Grade 6 English, Explained

Unit 14 · Units and Quantities

STUDY NOTES

The unit in one line

- **units** (kilograms, liters, rupees) and **quantities** (how much, how many)
- the key question: **can you count it?** → *many / much, a few / a little*

Getting started: units

Measuring	Units	Short form
length, distance	millimeter, centimeter, meter, kilometer	mm, cm, m, km
mass (weight)	gram, kilogram	g, kg
volume (liquids)	milliliter, liter	ml, l
time	second, minute, hour	s, min, h
money in Nepal	paisa, rupee	Rs. or NRs.

- the pictures: oil **1 liter** (volume) · rice **20 kg** (mass) · *POKHARA 20 Km* (distance) · a fifty-**rupee** note (money)
- **kilo** = a thousand (1 km = 1,000 m; 1 kg = 1,000 g); **milli** = a thousandth; 1 rupee = 100 paisa

Song: Come, little leaves

- by **George Cooper**; autumn as a game
- the **wind** calls the leaves to play in the **meadows** (wide fields of grass), in dresses of **red and gold**: summer is over, the days grow cold
- the leaves come **fluttering** down, all together; dance and fly over the meadows, singing soft songs
- red and gold = the colors of leaves before they fall
- rhymes in pairs: *day / play, gold / cold, call / all, flew / knew*; a light, quick beat

Reading I: a price list

- **All in One Store**'s price list: **rice items** (rows 1–7, with two kinds of **beaten rice**, *chiura*) and **daal items** (rows 8–14)
- **Price/kg NRs.** = the price of **one kilogram**, in Nepalese rupees: *Rs. 80/kg* = eighty rupees **a** kilo; the slash = **per**
- **S.N.** = serial number
- rice: Pokhreli and Jira Masino **80** · Indian Basmati **100** · Mansuli **65** · Sona Mansuli **60** (cheapest rice) · Taichin beaten **120** · normal beaten **70**
- daal: big black gram (*mas*) **160** · small black gram **150** · big green gram (*moong*) **160** · red lentil (*musuro*) No. 1 **130**, No. 2 **120** · split red gram (*rahar*) **180** (dearest of all) · split Bengal gram (*chana daal*) **160**
- **seven** daal items; three at the same price (Rs. 160): big *mas*, big *moong*, *chana daal*
- with Rs. 100: **normal** beaten rice (Taichin costs more)
- true or false traps: Pokhreli is **not** the dearest rice; Mansuli (65) is **dearer** than Sona Mansuli (60); Red Lentil No. 1 is **more** expensive than No. 2
- your own chart: S.N., Item, Price, with the unit after each price (*a kg, a liter, each*)

Speaking: how much or how many?

	Use with	Examples
How many…?	things you can **count** (plural)	How many **pens**? How many **coins**?
How much…?	things you **can't count**	How much **water**? How much **music**?

- uncountable things are counted in units: *two liters of water, a glass of water*
- **How much…?** also asks a **price**: *How much is this pen?*
- the pictures: countable **muffins, coins, earrings, toys**; uncountable **music, rain, water**
- *How much **rain** fell in the morning?* (or *How much did it rain?*), never *How much rain did it fall?*

Listening: vegetable prices

- **Umesh** reads the day's prices from **Kalimati** market, rupees a kilo

Vegetable	Rs./kg
cabbage	35
radish	30
broccoli	50
tomato	50
cauliflower	35
lady's finger	135
gourd (or carrot)	65

- Rs. 65: gourd and carrot both, so either
- **wholesale** = sold in large amounts to shopkeepers; **retail** = the higher price we pay
- **stationery** = things to write and draw with; a price list: S.N., Item, Price

Grammar: quantity words

Word	With	Example
many	countable (plural)	*I saw **many** wild animals in Chitwan.*
much	uncountable	*There isn't **much** water in the bucket.*
a few	countable: a small number	*I read **a few** pages.*
a little	uncountable: a small amount	*Add **a little** salt.*
a lot of / lots of	both	*a lot of books, a lot of milk*
some	both: positives, offers	*Would you like **some** tea?*
any	both: questions, negatives	*I don't have **any** money.*
no	both: none, with a positive verb	*I have **no** time to cook.*

