Unit 1 · Meeting People

STUDY NOTES

Three jobs of this unit

- **greet**: say hello when you meet (*Namaste! Good morning! Hi!*)
- **introduce**: say who you are, or who a friend is
- **take leave**: say goodbye when you go

Reading I: Kumari's First Day at Saraswati Basic School

- **Kind:** a picture story, eight pictures with a line or two each
- **Who: Kumari Majhi**, a new girl, **from Kaski**; her family takes her to school
- **The gatekeeper** salutes and welcomes the family at the gate
- **The headteacher, Dolma,** greets them with namaste in the office
- **In class:** Kumari greets everyone, gives her full name and her district
- **A classmate** introduces her friend **Rita, from Dolakha**; the two girls are happy to meet
- **At the end:** Kumari says goodbye to the class; a friend says it was a wonderful day
- **Order of the story:** greet → introduce → say goodbye

Reading II: Tree Leaves (a poem)

- **Kind:** a **poem** in three verses; the poet speaks as *I*
- **What it is about:** autumn and winter leaves coming down from the trees
- **Colors:** red, yellow, orange, brown
- **Why they fall (in the poem):** winter calls them away from their **stems**
- **Where they land:** on the poet, who wonders where all of them will come down
- **What they do:** dance, play with the wind, sing, say goodbye
- **Where they go:** up towards the sky again; the last line is said twice, like an echo
- **The trick:** leaves are written about **as if they were people** (dance, sing, say goodbye), so the fall feels happy
- **The real reason** leaves fall: in autumn and winter a tree makes little food and loses water through its leaves, so it drops them and rests
- **Rhyme** = same sound at the end, not same spelling:
  - *brown, down*
  - *hand, land*
  - *goodbye, sky*
  - *them, stem*
  - *long, song*

Key words

gatekeeper: the person who looks after a gate.

headteacher: the teacher in charge of a school.

pleased: happy.

wonderful: very, very good.

stem: the thin part that holds a leaf to the plant.

wonder: ask yourself about something.

land (verb): come down onto the ground.

bade goodbye: said goodbye (old past of *bid*).

expression / response: what one person says / what the other says back.

Speaking: what to say

Introducing	Answering	Saying goodbye
Hi, my name is …	*Nice to meet you.*	*See you soon.*
Let me introduce myself. I'm …	*Pleased to meet you.*	*Take care.*
Meet my friend, …	*Nice to meet you **too**.*	*Sorry, I've got to go now.*
Lila, this is Anil. Anil, this is Lila.	*I'm from …, and you?*	*See you tomorrow.*

- two friends: say **each one's name to the other**
- **and you?** asks the same question back
- answering *Pleased to meet you*: add **too** (*Nice to meet you too.*)
- **first meeting:** *Hi, I'm Ramesh*; *It's me* only to someone who knows you (phone, door)
- **What do you do?** = what is your work? (*I go to school.*), not *what are you doing now?*
- **loud word:** the important word is louder and longer: *Nice to **meet** you. See you **soon**.*
- polite to strangers, but never give your address or phone number

Writing I: capital letters and full stops

- **sentence:** starts with a **capital**, ends with a **full stop**

- capitals also for:
  - names of people (*Ishika Pandit*)
  - names of places (*Nuwakot, Jhapa*)
  - **I** and **I'm**, always
- not for ordinary words in the middle: *friend, lives*
- **tip:** find where each sentence ends first, then look for names, places and *i*

A paragraph about yourself, in this order:

1. your name
2. where you are from, where you live
3. what your parents do
4. brothers and sisters
5. one thing you love

Grammar I: the present simple

- **Use:** things true now (*Kumari is from Kaski*); things we do again and again (*He studies in Grade 5*)

	Yes	No
I	**am** (*I'm*)	**am not** (*I'm not*)
he, she, it, one name	**is**	**is not** (*isn't*)
you, we, they	**are**	**are not** (*aren't*)

- other verbs: he, she, it **+ -s**: *She likes milk. / I like milk.*
- negative: **don't / doesn't** + base: *She doesn't like milk.*
- question: **Do / Does** + subject + base: *Does Emily swim?*
- after *does, doesn't*: **no -s** on the verb

Adding -s

- most verbs **-s**: *works*
- -sh, -ch, -s, -x, -o **-es**: *washes, watches, goes*
- consonant + y → **-ies**: *studies, carries*
- **have → has**

Grammar II: at, on, in for time

Word	With	Example
at	a clock time	*at 1 p.m., at noon, at night*
on	a day or a date	*on Friday, on 5th May, on my birthday*
in	longer: part of a day, month, season, year	*in the evening, in June, in winter, in 1960*
in	after a length of time	*in ten minutes*

- clock time → **at**; a day → **on**; longer than a day → **in**
- **in** the morning, afternoon, evening, but **at** night
- with a day, **on** wins: *on Monday morning*
- **a.m.** already means morning: *at 4 a.m.*, not *at 4 a.m. in the morning*

Writing II: a friendly email

1. **To:** the email address
2. **Subject:** a few words on what it is about (*My family*), not a greeting
3. **Greeting:** *Hi, Nitish* / *Dear Nitish*
4. **Body:** short sentences (where you live, how many in your family, what each does)
5. **Closing line:** *Hope to meet you soon.* / *Write back soon.*
6. **Your name**

- filling gaps: look at the word **before** the gap; a phrase with a capital starts a sentence

Listening: Sara Lambert

- talks about herself: name (spells it), age **40**, from **London**, **two girls** (18 and 16)
- **can** paint and sing; **can't** play football or ski
- pets: a horse, two cats, seven rabbits, ten chickens; **no guinea pig**
- a model for talking about yourself: name, age, home, family, can, can't, pets

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ He doesn't likes English.
✓ He doesn't **like** English.

✗ Does she plays football?
✓ Does she **play** football?

✗ Mingma go to school by bus.
✓ Mingma **goes** to school by bus.

✗ my friend lives in pokhara
✓ **M**y friend lives in **P**okhara. (full stop at the end)

✗ i am ten.
✓ **I** am ten.

✗ at 4 a.m. in the morning
✓ **at 4 a.m.**

✗ on the evening / at the morning
✓ **in** the evening / **in** the morning