Unit 8 · Talking about the Past

HARDER PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Full marks 28

Write your answers on separate paper.

1 Although, however or because? [6]

Chhiring wrote these notes about a trek, two short sentences at a time.

1. The bridge over the stream was broken. We got across without getting our feet wet.
2. It rained all night. The path was muddy in the morning.
3. We were very tired. We walked for two more hours.
4. The tea house was full. We slept in a tent.

a. For each pair, decide: is the second sentence a **surprise** after the first (a contrast), or does it happen **because of** it? Then join each pair. For a contrast, use *although* or *however* (each at least once); for a reason, use *because*. Punctuate carefully.

b. Which of these makes sense? Explain why the other doesn't.

1. Although we got across without getting our feet wet, the bridge was broken.
2. Although the bridge was broken, we got across without getting our feet wet.

c. Utsab wrote: *The path was muddy; however, it had rained all night.* The punctuation is right, but the sentence doesn't make sense. Why not? Write it again with the right word, and then write one sentence with *however* about the path that does make sense.

2 The sound of -ed [5]

Samikshya made a rule: *If the verb ends in the letter e, its -ed sounds like /d/.*

a. Say each of these past forms aloud. For each, write whether its *-ed* sounds like /t/, /d/ or /ɪd/, and how many syllables it has: *baked, smiled, danced, hoped, faded, named, liked*

b. For which verbs does Samikshya's rule give the wrong sound? What should a rule look at instead of the last letter?

c. *Laugh* doesn't end in *e*. Which sound does the *-ed* of *laughed* make? Why?

3 Again and again, or a number of times? [6]

Rishav asked his grandfather about his life. These are his grandfather's notes.

1. I walked to the market in Besisahar every Saturday.
2. I walked all the way to Kathmandu once, when I was eighteen.
3. We didn't have electricity in the village.
4. I visited Lhasa three times.
5. I visited my sister in Gorkha twice a year.
6. I still live in the same house.

a. Write sentences 1 to 5 about Rishav's grandfather, starting with *He* (sentence 3: *His family*). Use *used to* or *didn't use to* wherever it can go, and the past simple where it can't.

b. Sentences 4 and 5 both have a number. Why can one take *used to* and the other can't?

c. Rishav wrote: *My grandfather used to live in this house.* What does *used to* tell a reader that isn't true? Write the sentence again so that it is true.

4 Her life, in her words and in ours [6]

Smriti wrote this about her own life. (She and her library are made up.)

My name is Smriti. I was born in a small village in Bajura in 2004. My father taught at the village school, and my mother ran a tea shop. When I was ten, I found an old box of storybooks in the school store, and I read every one of them in a month. In 2022 I started a small library in my mother's shop with fifty books. Today our library has nine hundred books, and children from three villages come to read in it.

a. A newspaper wants a short biography of Smriti, written by someone else. Write the paragraph again as a biography, starting *Smriti was born …* .

b. Write a question about Smriti that each of these answers. Start each with a question word.

1. In Bajura.
2. At the village school.
3. When she was ten.
4. Fifty.

c. One sentence of the paragraph stays in the present tense in the biography. Which one, and why?

5 Mending a trip story [5]

Nabin wrote this about a day trip. Three sentences are right. Each of the others has **one** mistake: a wrong joining word, wrong punctuation, a wrong past form, or *used to* where it can't go.

(1) Last Saturday we leaved home at six to visit Aunt Pema in her village. (2) Halfway there, the bus broke down; however, we walked the last three kilometers in the sun. (3) Although we were very hungry, we kept going. (4) When I was small, we used to visit her every Dashain. (5) This time we used to reach her house at noon. (6) The door was locked, however, a neighbor was sitting outside. (7) She told us that Aunt Pema took the early bus to our town because she wanted to visit us.

a. Which three sentences are right?

b. Write each of the other four correctly, and say what kind of mistake it had.