Grade 7 English, Explained

Unit 5 · Making Suggestions

STUDY NOTES

The unit in one line

- **make suggestions**: *You should… · Why don't you…? · How about…? · Let's… · If I were you, I would…*; accept or refuse them
- a story (*The Three Merchants*), a text (*Food Habits*); the **imagined if**: *If I were a bird, I would fly.*; word stress; a thank-you message; a poster

Getting started

- four people who need advice, with **should / shouldn't** + plain verb:
  - a boy near a boiling pot: *He **shouldn't touch** it.*
  - a woman letting a dog lick her mouth: *She **shouldn't let** the dog lick her.*
  - a young man with a toothache: *He **should go** to a dentist.*
  - a man at a red light for walkers: *He **should wait** for green.*
- **song:** *If I were a bird, I would fly*: higher and higher, past the edge of the sky, **from tree to tree** looking for someone to **play with** and **talk to**; the singer isn't a bird, so it is **imagined**

Reading I: The Three Merchants

- the steps:
  1. three **merchant** friends from the **same town** agree to work together and **share their profits**; in a **distant** land they sell their **goods** and make a lot of money
  2. **no banks** then: they **trust** an old man who runs a **bathhouse**; they **hand over** the bag: give it back only when **all three** are here
  3. the **dishonest** one says he'll buy a bath ticket, goes to the window, asks for the money; the old man **refuses**
  4. the trick: *look out of the window*: the other two stand outside, so the old man thinks all three agree and gives him the bag
  5. he tells his friends a lie (his **grandfather** is ill), leaves with the money
  6. the two ask for their money; the old man says he gave it to their friend; they take him to a **judge**: pay it back tomorrow
  7. a friend in his village gives him advice
  8. before the judge: I'll pay, but only when **all three** come together, as I **promised**; the judge agrees; the third has run away, so the two get nothing
- **true / false:** same town (not three); good money; a **bathhouse** keeper, not a banker; refused at first; grandfather's illness a lie; the two got nothing back
- **did the advice work?** yes: the merchants' own rule became the old man's defense; he kept his promise, the law protected him

Reading II: Food Habits

- **the body is like a machine**: many **organs** take energy from food, like **fuel** in a car; the wrong fuel → the engine **splutters**, things go wrong
- **treats** (sweets, crisps) are fine; your **diet** should be varied, interesting, enjoyable: vegetables, **protein**, fruit, grains
- a **vegetarian** must find **another source of protein** instead of meat (dal, beans, milk, paneer)
- a **balanced diet** keeps us **healthy** and going all day
- all living things eat and **excrete**; you get **one body**, so take control: feed it, exercise it, live a balanced life

Key words

merchant: a person who buys and sells goods.
profit: money gained by selling for more than it cost.
distant: far away.
goods: things made to be sold.
trust: believe someone is honest.
bathhouse: a building with baths people pay to use.
hand over: give, often because asked.
dishonest: lies or cheats.
refuse: say no.
judge: decides cases in a court.
appear: come into sight.
promise: say you will certainly do something.
complicated: of many parts; not easy to understand.
splutter: make short coughing noises, like an engine about to stop.
diet: all the food you usually eat.
protein: food part that builds the body (dal, eggs, milk, meat).
vegetarian: someone who chooses not to eat meat.
excrete: pass waste out of the body.

Pronunciation: word stress

- **stress** = one syllable louder and longer; the mark ˈ comes **before** it
- most two-syllable **nouns** stress the 1st, many **verbs** the 2nd

1st syllable	2nd syllable	Other
MERchant	dis**HON**est (silent *h*)	hand **O**ver
DIStant	a**PPEAR**	**JUDGE** (one syllable)
PROmise	a**GREE**ment	
BATHhouse	a**MOUNT**	

Grammar I: making suggestions

Suggestion	Built with
You **should go** to a dentist.	should + plain verb
You **shouldn't have** a cold drink.	shouldn't + plain verb
Why don't you go to a dentist?	why don't you + plain verb
How about taking a painkiller?	how about + **-ing**
If I were you, I would go to a dentist.	if I were you, I would + plain verb

- **how about / what about** + **-ing** or a noun: *What about **a** cup of tea?*
- **why don't you / should / let's / would** + **plain verb**

