sweet).
4. Daniel waited _____(patient) for his friend.
5. Father advises us to cross the road _____(careful).
6. Askandar whispered _____(soft) in my ear.
7. The doctor examined his patient _____(through).
8. It is _____(definite) going to rain this afternoon.
9. Razif _____(stubborn) refused to give in to his brother.
10. The injured soldier crawled _____(painful) to safety.
11. Beckham passed the ball to Owen _____(accurate).
12. Mr Satha greeted the class _____(cheerful).
13. I regretted speaking _____(harsh) to my siste this morning.
14. I felt that I was _____(positive) right.
15. The neighbours settled the argument _____(peaceful).
16. The match was postponed _____(temporary) because of the rain.
17. The poor man received the donation _____(grateful).
18. Alan behaved _____(bad) in class today.
19. The bad-tempered man shouted _____(angry) at the salesgirl.
20. The object is shown _____(clear) in this picture.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the words in the brackets. Add 'ly' endings to the words where necessary.

1. The young boy ate the burger _____. (hungry)
2. It rained _____ this morning. (heavy)
3. The injured elephant cannot walk _____. (far)
4. Mrs Lim spoke _____. (loud)
5. He went _____ to the station. (alone)
6. We will not stay _____ in Melaka. (long)
7. They walked _____ across the hall. (silent)
8. The baby cries for food _____. (frequent)
9. Crabs do not walk _____. (straight)
10. They arrived _____ for the wedding. (late)

Exercise C

Underline the correct words in the brackets to complete the passage.

The men worked (patient/patiently) under the hot sun. They (skilful/skillfully) guided their water-buffaloes up and down the open fields. The ploughs pulled by the buffaloes formed (deep/deeply) furrows in the earth. Children followed (happy/happily) behind their fathers, doing their share of the (hard/hardly) work. They picked up sticks and stones and piled them (careful/carefully) on one side. Soon they were tired and sat down (quiet/quietly) to watch their fathers at work. A while later, some women entered the fields, their faces shaded from the (fierce/fiercely) heat by large straw hats. Little bags of seeds hung (loose/loosely) from their shoulders. Their fingers moved (quick/quickly) as they scattered the rice seeds across the fields.

VERBS

We use a word or a group of words to express actions. Words like sit, run, eat, play, sleep, sing, see, take, tell, etc. tell us something about actions. They are known as Verbs.

1. Verbs are important because they give us useful information in a sentence. They indicate action.
2. Some verbs, known as linking verbs, link the subject and a word or group of words that describes or identifies the subject.
3. Verbs also have number and time. In the present tense, for example, a verb may be singular or plural (depending on the subject).
4. We can tell the time (present, past or future) by looking at the form of the verb.

English has three main types of verb tense: simple, continuous and perfect. Here is a list of the correct forms, using the verb *go* as an example.

	Present	Past
Simple	go, goes	went
Continuous	am/is/are going	was/were going
Perfect	has/have gone	had gone

Simple Present Tense

The Simple Present Tense consists of one word only. Simple Present verbs have no –ed or-ing endings.

1. We use the Simple Present for general statements of facts or general truth.

For example,

The earth *goes* around the sun.

Whales *are* mammals.

Cats *are* smaller than tigers.

2. The Simple Present is also used to show a habitual action. The habitual action here refers to the repetition of events.

For example,

I *wake* up in the morning.

They usually *go* shopping on weekends.

The durian season usually *starts* in May.

3. We also use the Simple Present to indicate a planned future event/action.

For example,

Mr Raymer *retires* in August.

The express bus *leaves* for Kuala Lumpur at 11 p.m.

The computer lessons *begin* tonight.

4. We can use the Simple Present to talk about our thoughts and feelings at the time of speaking.

For example,

We *feel* sad.

She *hates* cockroaches.

They *believe* in karma.

	Singular	Plural
Simple present tense of all verbs except <i>can, must, may,</i> <i>will:</i>	he/she/it relaxes he/she/it goes	they relax they go
The verb <i>be</i> , present tense:	I am you are he/she/it is	we are you are they are

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Present Tense of the words in the brackets.

1. Amir _____ (live) with his grandfather.
2. Michelle _____ (work) in an office.
3. We _____ (learn) something new everyday.
4. She _____ (wake) up at seven every morning.
5. They _____ (carry) the table.
6. Kanabalan _____ (go) to school everyday.
7. The lion _____ (roar) from its cage.
8. Erika _____ (walk) to the library.
9. The man _____ (whisper) to his wife.
10. Mother _____ (cook) dinner at seven.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Present Tense of the words in brackets.

