Unit 6 · Intentions and Reasons

STUDY NOTES

The unit in one line

- **intention** = what you want or plan to do: *I want to be a doctor. I'm going to visit my grandmother.*
- **reason** = why, with **because**: … *because I like helping sick people.*

Song: A Passing Glimpse (a poem)

- by the American poet **Robert Frost** (1928); **glimpse** = a very quick look
- the poet sees flowers beside the railway from a **train** (a **car** = one railway coach); gone before he can tell what they are
- he wishes he could get off and walk back; was it something he will never find again?
- the thought: the most beautiful sights are sometimes given to those who can't stop and look closely
- a gentle, rocking beat, like a train; rhymes in pairs: *car / are, back / track, mind / find, those / close*

Reading I: Tom Paints the Fence (a play)

- **play** = a story in the characters' own words, to be acted; speaker's name first; **stage directions** (in brackets, italics) say what to do
- from *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by **Mark Twain** (real name **Samuel Langhorne Clemens**, 1835–1910); a town on the Mississippi River, America
- characters: **Tom**, **Aunt Polly**, **Ben**, **Billy** (Jim is only talked about)

Scene I: the jam

- Tom hid in the **closet** eating **jam** (sticky hands, red mouth)
- Aunt Polly asks for the **switch** (a thin stick for beating)
- Tom: *Look behind you!* She turns, he runs; she **laughs**: tricked by the oldest trick

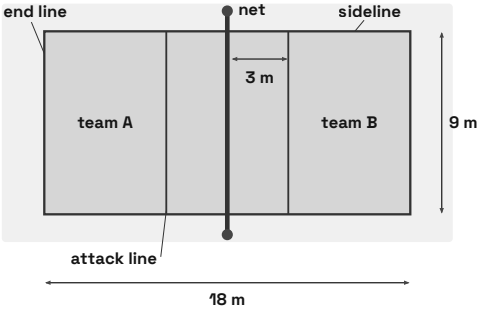
Scene II: the fence

1. Aunt Polly: **whitewash** the fence (paint it white); Tom begs for tomorrow; no
2. **Ben** comes first, eating an apple: do you really like it?
3. Tom's trick: of course; how often does a boy get this chance? paints carefully, doesn't look at Ben
4. Tom refuses: Aunt Polly didn't let Jim → Ben wants it more → gives his **apple**
5. Tom eats; **Billy** comes; **Ben and Billy fight** over the brush
6. Tom stops the fight and gives them turns
7. the fence is done; Aunt Polly praises Tom and lets him play; all run to the river

- the idea: make a thing **hard to get** and people want it

Reading II: Volleyball, our national game

- Nepal's **national** game (declared May 2017); played in mountains, hills and Tarai: the **court** needs little space, the rules are simple
- two teams of **six players**; a net between them
- net top: **2.43 m** men, **2.24 m** women
- a **rally** starts with a **serve**; whoever wins it scores a point (**rally scoring**)
- land the ball on the **opponent's** court; at most **three touches** a side; no player twice in a row
- a set: first to **25 points**, at least **two ahead** (24–24 → 26–24, 27–25…)
- made up in 1895 by **William G. Morgan**, USA



The court: 18 m × 9 m, the net across the middle, attack lines 3 m from it.

Key words

closet: a small room or big cupboard for keeping things.

switch: a thin stick that bends easily (also a light switch).

whitewash: lime and water for painting walls; to paint with it.

surprised: feeling something unexpected has happened.

persuade: make someone agree by giving reasons.

national: standing for a whole country.

court: a marked area for a game.

rally: one turn of play, serve to point.

opponent: the one you play against.

smash: a hard, fast hit down over the net.

Speaking: wants and reasons

Want	Ask why	Reason
I want to play cricket.	*Why do you want to play cricket?*	*… because it is fun with friends.*
I like to swim.	*Why do you like to swim?*	*… because it keeps me cool.*
I'm going to study science.	*Why are you going to study science?*	*… because I want to be a doctor.*
I won't come tomorrow.	*Why won't you come tomorrow?*	*… because I have to go to the hospital.*

- answer with the **same verb form**: *are you going → I'm going; do you go → I go*
- talk: *Because it keeps me cool.* is fine; written: the **whole sentence**

Grammar: because and because of

	Then	Example
because	a sentence (subject + **verb**)	*… because **it rained**.*
because of	a noun, **no verb**	*… because of **the rain**.*

- check: is there a verb after the gap?
- joining with *because of* turns a sentence into a noun:
  - *He is intelligent. → his intelligence*
  - *The road is muddy. → the muddy road*
- **reason** (*because*) vs **purpose** (*to, in order to* + plain verb): *She ran because she was late. She ran to catch the bus.*

Listening: how an earthquake happens

- rocks deep underground press and catch; **pressure** builds
- the **rock** suddenly breaks; energy comes out as **seismic waves**, which make the ground shake
- the rocks **move** until they get stuck again
- **focus** = the underground point where the rock breaks
- **epicenter** = the point on the **ground** right above the focus
- Gorkha Earthquake: **25 April 2015**, epicenter near Barpak
- safety: **drop, cover, hold on**; then go to an open space

Writing

- **rules of a game:** a numbered list, short, one rule each (six players; three touches; don't touch the net; respect the referee)
- **my favorite game:** what it is → how it is played → **why** you like it (use *because* at least twice)
- **project:** act out the play; speak slowly and loudly, face the audience

Extra bit: collective nouns

- one word for a group; usually takes **is**: *The team **is** playing well.*

People	Animals	Things
a **team** of players	a **herd** of cows, deer	a **range** of mountains
a **crowd** of people	a **flock** of birds, sheep	a **bunch** of bananas, keys
a **class** of students	a **school** of fish	a **fleet** of ships, buses
a **choir** of singers	a **swarm** of bees	a **pair** of shoes
a **troupe** of dancers	a **pack** of wolves	a **pack** of cards
a **gang** of thieves	a **pride** of lions	a **galaxy** of stars
a **panel** of experts	a **litter** of puppies	a **bouquet** of flowers

- a **pair** is always two: *a pair of scissors, trousers, glasses*

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ The match was stopped because the rain.
✓ The match was stopped **because of** the rain.

✗ I stayed home because of I was sick.
✓ I stayed home **because** I was sick.

✗ Why are you going? — I go because…
✓ Why are you going? — **I'm going** because…

✗ a flock of deer
✓ a **herd** of deer

✗ A flock of birds are flying south.
✓ A flock of birds **is** flying south.

✗ Tom gave Ben an apple.
✓ **Ben** gave Tom his apple.

✗ The epicenter is where the rock breaks.
✓ The **focus** is where the rock breaks; the epicenter is above it.