- **much** in questions and negatives; a plain positive takes **a lot of**: *She has a lot of money.*

- **a few / a little** = some, enough; **few / little** (no *a*) = hardly any: *I have few friends.*
- no double negative: *I don't make **any** meals*, never *don't make no*
- B: *much* time · *any* meals · *some* toast · a *little* orange juice · *many* good recipes · *a lot of* nice food
- a question inside a sentence keeps statement order: *Do you know how many cities **there are**?*
- C facts: **six** metropolitan cities (Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Pokhara, Bharatpur, Biratnagar, Birgunj); **eight** countries in South Asia (SAARC); three big rivers: Koshi, Gandaki, Karnali

Writing: a report on prices

1. **the facts**: what the table is about; the prices, joined so they don't read like a list
2. **the comparison**: higher, lower, then the most expensive and the cheapest

To say	Words to use
the same price	*The price of A and B is equal.* · *A costs the same as B.*
side by side	*A costs Rs. 100, **whereas** B costs Rs. 65.*
two in one go	*A and B cost Rs. 120 and Rs. 70, **respectively**.* (same order as named)
higher	*A is **more expensive than** B.* · *costlier, dearer*
lower	*B is **cheaper than** A.* · *less expensive*
top and bottom	*A is **the most expensive**.* · *B is **the cheapest**.*

- **more expensive**, never *expensiver*
- the stationery list: pilot pen 80, gel pen 30, pencil box 100, geometry box 150, ruler 40, marker 50 → geometry box the most expensive, gel pen the cheapest

Reading II: an advertisement

- an **advertisement** (*ad*) tries to make people buy
- heading: *Hurry up!*: a **20% discount** for **two weeks**, for the **New Year**
- prices in stars: colored pencils **90**, pens **20** (cheapest), exercise books **50**, geometry box **75**, calculator **350** (dearest); a big red **–20%**
- **discount** = an amount taken off the usual price; **20% off** = Rs. 20 less for every Rs. 100
  - calculator: 20% of 350 = 70 → **Rs. 280**; geometry box: 75 – 15 = **Rs. 60**
- the ad doesn't say if its prices are before or after the discount: ask
- Nepal's New Year: **1 Baisakh**, mid-April

Project: a grocery price chart

- groups of five; a shop near you; **ten** things
- ask: *Excuse me, how much is a kilo of rice?*
- a chart with **S.N.**, **Item**, **Price**, the unit with each price (*a kg, a liter, a packet, each*)
- compare charts: the same price in two shops? which shop is cheaper?

Extra bit: multiword verbs

- a verb + a small word (*up, on, off, out, in, after…*) with a **new** meaning: *look* → **look after** (take care of), **look up** (find in a book or online)

Verb	Meaning	Verb	Meaning
clean up	make clean	turn off / on	stop / start a machine
fill in	write information in a form	wrap up	finish
fill out	complete a form	bump into	meet by chance
give back	return	look after	take care of
hand in	give work to a teacher	bend over	lean forward
hand over	give to someone	check in / out	register at / leave a hotel
hold up	delay	get away	escape
line up	stand in a line	get together	meet
look over	look at quickly to check	get up	rise from bed
look up	find a fact or word	slip up	make a mistake
point out	show, draw attention to	break down	stop working
put on	dress in	end up	finally be in a place or state
set up	arrange, start	grow up	become an adult
try out	test	pass away	die (gently said)
take off	remove (clothes, shoes)	show up	arrive, appear

- **grow up** ≠ increase (prices **go up**); **end up** ≠ finish (*We ended up eating at home.*)
- **shut up** = stop talking, but **rude**: say *Please be quiet.*

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ How many water do you drink?
✓ How **much** water do you drink?

✗ How much students are absent?
✓ How **many** students are absent?

✗ She has much money.
✓ She has **a lot of** money.

✗ Can I have a few milk?
✓ Can I have **a little** milk?

✗ I don't make no meals.
✓ I don't make **any** meals.

✗ Do you know how many cities are there?
✓ Do you know how many cities **there are**?

✗ Basmati is expensiver than Mansuli.
✓ Basmati is **more expensive** than Mansuli.

✗ Prices grew up last year.
✓ Prices **went up** last year.