1. Children _____ (has) to be obedient.
2. Our cousin _____ (visit) us on Saturdays.
3. My brother _____ (wear) spectacles.
4. The children _____ (be) very naughty.
5. We _____ (drink) milk. Father _____ (drink) coffee.
6. The workers _____ (arrange) the furniture.
7. The men _____ (paint) the house.
8. The old man _____ (play) chess at noon.
9. The cat _____ (chase) the mouse.
10. Noni _____ (take) a piece of cake.

Exercise C

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Present Tense of the words in brackets.

1. Miss Toh _____ (teach) us History.
2. Davinder _____ (wash) his clothes.
3. Jain _____ (play) the piano.
4. Mariani and Sarah _____ (sing) beautifully.
5. They _____ (plant) rice.
6. We _____ (stay) near the campus.
7. Her parents _____ (drive) to work.
8. Father _____ (stir) the tea
9. She _____ (speak) at the meetings
10. The birds _____ (fly) south in winter.

Exercise D

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Present Tense of the words in brackets.

1. The swimmer _____ (dive) from a high platform.
2. The fat woman _____ (sit) on a stool.
3. The goalkeeper _____ (save) the ball.
4. The naughty boys _____ (make) too much noise.
5. The people in that office _____ (use) computers.
6. Sheila _____ (like) apples.
7. Johan _____ (play) the violin.
8. Akmar _____ (pluck) a flower from the garden.
9. Muminah and Safiyah _____ (volunteer) to help.
10. Vanida _____ (break) the pot.

The Present Continuous Tense

In the Present Continuous Tense, the auxiliary BE is used together with the main verb plus -ing. Thus, we have:

Mary *is drawing* a picture.

The girls *are playing* netball.

1. The Present Continuous Tense is used to show an action is taking place at the time of speaking.

For example,

I *am learning* how to bake a butter cake right now.

The boys *are playing* football now.

Mariam is talking to her friend at the moment.

2. We can use the Present Continuous Tense to refer to the activities that we have planned or arranged to do in the near future.

For example,

I *am going* to Seremban next week.

The girls *are leaving* soon.

What are *you doing* this evening?

3. The Present Continuous Tense is also used to indicate a habitual action.

Generally, it is used with an adverb of frequency like always, constantly, etc.

For example,

Johan *is always* studying at home.

These children *are always* arguing.

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with the Present Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. We _____ (watch) a movie.
2. I _____ (go) to the library.
3. Aminah _____ (take) a practical test.
4. Saleha _____ (plan) for a holiday.
5. The dog _____ (chase) the cat.
6. The thieves _____ (rob) a bank.
7. The doctor _____ (treat) the wounded man.
8. The girls _____ (study) in their rooms.
9. Robert _____ (write) a story.
10. We _____ (visit) our cousin in Stockholm.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the Present Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. My sister _____ (arrive) tonight.
2. They _____ (listen) to the radio.
3. The angry man _____ (shout) at his children.
4. Zarina _____ (page) for her husband.
5. Li Lian _____ (scribble) on the paper.
6. The men _____ (rest) under the tree.
7. The young girl _____ (sweep) the floor.
8. He _____ (make) a paper aeroplane.
9. Ramli _____ (polish) his boots.
10. Mak Long _____ (eat) a sandwich.

Exercise C

Fill in the blanks with The Present Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. Rashidah _____ (bake) a cake.
2. The police _____ (search) for the thieves.
3. The secretary _____ (make) a reservation.
4. The little baby _____ (cry).
5. My aunty _____ (knit) a sweater.
6. The guests _____ (come) into the banquet hall.
7. The children _____ (go) to the playground.
8. Ubaidulla _____ (use) a calculator.
9. Nazar _____ (whistle) to the music
10. Harbajan _____ (wait) for the bus.

Exercise D

Fill in the blanks with the Present Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. Suriani _____ (celebrate) his birthday.
2. Vivian _____ (drive) to work.
3. Aina and Aini _____ (build) a sand castle.
4. The clerk _____ (file) the documents.
5. Malaysia and Singapore _____ (neighbour) countries.
6. The rubbish _____ (be) disposed.
7. The witness _____ (testify) in court.
8. Florence _____ (read) a book.
9. I _____ (think) of going home soon.
10. My son _____ (colour) the picture.