- from softest to strongest:
  - **Shall we / Let's** + verb (together): *Shall we take a break?*
  - **Why don't we / you** + verb: *Why don't we order momos?*
  - **How about** + -ing: *How about walking there?*
  - **You could** + verb: *You could ask your teacher.*
  - **You should** + verb: *You should rest.*
  - **If I were you, I would** + verb
  - **You'd better** + verb (with a warning): *You'd better hurry, or you'll miss the bus.*
- *should **have taken*** = about the **past**, too late (sounds like blame); to help **now**: *Why don't you take an umbrella?*

Speaking

Suggest	Say no politely	Say yes
Why don't we…? · What about…? · Let's… · Shall we…?	*No, let's not. · I don't think so. · I'd rather not.*	*That sounds like a good idea. · Sounds good. · Perfect. · Sure.*

- **Alina and Rabina:** cinema (*The Jungle Book*) → no, seen it many times → the **library** for project work → and the **café** after → yes
- **Nabina and Nita**, a present for Dad: socks (boring) → a football match (tickets expensive) → a cake (both terrible at cooking) → **a watch** (he has none) → *Let's go to the mall.* → *That's perfect.*
- say no **with a reason**; *Why don't we…?* falls at the end: a friendly idea, not a real question
- **situations:** bored → *How about going to the park?*; rain → *Why don't you take an umbrella?*; headache → *You should rest.*; lost money → *If I were you, I would tell the class teacher.*

Listening: eight short talks

Problem	Suggestion	Answer
bored	*Why don't you **read** a book?*	*I don't **feel** like reading.*
hungry	*Why don't we **order** pizza?*	*That's a good **idea**!*
Let's do something tonight.	*How about seeing a **movie**?*	***Sure.***
a **headache**	*Why don't you **take** an aspirin and rest?*	*Thanks. I **will**.*
*Where **should** we meet?*	*How **about** the coffee shop **next** door?*	*It's too **noisy**.*
need some **exercise**	*How about going for a **walk**?*	*I'll get my **shoes**.*
a **long** day	*Why **don't** you get to bed **early**?*	*I **still** have work.*
broke (no money; informal)	*Why don't you borrow some **money** from your brother?*	*He's broke **too**.*

- *Where should we meet?* **asks for** a suggestion; it doesn't make one

Grammar II: the imagined if

- imagines something **not true now** or **unlikely**; the past form shows it is imagined, not past

If-part	Main part
If + **past simple**	**would / could** + plain verb
If I **won** the lottery,	I **would buy** a big house. (I probably won't win)
If I **had** his number,	I **would call** him. (I don't have it)
If we **had** a garden,	we **could have** a gardener.

- the parts can swap; a **comma** only when *if* comes first: *She would pass if she ever **studied**.*
- **were** for everyone: *If I **were** you… If he **were** taller…*; *If I was* in speech, **were** in writing and exams; *If I were you* never changes
- **real** vs **imagined**:
  - *If it **rains**, we **will stay** home.* (it may rain)
  - *If it **rained**, we **would stay** home.* (it probably won't)
- **never** *would* in the if-part

Writing

- **thank-you message** (the old man to his friend): *Dear …,* → thanks, saying exactly **what for** → what it meant → *Thank you once again.* → *With warm wishes,* + name
- **your eating habits:** what you eat, is it healthy, is it balanced, your plans; **present simple** for habits, *I am going to / I will* for plans
- **poster** on a balanced diet: a **big title**, a few **short lines** (suggestions), a **picture**, who made it
- **project:** suggestion charts on food habits for the school; a mix of *should, why don't you, how about, let's*; vote: easy to read, useful, correct English

Extra bit: I Will Soar (a poem)

- by **Annette R. Hershey**; each verse: *if I were a little bird (birdie)*
- the speaker would **head up to the sky**, **spread** wings like rays of sunshine, fly **mighty high**
- **sing a lovely song**: everyone would stop, listen and sing along
- **flit from tree to tree** with flocks of different birds, all **free**; the last verse repeats the first

COMMON MISTAKES

✗ He should waits. / He should to wait.
✓ He should **wait**.

✗ How about go for a walk?
✓ How about **going** for a walk?

✗ Why don't you going to the zoo?
✓ Why don't you **go** to the zoo?

✗ Let's going to the zoo.
✓ Let's **go** to the zoo.

✗ If were a bird (the song)
✓ If **I** were a bird

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

✗ If I had time, I will help you.
✓ If I had time, I **would** help you.

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