Unit 18 · Asking for Information and Reasons

STUDY NOTES

The unit in one line

- **asking for information and reasons**: questions that start with a **question word** (*what, where, when, why, who, which, whose, how*)
- **why** asks for a reason; the answer usually starts with **because**

Getting started

- four pictures, a question each: *What are they buying?* · *Why is the referee showing a red card?* · *What is the tall tower called?* (Dharahara) · *Why are the people standing around the table?*
- the song: question after question to a *silly* fox; it looks lonely and worried; stress the question words
- **tense** = worried, unable to relax: an adjective, so *The fox looks **tense**.*, never *in tense*

Reading I: a bar graph

- a **bar graph** (bar chart): money people in **Kathmandu** spent on **computers** and **smartphones**, **2015–2019**, in **millions of rupees**
- how to read one: the **title** · the **scale** up the left · the **labels** along the bottom · the **key** (which color) · find a bar, read across to the scale

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Computers	10	10	10	30	45
Smartphones	30	35	40	45	50
Total	40	45	50	75	95

- smartphones grew **steadily**: **5 million** (= **50 lakh**) every year; 1 million = 10 lakh
- computers **remained constant** (10 million) until 2017, then **increased dramatically** (30, then 45)
- **total expenditure** = add the two bars of a year: 40 million (2015) → 95 million (2019), more than twice
- more spent on smartphones **every year**, but computers **grew faster**: +35 million against +20
- if the trend goes on, computers will **overtake** (catch up and pass) smartphones in 2020
- A: a **increased steadily** · b **remained constant** · c **increased dramatically** · d **in this period** · e **grew** · f **overtake**
- B: 2015 computers **Rs. 10 million** (one crore) · 2016 smartphones **Rs. 35 million** · popular in 2017: **smartphones** (40 against 10)
- total 75 million → **2018** (30 + 45)

steadily: by about the same amount each time.

dramatically: suddenly and by a lot.

expenditure: the money spent.

remain constant: stay the same.

overtake: catch up with and go past.

Speaking: question words

Word	Asks about	Example
what	a thing, an action	*What do you want?*
where	a place	*Where do you live?*
when	a time	*When is your exam?*
what time	a clock time	*What time do you get up?*
why	a reason	*Why are you late?*
who	a person	*Who is your best friend?*
whose	the owner	*Whose bag is this?*
which	one of a few choices	*Which bag is yours, the red one or the black one?*
what kind (of)	a type	*What kind of books do you like?*
how many	a number (countable)	*How many brothers do you have?*
how much	an amount (uncountable), a price	*How much milk?* · *How much is it?*
how often	how many times	*How often do you swim?*
how	the way	*How does Mingma go to school?* (by bus)

- A: a **When** · b **How often** · c **Where** · d **What kind** · e **How many** · f **What** · g **What time** · h **Who** · i **Why** · j **What** · k **Which** · l **How much** (twelve words, twelve gaps)
- B: questions from statements
  - *Mt. Everest is the tallest* → **Which** is the tallest mountain in the world?
  - *WHO stands for…* → **What** does WHO stand for?
  - a **because** or a **to** part = the reason → **why**: *Why did you go to Kathmandu?* · *Why didn't she speak to you?*

Listening: finding the way

- a girl, **Sanju**, new in the town, asks people the way: a **cinema hall**, a **clinic**, an **ATM**, a **post office**
- the clinic: next to the **cinema hall** · the futsal: past the **grocery** · the ATM: in the **bank**, next to the futsal · the post office: next to the **bank** · the museum: **opposite** the **post office**, right on the corner
- true or false: new in the place **T** · an ATM in the bank **T** · the museum next to the post office **F** (opposite)
- **next to** = beside, same side · **opposite** = across the road, facing · **past** = beside it and on · **on the corner** = where two roads meet

- giving directions: the **imperative** (*go, turn, walk, take*) and **landmarks** (the temple, the tea shop)

Grammar: wh-questions

Question word	Helping verb	Subject	Main verb	The rest
What	are	they	doing	?
Where	does	Supriya	live	?
Which pen	did	she	lose	?
How long	did	Kevin	stay	in Paris?