The Simple Past Tense

The Simple Past Tense consists of one word only. The Simple Past of a regular verb ends in -ed, the simple past of an irregular verb can be found by looking in a dictionary.

1. We use the Simple Past Tense to describe an action that took place at a particular time in the past.

For example,

They played football this morning.

Zul invited me to his birthday party last week.

Kemala wrote a letter last night.

The boys went to Langkawi last month.

2. Sometimes we use the simple Past Tense to indicate a habitual past action.

For example,

I walked to school every day. (at a certain time in the past)

The children usually watched television after dinner. (referring to past habit)

	Singular	Plural
The simple past tense of a regular verb (e.g. walk).	I/you/he/she/it <i>walked</i> away from her.	They <i>walked</i> away from her.
The simple past tense of a irregular verb (e.g. sleep).	I/you/he/she/it <i>slept</i> on the sofa.	They <i>slept</i> on the sofa.
The simple past tense of verb be.	I <i>was</i> You <i>were</i> He/she/it <i>was</i>	We <i>were</i> You <i>were</i> They <i>were</i>

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past Tense of the words in brackets.

1. Susan _____ (pour) herself a cup of coffee.
2. Joseph _____ (come) to our house last week.
3. They _____ (go) to the exhibition yesterday.
4. Danila _____ (score) the winning goal in today's match.
5. Laila _____ (perform) her duties diligently.
6. Father _____ (strike) a match to light a candle.
7. Cleo _____ (ride) a bicycle to school.
8. Julia _____ (blow) out the candles on the cake and _____ (make) a wish.
9. David _____ (take) RM5 from his wallet and _____ (give) it to the old man.
10. Mr Lee _____ (serve) the community well before he _____ (retire).

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past Tense of the words in brackets.

1. Jemima _____ (speak) softly to the crying child.
2. The boys _____ (sleep) soundly yesterday.
3. The maid _____ (make) the beds this morning.
4. The teacher _____ (call) the naughty boy to the front.
5. He _____ (paint) the house pink.
6. Tina _____ (find) her lost necklace.
7. Pathma _____ (decide) not to join us.
8. The lady _____ (drop) her purse in the cineplex.
9. Hock Thye _____ (invite) his friends over for the weekend.
10. The students _____ (wear) uniforms to school.

Exercise C

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past Tense of the words in brackets.

1. I _____ (see) Aishah and Julie yesterday.
2. She _____ (visit) her grandmother in Kelantan.
3. Elisa _____ (drink) all the milk.
4. She _____ (live) in Germany for two years.
5. The children _____ (be) in the library at that time.
6. She _____ (tell) a lie.
7. The referee _____ (postpone) the match.
8. Sherlock Holmes _____ (solve) the mystery.
9. Yusry _____ (show) me his stamp collection.
10. They _____ (discover) the truth.

Exercise D

Fill in the blanks with the Simple Past Tense of the words in brackets.

1. She _____ (hear) the news on the radio.
2. We _____ (break) the chair.
3. Faridah _____ (pack) her bags last night.
4. Lee Su _____ (copy) the files from the computer.
5. The judge _____ (find) the accused guilty.
6. The poor man _____ (beg) for some money.
7. The motorist _____ (speed) across the highway.
8. The scouts _____ (clear) the ground before setting up their tents.
9. Yasmin _____ (give) away the old newspapers just now.
10. Goh _____ (water) the plants just now.

The Past Continuous Tense

In the Past Continuous Tense, the auxiliary BE is used together with the main verb plus -ing.

1. We use the Past Continuous Tense to talk about an action which was going on at a certain time in the past.

For example,

The baby *was crying* when I arrived.

What *were you doing* when they visited you?

She *was watching* television at noon yesterday.

2. We often use the Past Continuous Tense and the Simple Past Tense to show two actions, as in sentences 1 and 2 above.

The baby *was crying* when I *arrived*. (the action crying was still going on/continuing when I arrived at that moment)

Exercise A

Fill in the blanks with the Past Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. I _____ (watch) television when he came.
2. Julia _____ (write) a letter just now.
3. Mother _____ (cook) dinner at that time.
4. Adnan _____ (deliver) the papers that afternoon.
5. The doctor _____ (treat) his patients at 5 o'clock.
6. The guys _____ (play) tennis after work.
7. The villagers _____ (have) a feast on that day.
8. Vincent _____ (run) along the track just a while ago.
9. They _____ (rehearse) the play yesterday.
10. Amelia Earhart _____ (fly) across the Atlantic Ocean when she disappeared.

