Unit 5 · Making Suggestions

STUDY NOTES

The unit in one line

- **make suggestions**: give advice kindly: *You should… · Why don't you…? · If I were you, I would…*
- grammar: imagine with **if**: *If I were a bird, I would fly over the mountains.*

Song: if I were…

- each verse imagines being something else: with **wings** fly high and see the world; a **dolphin** dive deep; a hungry little **crocodile** travel miles for food; a **monkey** roam free
- what the singer really wants: to stay happy, active and free
- pattern: ***If*** *I* ***had****…, I* ***would****… / **If** I **were**…, I **would**…*

Reading I: The Monkeys Go Fasting (a folk tale)

- **folk tale** = a story told for hundreds of years before it was written down; this one from India; funny, with a lesson
- the monkeys decide to **fast** for a day

Each suggestion brings the bananas closer

1. the old **chief**: young monkeys collect food first, or we will be **starving** by evening → bunches of **delicious** bananas
2. the chief's wife: give each monkey its **share** now; no time to share after the fast
3. a young monkey: **peel** one each; a fat monkey is hungry just looking at them; the chief: don't eat till the fast is over
4. a little monkey: keep it in my mouth, I **promise** not to eat it; his father: everyone do it, so we can **chew** the moment the fast ends
5. every banana slides down every throat: the end of the fast

- **lesson:** keep a temptation in front of you and you will give in to it; each suggestion was the monkeys' hunger speaking

Reading II: History of Computers

When	What
first computers	the size of a room; only arithmetic, like a big **calculator**
1930s	**Alan Turing** (English): a computer **programmed** to do many jobs
1958	**Jack Kilby** (American) made the first **microchip**
1970s	computers small and cheap enough for homes
1980s	**computer games**: many bought a computer just to play
1989	**Tim Berners-Lee** invented the **World Wide Web**
today	a **smartphone**: games, email, internet, in your pocket

- **microchip:** tiny, but stores lots of information; many electronic parts; lets computers be small
- people share information on **websites**
- **without mobile phones?** many say smartphones made life better; nearly half can hardly imagine life without one; we **depend on** them (alarms, the way, email)

Key words

fast: eat nothing for a time.

starve: suffer from having too little food.

chief: leader of a group.

nod: move the head down and up to say yes.

delicious: very tasty.

share: the part given to one person.

peel: take the skin off a fruit.

chew: break food with your teeth.

gullet: the tube from mouth to stomach.

invent: make something that never existed before.

dependent (on): needing someone or something.

Speaking: making suggestions

Suggestion	How it sounds
You should *tell your teacher.*	clear advice: the right thing to do
Why don't you *tell your teacher?*	friendly; an idea to think about
If I were you, I would *tell him.*	imagine I had your problem: gentle but strong
Let's *tell her together.*	for both of us

- all + **plain verb**: *should tell, why don't you tell, would tell*
- answering: *That's a good idea. / You're right. I will. / Thanks, but…* + reason
- **inform** a person: *inform your parents*, not *inform it to*
- *take* medicine, but *drink* water

Grammar: if I were you

The *if* part	The other part
If + past (*had, ran, were*)	**would / could** + plain verb
If I ***had*** *wings,*	*I* ***would*** *fly.*
If it ***were*** *sunny,*	*we* ***could*** *go out.*

- past verb, but about **now or the future**: it shows the situation is **imagined** (not true, not likely)
- *I would buy a house if I had enough money.* = I probably won't have it
- **were** for every person (*If he were…*); *was* also heard; ***If I were you*** never changes
- *if* part first → **comma**; second → none
- **imagine the opposite:** *I don't live with my parents, so I don't see them.* → *If I* ***lived*** *with my parents, I* ***would see*** *them.*
- **real** possibility: *If it* ***rains****, we* ***will*** *stay home.*
- **imagined**: *If it* ***rained*** *money, we* ***would*** *be rich.*

Writing: a story from an outline (Belling the Cat)

1. the mice are unhappy: the cat has killed many
2. a meeting: how to get rid of the cat?
3. many suggestions; none will work
4. a young mouse: tie a **bell** round the cat's neck
5. all welcome the idea with joy
6. an old mouse: **who will tie the bell?**

- write in the **past**; one group of sentences per step; end with a moral: easy to suggest a plan, hard to carry it out

Project and extra bit

- **exam tips** for a younger brother or sister, using all three ways
- **irregular verbs**: base → simple past → past participle (after *has, have, had*)
  - one form for both: *bring, brought, brought*; *build, built, built*; *buy, bought, bought*; *feel, felt, felt*; *find, found, found*
  - three forms: *begin, began, begun*; *drink, drank, drunk*; *fly, flew, flown*; *forget, forgot, forgotten*
  - **-n / -en** participles: *broken, chosen, driven, given, grown, fallen*
  - *get, got, gotten* (American, "received, become")

Listening: Ivan and Suvam

- friends; Ivan has lost his **pencil box**
- **first:** *You should tell it to your* ***class teacher****.* (told, but not **found**)
- **then:** *Why don't you ask your friends in the class?* Ivan is **afraid**
- **last:** *If I were you, I would go in front of the class and tell it* ***loudly*** *to all.* → *a good* ***idea***

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ If I am you, I would tell him.
✓ If I **were** you, I would tell him.

✗ If I were you, I will tell him.
✓ If I were you, I **would** tell him.

✗ You should to go to bed early.
✓ You should **go** to bed early.

✗ Why don't you going to bed early?
✓ Why don't you **go** to bed early?

✗ Inform it to your parents.
✓ **Inform your parents.**

✗ If I have wings, I would fly.
✓ If I **had** wings, I would fly.

✗ I have forgot my homework.
✓ I have **forgotten** my homework.