1. the **question word** first (sometimes with its noun: *which pen*, *whose phone*, *how many books*)
2. then the **helping verb** (*is, are, was, can, will, has, have*)
3. no helping verb in the statement → **do / does / did**, and the main verb goes **plain**: *Supriya lives → Where does Supriya **live**? · She lost → Which pen did she **lose**?*
4. then the subject, then the main verb

- **who / what as the subject** → no *do / does / did*, statement order: ***Who** works at Mangal Bazar? · **Who** thinks maths is easy? · **What** happened?*
- **whose** keeps its noun: *She used her brother's phone → **Whose mobile phone** did she use?*
- C: *Where does Mr. Thapa live? · Why did your father go to the bank? · What has she brought? · Why didn't Subarna go to school yesterday? · When was Shakespeare born? · What does she like? · What has your sister won?*

Writing

A. Describe a bar graph (*13th South Asian Games: Nepal's Medal Tally*, gold medals)

- taekwondo **12** · karate **10** · wushu **5** · swimming **4** · cycling **4** · boxing **3** · athletics **3** · Total bar **51**
- check: the seven bars add to **41**, not 51 → the other **10** golds came from sports the graph doesn't show
- three parts
  1. **what it shows**: the title in your words; what the bars stand for
  2. **the main facts**: biggest, smallest, anything surprising, with numbers
  3. **a short conclusion**: what the facts mean
- comparing words: *the most*, *followed by*, *each*, *together*, *almost half*

B, C. A poem

- *My Good Friend*: a frame of ten lines, your own words in the middle; rhyming pairs **tall / all**, **me / free**, **read / need**, **member / remember**, **me / family**; *he* or *she* for *S/he*
- your own poem: lines in **rhyming pairs**, about the same length; something you see or hear every day, and how it makes you feel

Reading II: Gaurika Bags Record Fourth Gold

- a **news report**: the **headline** (the news in a few words; *bags* = wins) · the **dateline** (place and date: **Kathmandu, 10 December**) · the **lead** (first paragraph: who, what, where, when)
- **Gaurika Singh**, swimmer: her **fourth gold** at these Games, at the pool in **Lalitpur**, on Monday, the last day of swimming
- the first Nepali with four golds at **one** South Asian Games (**Deepak Bista**, taekwondo, had four over several Games)
- the fourth: women's **100 m freestyle** in **58.13** seconds, just ahead of **Shivangi Sarma** of India (58.15)
- the others: **200 m freestyle**, **200 m backstroke**, **400 m freestyle**; and a **bronze** in the freestyle **relay** (a team event)
- **SAG** = **South Asian Games**: always with *s*, even for one event (*in a single Games*)

tally: a count of things won or scored so far.

feat: something difficult done well.

tournament: a set of games or races to find the winner.

freestyle: a race where you may swim any stroke.

- **a school news story**: the same plan, headline, dateline, lead, details, someone's words in quotation marks

Project: boys and girls of each class as a bar graph: classes along the bottom, a **scale** from 0 up the left, two bars a class, a **key**, a **title**, two or three sentences

Extra bit: reflexive pronouns

- **-self** (one), **-selves** (more than one): the **doer** and the **receiver** are the **same**
- I → **myself** · you → **yourself** / **yourselves** · he → **himself** · she → **herself** · it → **itself** · we → **ourselves** · they → **themselves**
- **by** + reflexive = alone: *She went to the market **by herself**.*
- for **emphasis**: *I painted the picture **myself**.*
- no *hisself*, *theirselves*, *ourself*
- no reflexive with *feel, meet, relax*: *I **feel** happy*, never *I feel myself happy*

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Where you live?
✓ Where **do you** live?

✗ Why did she went home early?
✓ Why did she **go** home early?

✗ Who did break the glass?
✓ Who **broke** the glass?

✗ What time does the bus leaves?
✓ What time does the bus **leave**?

✗ Whose did she use mobile phone?
✓ **Whose mobile phone** did she use?

✗ They enjoyed theirselves.
✓ They enjoyed **themselves**.

✗ The fox looks in tense.
✓ The fox looks **tense**.