Exercise B

Fill in the blanks with the Past Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. My brother _____ (drive) to work when he saw the accident.
2. The women _____ (discuss) the situation at that time.
3. The company _____ (prepare) for the VIP visit last week.
4. She _____ (sleep) when I came home.
5. Kamal _____ (cycle) with his friends last evening.
6. Yelena and Janina _____ (use) the computer all of last week.
7. The old lady _____ (read) the newspaper this morning.
8. Those men _____ (hunt) the tiger last week.
9. The technician _____ (repair) the video cassette recorder just now.
10. The salesman _____ (display) his goods this afternoon.

Exercise C

Fill in the blanks with the Past Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. I _____ (travel) in a train.
2. You _____ (sing) in the bathroom this morning.
3. We _____ (do) our homework after lunch.
4. Ben _____ (play) the violin last evening.
5. He _____ (water) the plants this morning.
6. Balan _____ (collect) money from the subscribers last week.
7. Anom and Ailin _____ (argue) last night.
8. My parents _____ (talk) to Pak Uda this morning.
9. Nina _____ (make) a telephone call just now.
10. She _____ (go) for a walk when she was mugged.

Exercise D

Fill in the blanks with the Past Continuous Tense of the words in brackets.

1. They _____ (count) the money at that time.
2. She _____ (wait) for the school bus this morning.
3. Harnani _____ (sit) on that couch just a while ago.
4. The old man _____ (tell) stories to his grandchildren just now.
5. The men _____ (varnish) the furniture all afternoon.
6. Carmen _____ (look) at the fishes in the aquarium.
7. My dad _____ (drink) coffee when the phone rang.
8. Letchumanan and Bala _____ (fish) last evening.
9. The gardener _____ (weed) the garden yesterday.
10. Rezal _____ (distribute) the flyers last Sunday.

PUNCTUATIONS

Rules

1. We begin a sentence with a capital letter.

For example,

Steven comes from Finland. **H**is wife comes from India.

Where do you come from?

2. We use one punctuation mark at the end of a sentence.

- a. We usually use a full stop (.) for a sentence that gives information and a question mark (?) for a sentence that asks for information.

For example,

Hanafi wants to be an astronaut.

Where does Mr Oliver work?

- b. We usually use an exclamation mark (!) after a word, phrase or sentence that expresses strong emotion such as surprise or anger.

For example,

Ouch! Watch out!

Caroline scored eight distinctions in the exam!

Exercise A

Tick the sentences that use punctuation marks correctly.

1. I have two brothers. their names are Idham and Anuar. _____
2. What is on that wall?. _____
3. Oh no! The cinema is on fire. _____
4. Are you in Form 1! _____
5. Draw a circle. _____

6. Don't touch the kettle. _____
7. kamariah borrowed my radio yesterday _____
8. That man is a thief! _____
9. Help. I'm in trouble. _____
10. Where are my hamsters? _____

Exercise B

Rewrite the sentences using the correct punctuation marks.

1. Oh dear I can't find my bus ticket?

2. the documents are not with me.

3. What did you say!

4. we are excited about the trip to Australia?

5. How old is your sister

6. Hafiz Hashim will not be playing for his team

7. he could not find his way to your house.

8. When did the accident happen.

9. those boys are not interested in their studies.

10. Help Anybody my husband is choking.

Exercise C

The mistake in punctuation have been underlined. Rewrite the sentences using correct punctuation marks.

the children haven't come down. Why is it so quiet upstairs. I wonder what they're doing? I'm going to check on them...Oh my goodness. Children, what are you doing? You've got paint on your faces! No, you can't play Red Indians in the bedroom. please wash your faces right now, I want you downstairs in five minutes. Dinners is almost ready and Papa doesn't like to be kept waiting?

Exercise D

The mistakes in punctuation have been underlined. Rewrite the sentences using the correct punctuation marks.

Munirah : Dad, look at the dolphins? They're swimming around the tank. they don't look wild at all.

Dad : we call them bottle-nosed dolphins.

Munirah : They seem to be smiling all the time

Dad : That's because of the way their mouth are curved?

Munirah : Dad, a tall man is on the plank over the tank. is he going to dive into the tank!

Dad : No, he is not going to do that? See, he's throwing a fish into the air.

Munirah : Dad, a dolphin is in the air! It's scatching the fish in its snout.
